

Summary of the June 2018 NEC meeting in Albany NY.

Met with the Convention Committee, stayed in the convention hotel and got a sense of the history of Albany.

Reviewed the AVA Strategic Plan. We are making significant process, but much more work is needed.

Enlightening presentation by John McClellan, SE RD on AVA clubs and event participation history. Attached is an extract from the briefing to illustrate the rise and decline of our sport participation.

IT committee previewed the ESR change to allow clubs to add more detail to event stamps.

Motions approved:

1. The AVA will do what is necessary to set up Sustained Giving as a donation method. [Think PBS and their fundraising methods]
2. Since there is no restriction by IVV, the AVA can sanction walking events on cruise ships that originate from a US port. [While IVV had no restriction, AVA did, and that restriction has been removed]
3. The Executive Director will negotiate the TAW contract, which expires later in the year.
4. The National Programs Committee chair will develop a draft AVA National Two -Year Calendar for planning purposes. [Intent here is to identify significant Volkssporting events that AVA and the National Leadership will be emphasizing and supporting. Think Crazy Horse. In addition to support, hope is to encourage clubs to not schedule events in conflict (not a requirement) and to encourage their members to participate. The selected events may vary year-to-year.]
5. In the future, AVA Associate Members will be allowed to electronically self-report updates to lifetime achievement record books to AVA HQ in a manner prescribed by the Executive Director. [This is another step into the digital world which is where everyone is going today. While we will work hard as we transition to not leave members behind, we know that we must move into a digital world if we are to have a bright future.]
6. Beginning in 2019, the AVA Centurion Program will be discounted 50% for all AVA Lifetime and Associate Members. The Centurion Program will also be available to everyone; at \$15 for the first book each calendar year, and \$10 for any additional books sold for the same calendar year. [This is seen as both a new benefit for AVA Lifetime and Associate Members, but also a new opportunity for non-members to participate in this challenge]
7. The 2018/2019 AVA Budget was approved as presented, with the understanding that the board will receive regular financial performance updates, and that the budget will be revisited at the January 2019 NEC meeting with consideration toward amending the budget to reduce the anticipated budget deficit. [The NEC/Board knows that we must be working on both sides of the equation (reducing expenses and increasing income).]
8. Beginning July 1, 2018, the annual club dues for all clubs and state associations will be set at \$75. [Previously, dues were raised to \$100 with a \$50 credit if a club did a Traditional Event. Unfortunately, the manner in which this was implemented was backwards with the result being it appeared that the dues remained at \$50 and clubs who did not do a Traditional Event were fined \$50. This NEC/Board recognized that this was not accomplishing what was intended and at the January meeting cancelled this "dues increase." At the same time, the President instructed the Treasurer to study the club dues and determine what dues should be. At this meeting the Treasurer reported on his study, and the NEC/Board determined that a \$25 dues increase (although it does not cover the

actual costs incurred by AVA in club support) was appropriate. It should be noted that this is the first actual dues increase in AVA history.]

9. **Bylaws change:** At the 2019 AVA Convention, the NEC will present a motion to change the AVA accounting year from a fiscal year ending June 30 to a calendar year ending December 31. The impact on AVA clubs would be minimal. [There was an excellent article in TAW written by the Treasurer that explained this. We should have additional information to go to the clubs in TAW and Checkpoint in the future]

10. In the future, as an option, the AVA ESR will support download of directions/map pdf (Event pdf) for any AVA sanctioned YRE/SE. The IT Committee and the Executive Director will work out the operational details. [This is another example of our incremental move into the digital world.]

Deferred motion to the September NEC Phone Meeting: Beginning January 1, 2019, AVA Member clubs shall pay AVA \$2.25 for each event participant and shall be allowed to charge each event participant up to \$4. This policy change shall be reviewed and reapproved after 24 months. I appreciate club feedback, but hope to have full discussion with our national officers at the Regional Conference.