

1. Convention Survey. Hector sent an email to club officers on 24 Feb with a Survey link. Club Presidents please ensure all your membership receives it. The survey is for all to take, but I would especially encourage everyone who typically attends conventions to complete the survey. We'll use the responses plus updates from Wisconsin on health orders at the Board meeting in March to decide whether to have an in-person convention, virtual, delayed, or cancelled.
2. National Walking Week (NWW): Even though we're still limited in our ability to collaborate with communities on a major event the first week in April, I encourage your clubs to host as many group walks as you can this year and publicize AVA's leadership in NWW. Individually we can all aspire to walking every day of that week. For information on NWW you can go to the Virginia Volkssport Assn website: <http://nationalwalkingweek.org/>
3. Bylaws Vote. If not already done, I encourage all clubs to designate a representative to participate in the online vote on March 15th. Registration information was in the February Checkpoint newsletter. To simplify matters, you can download the ballot and mail it to Samanta to avoid any technical glitches or delays with 200 clubs voting at the same time online.
4. Sanction Events Early. Many of you are tentatively planning events for this year and sanctions are coming in with relatively short notice. As RD, I am able to approve them up to the 60-day window, but less than that I have to contact AVA for assistance. It creates extra work for all involved when events are developed with short notice and we limit the success of those events, so try to sanction at least 3-4 months in advance. The one exception is Traveling Guided Walks, as the second and subsequent events can be shorter notice since stamp production isn't an issue. Still, more lead time is much preferred.
5. Stamp Production. For planning purposes, Hector produces stamps the 2nd Monday of each month, so if you are requesting additional or replacement stamps try to communicate your needs before that date.
6. Winter Challenges. We're in the final month, so keep on walking and be ready to wrap up your tracking sheets at the end of March and get them off to Ed Hainline for both the Oregon and Washington challenges. Good luck!
7. AVA Sanction Details. Here are three ways to help guide walkers to event listings:
 - a. View YRE/SE/TE Event Details base on Event ID:
https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=<event_ID>
<https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=118562> (Raymond, WA OSB event)
 - b. View YRE/SE Event Details based on Y-Number:
https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?y=<event_ID>
<https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?y=2467> (Seattle Light Rail Othello Station)
 - c. View a listing of all sanctioned/approved club events based on club#:
<https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?club=<club#>>
<https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?club=AVA-0557> (Full list of NW clubs is at the end of this newsletter)
8. OSB Upload Assist. To date, about 520 of the nearly 1900 YREs in AVA are loaded on the OSB. Any clubs in the region that have been reluctant to upload events because of the technical aspect of the work can contact me for assistance. As my RD time draws to a close I will be happy to devote more time to assisting all clubs in uploading events with a goal of 100% of our region's walks available online.

Happy Trails!

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