

AVA “FUN Walks”-For Discussion Only

After collecting limited info from RD’s and Club members on what is a “fun walk” and speaking with our insurance broker regarding coverage for these types of walks here is what I have learned:

Description of a fun walk per info received: A walk whereby a group of people get together at any given time and location to socialize and walk. The walk is not IVV sanctioned but does have a personal guide. There are no brochures, only flyers, trails are not marked, and no IVV stamping of books, no checkpoints and walks are typically under a 5K distance. Some clubs charge a fee for walkers and make individuals sign a waiver while others do not. Walks are usually around neighborhoods although some fun walks require travel to and from different locations.

Purpose: The overwhelming reasons why clubs like to do walks are for socializing, health, and recruitment of new walkers. These walks target specific groups or charities to garner interest in AVA club membership and are used as a recruitment tool.

AVA Insurance Recommendations for Criteria related to “Fun Walks”

1. All fun walks must be registered in the AVA Database/ESR-Reason is so that there is a way to identify the walk for investigation purposes should we have an incident. (This does not necessitate we have to charge a fee if that is what clubs are trying to avoid by fun walks. Maybe we can charge each club a one-time fee at the beginning of the year for X amount of “fun walks”? I think we need to charge something nominal because “fun walks” are still covered by our insurance.
2. All fun walks must have a waiver form signed, period. The sign in log with waiver is fine. There must be a signed waiver each time the individuals walk even if it is the same route weekly.
3. All fun walks should have a map, even if it is a flyer. The rationale is so that we know if the participant was actually on our mapped course in the case of an incident.
4. No serving of alcohol prior to any fun walk. The concern here was that if participants may be meeting at someone’s house prior to a walk that no alcohol is served prior to the walk for obvious safety reasons. If they want to serve alcohol after the event that is fine, it is covered by our insurance as long as THERE IS NO FEE ASSOCIATED with the serving of the alcohol.

Additional Recommended Criteria from the AVA Headquarters Team

5. It must be stated on the waiver that is signed and any other literature i.e. maps that this is NOT AN IVV SANCTIONED EVENT.
6. Fun walks must have a start and end point that is clearly outlined in the map.
7. Clubs are responsible to submit end of Quarter participant reports on fun walks.

8. Clubs are advised that our insurance policy does not cover public or private transportation before, during, or after any walk.

These are the recommended non negotiables per our insurance broker and AVA Headquarters. I recommend we adopt them as the standard criteria for “Fun Walks”.

From an operational stance, the AVA Headquarters Team recommends:

1. A cost of \$75 for any club who hosts 1-5 fun walks per year. This cost is to cover the bare minimum of insurance coverage.
2. AVA Headquarters will not collect any per participant fees.
3. Clubs must agree to report participation numbers at the end of each quarter.
4. AVA fun walks should be piloted for one year before a decision is made to make fun walks permanent.

Please send your comments to: Henry Rosales at execdir@ava.org