

Good Standing Policy and Deadlines - Convention 2019 – Albany, NY
By Erin Grosso, Financial Director, AVA

The AVA Call to Convention and AVA Form 500 will be mailed to the clubs by the end of February. Please follow the directions on the form and return to AVA for Credentialing at Convention. **All forms must be postmarked no later than May 14th, 2019.** If the deadline for mailing this form to the National Office is missed, **all copies of the form** must accompany the Delegate, Alternate, or Proxy to the Credentials booth at the Convention. The form should be mailed to:

American Volkssport Association, Inc.
Attn: Erin Grosso
1001 Pat Booker Rd. Ste 101
Universal City, TX 78148

Please do not forget that clubs must be in “good standing” forty-five days before the opening of the membership meeting in order to be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. **The final date for clubs to meet the criteria of being in “good standing” to vote is midnight of April 28th, 2019.** Detailed information and some things to keep in mind regarding the AVA’s Good Standing Policy and Membership Voting Policy is provided below.

The Bylaws of the American Volkssport Association, Inc.
ARTICLE IV MEETINGS

4.3 Voting Rights. Each elected National Officer, Regional Director, state organization and regular member club that is in good standing forty-five days before the opening of the membership meeting shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. The Executive Director shall have no vote.

The American Volkssport Association Policy Manual

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP

2.01 TYPES AND APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I. GENERAL POLICIES

II. POLICY

A. Application for Membership. Policy changes effective July 1, 2014 for (new) applications.

1. Any organization or group of persons wanting to form a Regular Member Club must submit an AVA Form 201, Application for Club Membership, with the charter fee and the appropriate prorated portion of the annual dues, the organization or group will send the application through the State Organization (if applicable) and the appropriate Regional Director to the AVA National Headquarters.

a) The proposed Member Club must, as a minimum:

- (1) Have an elected President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer;**
- (2) Have an approved Constitution and/or Bylaws;**
- (3) Have an established bank account in the club's name;**
- (4) Submit, if eligible, an application for inclusion in the AVA's 501(c)(3) Group Tax-Exemption;**
- (5) Have an Employer Identification Number (EIN) issued by the Internal Revenue Service. (**

6) If (4) and (5) do not apply, the proposed Member Club will submit paperwork showing proof of coverage under some other non-profit organization.

Please be advised per the Membership policy stated above all AVA member clubs must have three officers at a minimum.

2.03 STATUS AND STANDING

I. GENERAL

The status and standing of a Regular Member Club, and State Organization determine their rights and privileges.

II. POLICY

A. Regular Member Clubs and State Organizations are considered active when the club's or organization's membership application has been accepted and all its activities are conducted according to the provisions of the AVA Bylaws and Policies.

1. Active Member Clubs and State Organizations are considered in good standing when all debts, liabilities and obligations to the AVA have been satisfied. They may exercise all the privileges of their respective membership.

2. Active Member Clubs and State Organizations are considered not in good standing when an outstanding debt, liability, and/or obligation has not been satisfied within sixty days of the date due. A Member Club or State Organization not in good standing forfeits all rights and privileges to include the right to conduct or sponsor events. It may not vote in any state, regional or membership meeting of the AVA. Once a Member Club or State Organization has satisfied that outstanding debt, liability and/or obligation it will be considered in good standing. Regional Directors will be given ten days to resolve club deficiencies, or identify extenuating circumstances, before a club is placed in not in good standing status.

Voting Privileges:

Each National Officer, Regional Director, State Organization and Regular Member club in good standing forty-five (45) days before the opening general session is entitled to one vote in each election and on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. The Executive Director shall have no vote. Delegates: A delegate normally represents each State Organization and Regular Member Club at the General Sessions. Each State Organization and Regular Member Club designates its delegate by completing AVA Form 500, Delegate Selection and Proxy Designation, and ensures the designated delegate registers for the Biennial Convention. The AVA National Headquarters will mail the AVA Form 500 to State Organizations and Regular Member Clubs. Alternates: State Organizations and Regular Member Clubs in good standing may designate an alternate to the Delegate by completing AVA Form 500 and ensuring the designated alternate registers for the Biennial Convention. Proxies: State Organizations and Regular Member Clubs in good standing may vote by proxy by designating a proxy on AVA Form 500. A proxy can only be given to a person certified as a delegate for the Biennial Convention. Candidates for AVA National Office or candidates for Regional Director may not carry proxies. Responsibilities: Delegates, alternates and proxies will present their copy of AVA Form 500 to the Credentials Committee at the convention, attend the convention participate in all general sessions and attend workshops. A club may transfer voting privileges to an alternate only in an emergency.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns, I am certainly available and eager to help in any way possible.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE IN ALBANY, NEW YORK!