

EVENT INFORMATION

I. GENERAL

Event information, whether printed or electronic, and the AVA web page are the AVA's and the clubs' most effective, grass-roots advertising medium. This publicity provides the new walker with an introduction to volkssporting and the active volkssporter a snapshot view of an upcoming event.

The information is the formal announcement from the club of conditions and requirements for participation in the event.

II. POLICY

A. Clubs must produce information for each event. They may include more than one event and/or more than one club. The publication of event information in state volkssporting publications does satisfy the requirement.

B. As a minimum, event information as published must contain all the information listed in the required section of the AVA Checklist for Event Brochure.

C. The event brochure including the AVA electronic event listing must identify a trail/route rating for all events except swimming, boating and skating events. In addition, any route obstacles or special conditions must be explained to describe the level of difficulty of the event. Participants need to know about major elevation gains, heavy traffic, narrow road shoulders, construction detours, roaming dogs, cattle guards, and the like along the route.

Although any rating system is somewhat subjective, the two-part numerical/alpha rating system will give event organizers a reliable planning tool. Thus, participants will have an idea about what to expect along a route whether it is for walking, biking, cross-country skiing, or snowshoeing.

Also, a trail/route rating system is a safety issue since an improperly/underrated event could have serious consequences for someone who is not physically prepared for more strenuous route conditions.

The sponsoring club needs to decide on an event rating based on the scale given below. The Regional Director should work with chartered clubs to achieve uniformity in the assignment of all trail/route ratings.

All elevations over 3500 feet must be included in the written description of an event found in the event brochure and AVA ESR system.

D. AVA TRAIL/ROUTE RATING SYSTEM

Part 1—INCLINE/ELEVATION	Part 2—TERRAIN
1. Very small hills or very little stair climbing.	A. Almost entirely on pavement.
2. Some moderate hills and stair climbing	B. A significant part of the route is on a well-groomed trail with very few obstacles.
3. Some significant hill or stair climbing	C. A significant part of the route is on somewhat difficult terrain (rocky/rooted paths or soft sand).
4. Lot of significant hills or stair climbing.	D. A significant part of the route is on very difficult terrain.
5. Many steep hills.	E. The route is on very difficult terrain.

Examples

When determining elevation gain, if a route goes up for 50 feet and down for 50 feet and back up for another 75 feet, the cumulative gain would be 125 feet.

A route that is mostly on flat pavement would be rated 1A. A beach walk would be rated 1C. A route with moderate hills on well groomed trails would be rated 2B. A trail over a mountainous region with loose soil, roots, & across rocky streams might be rated 5E.