



**AMERICA'S
WALKING CLUB**
— ESTABLISHED 1976 —

JUNE
2023
VOLUME 32
NO. 6

CHECKPOINT

WWW.AVA.ORG

IN THIS ISSUE:

Thank You Leadership Pg. 1
AVA Membership Meeting Pg. 1
Meeting Link Pg. 1
Credentialing and Use Pg. 2
Questions and Testing Pg. 3
Publicity Committee Update Pg. 3
Event Renewals Pg. 3
Photo Contest Pg. 4
Starting Point Pg. 5
May Fitness Patch Pg. 5
T-shirt and Caps Pg. 5

PRESIDENT/CEO - HENRY ROSALES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE!

To all AVA Board Members, Deputy Directors, and Committee Chairs who will be stepping down from board service, I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you and I appreciate your leadership. The AVA will not grow in isolation but rather in community and service to all who walk with us.

To all new Board Members, Deputy Directors, and Committee Chairs, I welcome you and look forward to working with everyone.

AVA REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING, JUNE 14, 2023, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM CENTRAL TIME.

This will be an electronic meeting utilizing the Zoom online meeting platform. Please do not forget to pre-register. The AVA's Presentation of Awards will be hosted during this meeting.

[Click here for the meeting agenda](#)

MEETING REGISTRATION LINK:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZlof-6orj8jGdWI2Jx4ilf8nos_8o8IVc1e

Click the above URL to register well in advance of the meeting date.

When you register for the meeting using the above link, if you are a club delegate, alternate, or proxy, be sure to put the same email address you used in the Credentialing Form that was submitted to the Marian at the National Office. Other non-voting meeting attendees should enter their personal email address into the registration form in the above link.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. It is important that you only use the specific URL (link) sent to you via email after you have registered to join the June 14th meeting.

If you are a club voting delegate, alternate, or proxy you will need to enter your personal Delegate Voting Code (DVC) during the meeting. Before voting. All club delegates will be emailed their DVCs prior to June 1st. Your DVC will come to the email address you used in the credentialing form. Any club delegate who has not received their DVC by June 1st should contact Marian by email, marian@ava.org.

CLUB DELEGATE VOTING CREDENTIALS AND THEIR USE

All club voting delegates (delegates, alternates, and proxies) who have been certified (so far) will be emailed their Delegate Voting Credentials (DVCs) during the evening of May 31st, 2023.

Those club voting delegates who have not received their DVCs via email by June 2nd:

1. Should confirm that the ava.org notification email did not go to their email spam folder.
2. Contact their club president to confirm their email was correctly entered in the club delegate selection form.
3. Contact Marian (marian@ava.org) to confirm the club delegate email was correctly copied from the club selection form.

All those attending the upcoming online AVA General Meeting on Wednesday June 14th, 2023, at 5pm CT. should register (once) for this meeting using following Zoom registration link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZl0f-6orj8jGdWI2Jx4ilf8nos_8o8IVc1e

When registering, all club voting delegates (delegates, alternates, and proxies) should be sure the email address entry box in the registration form, that is often auto filled by your web browser, has been set to the email address in their club's voting delegate selection form.

In response to your registration submission, you will be sent a confirmation email containing a custom meeting link that you need to use (click on) to join the Zoom meeting on June 14th.

During the meeting, when voting begins, all club voting delegates (delegate, alternate, or proxy) will be required to enter (one time) their assigned DVCs sent in a separate ava.org email as described above. Those representing multiple clubs should enter all of their assigned DVCs (one per club) as a comma separated string.

For example, a person representing 2 clubs, one as delegate and the other as an alternate will be sent 2 unique DVCs having the general form DC-123-4567 and AC-890-1234 (arbitrary numbers). When voting begins, these DVCs would need to be entered as "DC-123-4567, AC-890-1234".

All club voting delegates (delegate, alternate, or proxy) present at the meeting should enter all of their DVCs and vote, independent of their roles and the attendance of another club voting delegate of the same club. Once voting is complete, the results will be tabulated to assure that each club with a club voting delegate in attendance gets one vote per polled question. In particular, should a club's designated delegate, alternate and proxy all vote, then only the delegate's vote will be tabulated. Similarly, should a club's alternate and proxy vote then the only alternate's vote will be tabulated.

For those representing multiple clubs, it is possible your vote will be counted multiple times, subject to the conditions noted in the previous paragraph. Vote splitting, i.e., voting one way for one of the clubs you represent, but a different way for another club; is ONLY supported for proxy voters. Proxy voters who need to split their votes must separately collect their Split Vote Information (SVI) during the voting session then, after the voting has ended email the SVI to marian@ava.org. The collected SVI must contain a list of all voting questions along with the club (identified by club number) specific the vote for each question. All received proxy SVIs will be combined with the online voting information to determine the final official vote tabulation, a few days after the general meeting.

Club voting delegate selections received after May 31, 2023, will have their delegate, alternate, and/or proxied DVCs emailed a day or so after the selections have been received.

QUESTIONS AND TESTING

If you need help setting up or have any questions, please contact hector@ava.org. If you would like to test your system before the meeting, please contact Hector in advance.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE - SUSAN FINE, CHAIR

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

If you are having a multi-day event, be sure to click the "Create or Edit a Fest" on the "Multi-Day Events (Fest) page, so they can include it on the website as a [multi festival event](#). You can click the "Help" button in the link for more info. For additional help please contact your Atlantic Regional Director Jeff Giddings at at_rd@ava.org. Looking at the page, I know there are more upcoming multi-events than listed. It's a great way to promote your weekend, plus we'll promote it on social media.

If you attended Crazy Horse, please post photos on the [AVA Facebook page](#), so we can see the fun.

The publicity committee meets monthly, so if you have something for us to discuss please email me to let me know: susanf@ava.org

IT COMMITTEE - MIKE GREEN, CHAIR

YEAR ROUND AND SEASONAL EVENT RENEWALS FOR 2024 BEGIN JUNE 1ST, 2023

The renewal of 2023 Year Round and Seasonal events (YRE/SEs) for 2024 will be enabled starting June 1st, 2023. Clubs are expected to complete the renewal of their 2023 YRE/SEs as well as any new YRE/SEs for 2024 by 8/31/2023.

NOTE: Clubs should NOT use the "New event - copy previous" feature in the Edit/New "NEW EVENTS TO BE COMPLETED" section to renew events.

On June 1st, the my.ava.org system will automatically copy the current (published) event information of each club's sanctioned 2023 YRE/SEs into the Edit/New event buffer. These copied events will then be listed in the "EVENT RENEWALS" section of the club's Edit/New page (found via the club's home page, then clicking on the "Sanctions" tab, then the "Edit/New" tab).

Any unpublished or unapproved changes to 2023 YRE/SEs will NOT be included in the event information copied on June 1st. The club's home page contains a "Edit/New Sanctioning Summary" table providing a count of events needing to be published or approved. Any club YRE/SEs listed in the Edit/New "EDITING CURRENT SANCTIONS" section may have unpublished/unapproved changes. Clicking on the "Review" button, for a listed event, displays all event information with change bars indicating what changes are still pending. Clicking on the displayed "Publish (make public)" or "Req Approval" button near the top of the Review page at least a week prior to June 1st will allow time for regional directors (and possibly state associations) to approve any event changes (needing approval) such that resulting published event information will be included in the corresponding renewal.

On June 1st, all published 2023 YRE/SE information will be copied into the renewal events with the following exceptions:

1. The event year will be changed to 2024.
2. Special Programs (SPs), that "expire" 12/31/2023, will be removed. (The SP expiration date is the date after which the SP POC will no longer officially accept completed SP books, as indicated on the current SPs web page, <https://cb.ava.org/specprog.php>)
3. The requested number of stamps for each renewal will be set to 1 for PSB and PSB/OSB events and 0 for OSB events. (The previous year's stamp request number is ignored. The first stamp for any event type is always free.)
4. The "Request" event to be PPSF (Per Participant Sanctioning Fee) will be NOT be checked off. (The 2023 PPSF setting is ignored.)

Clubs may also choose to mark any listed renewal as "Do Not Renew".

For an event the club chooses to renew, a club manager should click on the listed renewal's "Edit" button. Then inspect/update the information displayed on the Edit page by clicking on each of the "Sanction Tiles" buttons near the top of the page. In particular, the club should consider possibly checking off "Request event be PPSF", adding any applicable/new SPs (starting in 2024, see <https://cb.ava.org/futureprog.php>), and adjusting the number of requested stamps. Once a renewal's information has been edited and saved, a "Review" page displays all the renewal's information on one page. Clubs must click on the "Req Approval" button (near the top of the "Review" page) to indicate the renewal is ready for regional director (and state association if applicable) approval.

New YRE/SEs for 2024 should also be submitted for approval before August 31st, 2023, to assure their inclusion in the 2024 Starting Point book. Clubs may use the Edit/New page features in the "NEW EVENTS TO BE COMPLETED" and "RESURRECT AN OLD YRE / SEASONAL" sections to create new YRE/SEs as described via the "Help" button on the Edit/New page.

IT SPECIALIST - HECTOR HERNANDEZ

YRE RENEWAL

The YRE renewal process will begin June 1, 2023 and will end August 31, 2023.

RD's must review and approve all events by September 15, 2023 in order to get them into the 2023 Starting Point book. Any approvals after the 15th do not guarantee a section in the Starting Point book.

If you have any questions or need any assistance please call (210) 659-2112 or email Hector@ava.org.

***Please note that new events can be submitted year round. If you are planning a new event for 2024 you can submit those events anytime.

2024 STARTING POINT PHOTO CONTEST

US FreedomWalk, Texas Trail Roundup, Olympiad and many more events went on this past year. Pictures are a way that most of us capture memories. What memories have you captured? Share those captured memories with AVA by submitting photos of "People", "Places" or "Things" you've encountered on your journey to the Starting Point Photo Contest. The first and second place winners will get their photo printed on the front side (1st place) and backside (2nd place) cover of the 2024 Starting Point book. Winners will also get a complimentary copy of the Starting Point!

Entries are due to AVA National office no later than August 31, 2023. Rules, guidelines and the official entry form are attached in link below. Participation in the nationwide contest is open to AVA members, clubs and state organizations. All entries must have been created or occurred during the time period from July 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023. For more information contact Hector at hector@ava.org

[Click here for Order Form](#)

[Click here for Photo Contest Rules](#)



ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST - MARIAN DEVAUL

STARTING POINT BOOKS

Our 2023 Starting Point books are now on sale for the low cost of \$15.00 plus shipping and handling. For purchase, please e-mail marian@ava.org, or call 210-659-2112.

MAY NATIONAL PHYSICAL FITNESS PATCH

If you missed the opportunity to purchase the 2023 May National Physical Fitness Patch, we still have some available for sale. The cost is \$5.00 each to clubs which does not include shipping/handling or the 20% club discount. For purchase, please e-mail marian@ava.org, or call 210-659-2112.

T-SHIRTS & BALL CAPS

We have a new AVA t-shirt design available for sale. Also, if you missed the opportunity to purchase your Olympiad t-shirt or ball cap, now is your chance to buy the merchandise at a discounted price. The pricing, colors and sizes are noted below:

- AVA T-Shirts: Turquoise, Kiwi Green, Lavender, Pale Blue Green
Limited sizes available from medium to extra-large (they will shrink)
Price: \$20.00 plus Shipping / Handling
- Olympiad T-Shirt: Sorbet
Sizes range from small to 2xl
Price: \$5.00 plus Shipping / Handling
- Olympiad Ball Caps: Pink, Charcoal, Smoke Blue, Turquoise, Orange
Price: \$20.00 plus Shipping / Handling

For purchase, please contact Marian at 210-659-2112 or e-mail at marian@ava.org. Thank You!



SUPPORT OUR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



Join us May 24-26, 2024 for a walk through history in Canada's First Capital and surrounding areas. Registration includes 5 Event Walks, a Meet & Greet, and a Dinner.

Rejoignez-nous les 24-26 mai 2024 pour une marche à travers l'histoire dans la première capitale du Canada et les environs. L'inscription comprend 5 marches événementielles, un Meet & Greet et un dîner.



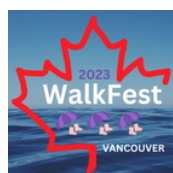
Coffee Break!
International Volkssport News
[IVV Website](#) [IVV Online Database](#)



Please click on the image to see the latest issue of the IVV Newsletter the Coffee Break. Enjoy reading it and have a good weekend.

NATIONAL EVENTS

Click images to go to
official website.



**WalkFest Vancouver -
September 22-24, 2023**
Registration is Now Open

The Vancouver 'Venturers are pleased to welcome you to WalkFest 2023 in beautiful Vancouver, BC. Enjoy a weekend of walks that showcases the spectacular natural beauty of the area as well as the historical areas of Stanley Park, Gastown, Chinatown and the West End. An optional 3 hour harbour cruise and banquet will take you under the Lions Gate and Burrard bridges into False Creek passing Granville Island, Roger's Arena and the iconic Science World building. Come early or stay late, and start planning your visit to [Vancouver](#) in September.



**PALO DURO CANYON STATE PARK -
CANYON, TEXAS - OCTOBER 6-8**

Pre-registration opens in early June when the brochure and registration forms are available on www.westtexastrailwalkers.org. Be sure to check our website regularly for updates. You can also reach out to Susan Noonan, susan.noonan@gmail.com for additional questions. More info in the April 2023 Checkpoint.

SOLAR ECLIPSE
APRIL 8, 2024
SAVE THE DATE
World Walking Week
is 1-7 April, 2024

The Texas Hill Country will be one of the few places in North America in complete totality of the solar eclipse. Observers will see about 4 minutes and 29 seconds of totality starting at 13:32.

The Texas Volkssport Association is planning
5 & 10 km walks
in the Texas Hill Country

COME WALK WITH US
www.walktexas.org

CALLING ALL WALKERS!!
Join us in Arlington, VA USA
for the 22 Annual US FreedomWalk Festival
October 20-22, 2023
www.USFreedomWalk.org

AMERICA'S WALKING CLUB
Volksmarching at its Best

Walk Arlington

An International Walking Experience

THE ANNUAL JOIN US THIS SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY YEAR!
CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL VOLKSMARCH!

75th
37th Annual SPRING Volksmarch!
One Day Only - June 3rd

11th
11th Annual FALL Volksmarch!
One Day Only - Oct. 2nd

End outmarch

12151 Avenue of the Chiefs • Crazy Horse, SD 57730
For more information, please visit CrazyHorseMemorial.org
OR call 605-673-4681

Checkpoint Available Via Email to All Club Members Who Request It

To receive an electronic copy of the Checkpoint send your request to Hector at hector@ava.org. Please note on the subject line: Request for Checkpoint.



The American Volkssport Association

The Mission of AVA is to promote and organize noncompetitive physical fitness activities that encourage lifelong fun, fitness, and friendship for all ages and abilities.



1008 S Alamo St · San Antonio, TX 78210, Phone 210.659.2112 · Fax 210.659.1212 [Message US](#).