

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

**Introduction of Business:**

**I move that:**

The AVA Policy Manual is revised to include Super Distance Events in a new paragraph 4.04. The actual wording for the addition of Paragraph 4.03 to the policy manual is contained in the attachment below.

When the motion is approved, the existing paragraphs 4.04 through 4.13. need to be renumbered accordingly.

**Summary of Proposed Action:**

Establishment of AVA policy for events of 80km distance called Super Distance Events.

**Submitted By:** Sam Tollett, Director Atlantic Regional  
Annette Tollett, Virginia Vagabonds

**Seconded By:**

**Action:**        **Motion Carried**

**Motion Failed**

1 Attachment

## **4.04. SUPER DISTANCE TRAIL EVENTS**

### **I. GENERAL**

The AVA has IVV approval to sanction Super Distance Events that are 80km in length. Super Distance Trails are located in the United States and its territories. Clubs may combine Super, Long or Medium Distance Events giving a Volksmarcher an opportunity to participate in a multiday event to complete a trail ranging from 80 KM to trails in excess of 1000kmin length.

### **II. POLICY**

A. Trails may be composed of different distance events that the AVA classifies as Super, Long, or Medium, Distance Events. Marathon, Short and Small Distance Event trails are not to be used. A Super Distance Event is defined as an event which is 80km in length.

B. Super Distance Trails must be one continuous trail. There will be no break in the trail and they cannot be an out and back trail.

C. The Volksmarcher must walk from the Starting Point location of one trail segment to the next Starting Point location along the trail. Out-and-back or meet-and-greet trails are not allowed. A maximum of three optional trails may be added as deviations from a Super Distance Event trail. This will allow the clubs to have an optional trail of no more than 5km in length so the Volksmarcher can view an AVA Special Program or another point(s) of interest.

### **III. SUPER DISTANCE TRAILS**

Super Distance Event trails are a Year Round Event (YRE) or a Seasonal Event (SE). The latter are sanctioned for at least six continuous months during a calendar year. These events will have a continuous starting time that allows the completion of the event during daylight hours. Unless otherwise specified in this section of the AVA Policy Manual, the rules for a YRE and an SE apply.

Super Distance Events trails usually follow nationally recognized trails, such as, the Allegheny Trail, the American Discovery Trail, the Appalachian Trail, the Buckeye Trail, The C&O Canal Trail, the Continental Divide Trail, the Great Western Trail, the Natchez Trace Trail, the Ozark Trail, the Sierra High Route Trail, and numerous other trails.

#### **IV. GENERAL RULES**

A. Clubs must request an event sanction for each Super Distance Event trail (80km). The club cannot sanction any portion of a Super Distance Trail as a Marathon, Long, Medium, Short, or Small Distance Event.

B. IVV Event and Distance Credit.

1. IVV Event Credit. When the appropriate walking fee has been paid, the IVV Event Certification Stamp may be entered into the participant's IVV Event Record Book for each day walked along the Super Distance Event trail, with one stamp for each 20-kilometers that are walked. There is a maximum of four stamps allowed for each Super Distance Event trail that is walked.

2. IVV Distance Credit. A walker has the option of entering four stamps of 20-kilometer distance or one stamp of 80-kilometer distance in their IVV Distance Record Book after completing a Super Distance Event.

3. The IVV Certification Stamp for a Super Distance Event will contain an "SDT" slug. A club that sanctions Medium and Long Distance Events in conjunction with a Super Distance Event, to just make the trail longer, must request an additional "SDT" slug. This will indicate that the stamp is for walking the longer (Super Distance) trail.

C. Registration Procedures:

1. Walkers must complete a start card and pay the appropriate fee for each day that the trail is walked.

2. Clubs may use remote location pre-registration procedures, i.e., a signed waiver and payment of fees where placement of Walk Boxes is impractical. In this specific case, a Regional Director must verify that the Walk Box placement is impractical.

3. Walkers who expect to be on the trail for more than one day must request multiple start cards and pay the appropriate fee for each start card requested. If the walker takes more days to complete the trail than estimated, the club must insure that the walker completes a start card for each additional day and pays the appropriate fee, before stamping the walkers IVV Event Record Book and IVV Distance Record Book.

D. Participation Fees Due to the AVA. Clubs will pay the appropriate walker Participation Fee to the AVA for each start card paid for by walkers of Super Distance Events.

#### E. Walk Directions:

1. Walk Directions must show eating establishments, restroom facilities, rest areas, and hotel/motels/camping areas along the route. These may be located within 2km of the walking trail. No distance will be awarded for walking off-the-trail to these facilities.
2. The Club must divide the Super Distance Event trail into subsections of 20km in length.
3. Each participant is solely responsible for food, water, and lodging.

F. Start Location: The start location for each trail subsection should be located near a parking area for personal vehicles. If this is not feasible, the vehicle parking area should be located within 1km of the trail subsection start location. Distances to and from a parking area may be counted as an additional distance walked for IVV Distance Credit.

#### G. Transportation:

1. Participants attempting to complete the entire route in only one session or those planning only to complete a portion of the trail, should plan for transportation back to where they parked their vehicle. If possible, they should use either a “buddy system” or arrange for private or public transportation to return to their vehicles.
2. The “buddy system” consists of a group of at least two Volksmarchers with at least two vehicles. They drive both vehicles to the location where they plan to finish their walking segment. They leave one vehicle at this location and then drive the other one back to their walk start location. After completing their walk, they take the vehicle which is located at the planned stop and return to their walk start location.

H. Clubs may accommodate requests for trail maps and Walk Directions by requiring preregistration, i.e., a signed waiver and payment of fees. Only upon receipt of the waiver and payment can clubs provide Walk Directions, maps and special information about the event.

I. Clubs have the option to provide an award for a Super Distance Event.