

News from N.E.W. #44, June 2, 2016

1. **YRE/Seasonal Renewals:** The YRE/Seasonal renewal period has started. Renew between June 1 and August 31 to be sure your events are in the Starting Point for 2017. So, start renewing now.
 - **Per Participant Sanctioning:** Do you think you will not have enough participants to cover the sanctioning cost for your YRE -- \$25 - \$40 depending on number of quarters? Then this method may be appropriate for that event. It does not mean that participants pay. It means that the club is billed \$1 for each participant you report, credit or not, INSTEAD of the \$20 plus \$5/qtr. Let me know if you are considering this as I need to inform AVA.
2. **Directions and Maps:** Again this year, please send me copies of
 - Event Directions with maps that you have changed for next year when you make the change.
 - Event directions and maps for YRE/Seasonal events that you have never sent me!
3. **Big Give SA:** Thank you to those of you who gave to AVA's Big Give SA campaign. We raised, as of today, \$51,115, surpassing our goal of \$50,000! This will help AVA do the things we need to for our future.
4. **Kitsap Volkssport Club is going inactive as of July 1:** Olympic Peninsula Explorers will take all the Silverdale and Hansville walks. Sound Steppers has said they will take Kingston. Port Orchard and Bremerton will be taken, possibly by Daffodil Valley. All POCs currently handling walk boxes will continue to handle them unless the club taking the walk makes other arrangements. All walks not taken will be transferred to me as Regional Director for the rest of the year. We do not want to close walks that are currently in the Starting Point unless construction or other mishap requires it.
 - **Walks not currently taken by another club:** Port Gamble, Bainbridge Island (Eagle Harbor), Poulsbo. Please let me know if your club would like to have these.
5. **Northwest Regional Conference: Boise, ID Friday – Sunday, September 16 – 18, 2016:** Treasure Valley Volkssporters are getting ready for us. Registration is open for the conference. Download the PDF form from the website <http://nwregionalconferenceboise2016.weebly.com/>. Volunteer signups will be available as soon as I can set it up at signupgenius.com.
6. **National Executive Council (NEC) meeting Fredericksburg, TX June 10-12:** You've seen the proposals for this meeting next week. The link was in the last Checkpoint. If you couldn't click on the link, go to www.ava.org/publications.php and click on the Checkpoint link. The link for the proposals is within the publication. Proposals to be voted on by the NEC:
 - Approve Final Strategic Planning Report – Report will be online after the NEC meeting.
 - That clubs purchase their own stamp handles to keep with AVA sending only the rubber event numbers.
 - Change policy to allow distances shorter than 5km and allow less than a 10km event.
 - Allow current Certified Trailmasters to mentor and certify new Trailmasters.
 - Continue to allow "Free Walkers", but pay the after action (non-IVV) fee for them.
 - Change policy to allow clubs, State Associations and RDs to receive lists of AVA Associate Members in their geographic areas for situational awareness, retention,

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seeking volunteer support and/or formation of new clubs where non exist.

- Change Policy (as of January 1, 2017) so IVV credit-only will be no more than \$4 and AVA after action fee for a paying participant be raised from \$1.25 now to \$2.00.
- Change Policy to allow a 5km trail to be walked twice for credit on the same start card in lieu of doing a 10km walk. (Currently policy allows you to walk a 10km twice for credit on the same start card.)

7. Online Start Box: If you remember, Washington State is the next place to use the Online Start Box that was developed by Chris Zegelin for use in California, originally for five walks the CVA inherited not close to any clubs. You may have seen Chris's presentation at the Salem convention last June. Adding Washington will give Chris time to make sure the system will work for multiple states and give the system experience with more volume. I have the instructions and notes for clubs. The original interest is for events where a physical start box is either impractical or the start point can no longer host a box. I would like to use the Online Start Box for some YRE/Seasonals starting January 2017. If you are at all interested, I will send you the information. Several considerations:

- At this time you can't have both a physical walk box and use the online walk box. The problems CA found took hours and days to unravel.
- Money will go through CVA, the California Volkssport Association's Paypal account. Clubs will get their money quarterly by transfer from CVA's Paypal account to the club's (or an individual's) Paypal account. Clubs still need to report to AVA quarterly and will be billed by AVA for participation fees.
- Clubs can get reports any time from the website.
- Directions and maps must be in a basic PDF format and be readable with an older version smart phone. You can have lots of information with the download – pictures, history.
- You can have a good start point or even multiple start points in a loop trail. It doesn't have to be anywhere near where you currently have a walk box. You need driving directions to the actual start.
- Talk to me if you are interested in discussing. I will be happy to send you a copy to review. We want to give this opportunity a good try. Remember, so many want our stuff to be online.

8. Traditional Events 2017: Look now at 2017 and enter your events as soon as you can. Dates will fill up fast.

Hope to see you soon.

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