

Election guidelines for NEC officer candidate elections

Nominations are now being accepted from candidates who seek to be national officers of the American Volkssport Association's (AVA) National Executive Council XX: president; vice president; secretary; or treasurer. Elections will take place by the AVA membership at the Billings, Montana convention on June 9, 2017. Successful candidates will take office on July 1, 2017 and serve until June 30, 2019.

Step 1 in the process is for the candidate to submit a Letter of Intent by email no later than midnight (his/her local time) Sunday, December 4. The brief letter need only include: office being sought; candidate's name; official mailing address; phone number; and email address. Electronic submission of the letter goes to the chair, Glen Conyers at glenconyers@sbcglobal.net. A confirmation of receipt will be sent via email, as well as an attachment of Election Guidelines for Officer Candidates. Late submission of the Letter will cease further consideration for Step 2 in the nomination process.

Step 2 is for the candidate to submit a Nomination Package, only by email, no later than midnight (his/her local time) Sunday, December 11. The Package must be consistent with the information in the Guidelines for Officer Candidates, but must contain two items: a biographical article for *The American Wanderer* of no more than 500 words or less and a candidate photo. This bio should include reasons why you are a candidate for office and your goals. It should tell us what you hope to accomplish if elected. The Guidelines will also contain information regarding campaigning. Electronic submission of the package goes to the chair, Glen Conyers at glenconyers@sbcglobal.net. A confirmation of receipt will be sent via email. Late submission of the package will cease further consideration in this process.

For those candidates who have met the timelines for submission, and whose narratives are deemed accurate, their papers will be forwarded to *TAW* for submission in the next issue. However, the Nominating Committee reserves the right to make contacts with persons to verify the accuracy of information provided (e.g. positions held; awards received). We will correct neither grammar nor spelling. Photos submitted will not be altered by the Committee. Neither the photos or papers will be returned.

Basically, what you submit is what the AVA membership will see except in two cases: if the information submitted is found to be in error, or the word count exceeds 500 words. Erroneous information will be deleted. If word count exceeds the limit you will be notified to edit and resubmit your article. If you do not resubmit in time for publication, your article will be edited to delete everything after the 500 word count. So, please be clear, concise and correct with your submission.

To help you with word count these are some basic rules with examples as how to count; it will include each article (a; an; the); word symbols used in place of a word (e.g. #; & %; @;) is a single word; numerals that are within a group (e.g. 7; 28; 559) would be counted as a single word; letters forming a single abbreviation (e.g. DC; AVA; NEC; USA) would be considered as one word, but YR/SE/TE would be counted as three words; hyphenated words are a single count (e.g. family-owned; video-game). In any other cases, if in doubt, be conservative and count as more than one.

You are entitled to one complimentary bio article and one photograph in *TAW*. This is considered to be your nomination package. These articles will appear in the February-March 2017 issue of *TAW*, which will be printed and released on or about January 15, 2017.

You can begin campaigning for office only after the official slate of candidates has been announced in the February-March 2017 issue of *TAW*. Any personal campaign advertisement that you place in *TAW* will be at commercial ad rates.

Nominations may still be made from the floor at the convention.

You can put a document (one-two pages) and a promotional campaign item (such as a button, pin or lanyard) in the convention registration package; however, this must be done by you or your committee members. It will not be done by the convention committee members. All campaigning must be conducted on a professional level.

For additional info, contact the Chair via email, or phone, 417-434-0977.