



CHECKPOINT

The official voice of the American Volkssport Association
America's premier noncompetitive sports organization

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www.ava.org

October/November 2014

The Next NEC meeting is January 30-31, 2015

The next NEC meeting will be held in Sacramento, California. The exact location is not available at this time. Meeting will start January 30 at 7:00 pm.

AVA OFFICER NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2015-2017 TERM

Nominations are now being accepted from candidates who seek to be National Officers of the American Volkssport Association's (AVA) National Executive Council XIX: President; Vice President; Secretary; or Treasurer. Elections will take place by the AVA membership at the Salem, OR convention on Friday, June 19, 2015.

According to the Nominating Committee Chair, Doug Reynolds (Northeast Regional Director), successful candidates will take office on July 1, 2015 and serve until June 30, 2017. To be considered for being named on the ballot, and advance printed information in *The American Wanderer*, and *Checkpoint*, candidates must successfully complete a two-step process via E-mails, both of which have established deadlines. However, at the convention, nominations may still be made from the floor.

The **First Step** in the process is for the candidate to submit a "**Letter of Intent**", only by E-mail, no later than midnight (his/her local time) on **November 17, 2014**. The brief "Letter" need only include: Office being sought; Candidate's Name; Official mailing address; Phone number; and E-mail address. Electronic submission of the "Letter" is to the Chair, Doug Reynolds (dougreynolds@juno.com). A confirmation of receipt will be sent via E-mail, as well as an attachment of "Election Guidelines for Officer Candidates". Late submission of the "Letter" will cease further considered for Step 2 in the nomination process.

The **Second Step** is for the candidate to submit a "**Nomination Package**", only by E-mail, no later than midnight (his/her local time) on **November 30, 2014**. The "Package" must be consistent with the information in the "Guidelines for Officer Candidates" but, basically, must contain two items: A biographical article for *The American Wanderer* newspaper (of no more than 500 words or less), and a candidate photo. (The "Guidelines" will also contain information regarding campaigning.) Electronic submission of the "Package" is to the Chair, Doug Reynolds (dougreynolds@juno.com). A confirmation of receipt will be sent via E-mail. Late submission of the "Package" will cease further consideration in this process.

For additional information, contact the Chair via E-mail, or phone (518-229-1141). Please review the AVA Bylaws: Article V – Officers 5.1-5.7 at the AVA web site - www.ava.org; then select "Administrative"; "General Admin"; "Publications/Policies"; & "AVA Bylaws".)

From HQ Events – Nov 15 deadlines

Attention all clubs, please note the following deadlines:

1. Annual Financial Report, e-postcard filing confirmation and Officer Update deadline is November 15, late Report Fee will be assessed after this date.
2. YRE and Seasonal 3rd Quarterly Report deadline is October 31, please submit your report at your earliest convenience to avoid late fees. ([Click here for a message from events coordinator](#))

Items Due Report

It's Time to Walk – 10.11.12.13.14

Patches are here and along with the special slug will be mailed out 30 days prior to the event date. Those that did not order patches, but still wanted the slug will also be mailed at this time and billed \$5.00.

To order a unique T-shirt, ball cap or other items an account has been set up with Cafépress. You place order directly and pay directly via Cafépress not through AVA HQ. Check it out. ([Click here for Cafépress](#)) ([Click here for store help](#))

AVA OFFICIAL FACEBOOK SITE

The National Headquarters would like to hear why YOU Volkssport! Share your pictures and stories with us on the official Facebook page ([Click here](#)) about being a Volkssporter so we can share them on a National level! Simply post your pictures and stories with a description on the official AVA page. ***Note: There is also a group on Facebook called American Volkssport Association in which 800 members have been posting in. This group is NOT the official Facebook page for AVA. For the official Facebook website please go and post [HERE](#). Call or e-mail your Regional Director for assistance. The AVA HQ staff CANNOT answer your questions or concerns through Facebook!***

TIPS FOR ADDING ADDITIONAL INSURED TO INSURANCE

- An application MUST be submitted on line for the event to secure a property owner as an additional insured on AVA insurance; this is the only way the insurance company will accept it. They will not accept requests unless the request is coming from AVA HQ in this manner.
- Count on the fact that every city, county or park facility as a property owner will more than likely want to be added at the last minute, so DO NOT wait for the last minute; print out a copy of the insurance certificate off of AVA web site and show it to the city or county or state office that handles special events and ensure that they know the amounts for coverage before the event, many have a checklist that tells you what they want.
- Property owners cannot have a special endorsement without it costing the club at least \$100.00, but if they can see our amount of coverage, chances are they will settle for just being added as an additional insured.
- The special endorsement rates are billed from the Insurance Company to AVA and must be paid by AVA first to have the certificate issued, then AVA will bill to the club. We will have to have an email from a club official stating that the club accepts and will pay when billed the special rate.
- The coverage amounts on our certificate cannot be changed.
- **Due to new underwriter requirements beginning with the 2015 insurance, AVA was required to pay the full premium as soon as the policy was bound. This means that you can now find both the 2014 and 2015 certificate of insurance on the AVA web site.**

From HQ Awards processing

The charts for [AVA Processing](#) and [Ten Events](#) comparison are included as attachments. Please take a moment to help our new walkers. If you notice that they are working on their first books, ask them if they have any questions. Let them know each level requires a book. The first 3 books are green. Help them understand that the blue books are for distance. The books are geared for 10k's to reach 500k's needed. Ask if they will be doing 5k's, and let them know they will need insert cards to reach that goal. Also, tell them anytime they have questions they can call or send me an email.

Recognition Awards Nominations-repeated

Send your nominations for recognition awards to your Regional Director by November 2014. Nomination forms and a guide on how to complete the forms can be found on the AVA website under "Publications and Forms". Remember to be thorough and give detailed information such as other awards your nomination has received. Please use one form for each person. The "Guide for Nominations" will be very helpful. The Awards Committee will review each nomination for national award to assess if the person qualifies for the award requested. That assessment will be based solely on what is written on the form, so you must tell us why the person deserves the award.

Special Programs for 2016 - repeated to make certain all receive this information

New Special Programs are introduced for review and approval by the National Executive Council at each January NEC meeting to begin the following year. In January 2015, the Special Programs will be introduced which would start up in January 2016. Any club contemplating a Special Program must have all the documentation sent to your Regional Director and to the Special Program Committee Chair, Bonnie Johnson no later than November 1, 2014. The documentation should include a colored copy of the patch and its dimensions, the booklet with the program rules, etc.; and an expense report with a minimal order of 100 patches for cost estimation. All information and regulations on hosting a Special Program are on the website under [Administrative/General Admin/Publications/Policies/AVA Special Programs Management Policy](#). Please send your documentation to Bonnie Johnson, Special Program Committee Chair, 25-66th Way NE, Fridley, MN 55432 or in a pdf file to bonjohn@comcast.net

The American Volkssport Association

1001 Pat Booker Road · Suite 101 · Universal City, TX 78148
Phone 210.659.2112 · Fax 210.659.1212 · Email AVAHQ@ava.org
Website ava.org

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