

YEAR ROUND, SEASONAL, AND EXTENDED DISTANCE IVV VOLKSSPORTING EVENTS

I. GENERAL

The IVV has authorized AVA to sanction Year-Round, Seasonal and Extended Distance Events at locations across the US and other areas under AVA jurisdiction.

II. POLICY

- A. Year-Round Events (YREs) are sanctioned for predominantly the full calendar year and held generally during daylight hours.
- B. Seasonal Events (SEs) are sanctioned for less than a full year.
- C. Extended Distance Walks (EDW) are self-guided walks of distances greater than one day's duration. Extended Distance Walks will follow the General Rules for Events, with the following stipulations.
 1. Requirements for Approval. Particular attention must be paid by event approving authorities to assure that each EDW event complies with IVV and AVA requirements for events and safety. The following requirements must be observed:
 - a) Start/Finish. Event organizers may use start/finish boxes located at the beginning and end of Extended Distance Walks or major segments of very long walks such as the Appalachian, Continental Divide and Pacific Crest National Scenic Trails. Alternatively, event organizers may require advance event registration by mail, email, the Online Start Box, or other electronic means.
 - b) Route Maps and directions. Maps and directions must be provided for each Extended Distance Walk. However, if the walk is located on a national or regional trail marked by route signs, published directions are acceptable.
 - c) Event Description. Event materials must clearly identify start and finish points and the means for proving satisfactory completion of the trail, whether by check points, key questions, punches on start cards, or time-stamped receipts from local merchants or park stations. Event instructions must be clear and unambiguous.
 - d) Event Advertising. Brochures and advertising materials must show the IVV logo, the sanction number of the event and must bear the remark: "This event is valid for achievement of the International Volkssport Award."
 - e) Distance: Distances stated in the program must be accurate.

f) Upon completion of the EDW, the participant presents the completed walking program and IVV record book in person, by mail, or electronic means.

g) IVV Credit. The participant shall receive the IVV stamp only for distance amount and event stamps earned. The organizer must carefully check whether the EDW has been completed correctly according to the event instructions.

(1) Event stamp. One event stamp is entered into the IVV Event Record Book for each day of participation.

(2) Distance. Actual completed kilometers are entered into the IVV Distance Record Book.

h) Awards. An event award should be provided for completion of an EDW. Awards may only, and without exception, be given to those participants who actually completed the total EDW.

i) Partial Completion. If a participant does not completely finish the EDW, the participant may be given credit in IVV record books for the amount completed.

2. Participation on consecutive days is not required.

D. Clubs may use the Online Start Box (OSB) to manage registrations, access event directions and maps, and award of IVV credit for event, distance, and special programs of year-round, seasonal, or extended distance events. The OSB may be used along with an existing physical start box (PSB) or as an alternative to a Physical StartBox (PSB).

1. Authority to approve or deny events rests solely with Regional Directors, State Associations and the AVA National Office as outlined elsewhere in this policy manual.

2. The IT Committee ensures that detailed OSB procedures are codified in the Trailmaster Guide and are also available on the OSB Help/Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) menus.

3. Each event registration action must be carried through from start to finish using either the OSB or PSB registration option. For example, a walker cannot register online and then stamp that event in person.

4. Clubs choosing to manage any event with both the OSB and a PSB will be responsible for accurate participant reporting in accordance with AVA guidelines.