

Draft of new IVV – Guidelines of RWK

INTRODUCTION

According to § 3 of the IVV statutes the following guidelines are enacted:

The International Federation of Popular Sports e.V. (IVV) offers the following events:
Walking - Cycling - Swimming - Skiing - Skating – Inline skating - Rowing - Canoeing –
Aqua walking – Popular Sports Olympiad.

With the promotion of popular sports the IVV pursues exclusively, directly and unselfish non-profit aims. It pursues no economic, profit-oriented aims.

The following has to be respected at all IVV-Events in member countries and single member clubs:

- Participation is open for everybody; without competitive character and target time.
- The priority is the sportive activity of all classes of population in open nature.
- The aims of nature conservancy and landscape protection
- The given national demands on ecology
- Participation of young people and families has to be promoted
- Creation of international friendship

The active participation at the events entitles the participant to receive the international IVV-emblem.

A) General Principles for IVV - Events

The following general principles for the realization of IVV-events are valid for all IVV-popular sports offers.

1. Each event has to be announced as IVV event. Events can only be realized after being sanctioned by the respective national member association.
2. The IVV-Presidium is responsible for all concerns of a single member club, e.g. sanction of all events and announcement, fixing of entry.
3. Each organizer is obliged to insure the event against liability claims of a third party, whereas national, legal rules have priority.
4. Each organizer is obliged to obtain the local approval for the event realization.
5. For each event an announcement has to be made. The design is basically left to the organizer. The organizer is obliged, however, to display the IVV-Emblem at the front page of the announcement, to mention the given permit number and further information according to the demand of the national association resp. the IVV-Presidium at single member clubs. Rules of further details are up to the concerned national association.

6. Each organizer must provide IVV-participation cards for sale.
7. At each event entry fees can be collected from the participants. It has to be differed between fees for participants who want to receive only an IVV stamp and fees for participants who want to receive the stamp and the award for their participation. Further details are subject of the national associations.
8. Awards at events are not acceptable if they offend common decency or damage the reputation of the IVV. Concrete rules regarding modality of awards are subject of the national associations.
9. Start and finish of events have to be calculated the way that all participants can do the announced activity in a reasonable time. Further details are subject to the national associations.
10. For active event participation the purchase of a starting card resp. registration at the organizer is necessary. The starting card must be presented personally at the check points to receive a control stamp. Participants who present more than one starting card have to be dismissed.
11. At all events according to IVV standards the organizer must ensure by suitable measures (e.g. control, self-control) that the participants perform their sportive effort correctly. When realizing the events the organizer is responsible for following the guidelines.
12. When stamping the IVV-participation card the responsible persons of the organizer must check if the participant attended the event actively and successfully.
13. It is recommended to put up signs for the participants to find the their way and to mark the distance at the event by oneself according demand of the national associations and local situation.
14. Medical Service complies with the national, legal rules.
15. The participant receives one stamp per event day and kind of event.
16. Participants have no claims of any kind against organizer or third parties at event cancellations because of acts of nature beyond control or reducing the event offer (e.g. because of bad atmospheric condition).
17. The correct event realization has to be checked by the national associations, or if the organizer does not belong to a national association, by a delegate of the IVV Presidium. The respective national association decides on irregularities of organizers in connection with the IVV Guidelines or if the club does not belong to a national association the IVV Disciplinary Tribunal will fill in. The respective national association decides on irregularities of participants in IVV events going against general sportive principles or if the participant belongs to a country where no national association exists, the IVV-Disciplinary Tribunal will fill in.

B) Kind of Events

Currently, the International Federation of Popular Sports e.V. (IVV) offers the following kind of events:

- I. Walking
- II. Cycling

- III. Swimming
- IV. Skiing/Snow shoeing
- V. Skating
- VI. Inline skating
- VII. Rowing – Canoeing – Aqua walking
- VIII. Popular Sports Olympiad

The following guidelines regarding the different kind of sports are authoritative for all national member associations and single member clubs.

The rule of further details is up to the respective national association. The IVV-Presidium decides for single member clubs.

I. Walking

The range of activities is:

Walking day(s) – guided walks/walking weeks – permanent trails

To promote popular sports special forms of events can be announced, e.g. World-Walking-Day, Young-Walkers-Tour, Walking-World-Championship, Walking Journeys and Cups offered, like World Cup or Europe Cup.

1. Walking Day(s):

The start at a Walking Day has to be organized floatingly (e.g. start from 7 am to 1 pm). The end of the event has to be determined that way that every participant can cover the announced distance as a restful walk in a reasonable time.

In detail the following has to be considered additionally:

- At a walking day the minimum distance is 10 km; minor distances (starting at 5 km) and longer distances can be offered.
- The 10 km distance and shorter distances are to be family-friendly and handicapped accessible, as far as possible regarding the area.
- Special mountain tours are to be announced as such.
- If a walking event takes place at two or more consecutive days, different walking distances can – but don't have to – be offered.
- The distances indicated in the announcement have to be precise. A cut is only permissible in case of very difficult weather or trail conditions.
- A check point shall be planned every 5 km.
- It is recommended to provide non-alcoholic beverages (e.g. tee) free of charge on the course.

2. Guided Walks/Walking Weeks

Members of an association will guide a walk on one day.

During walking weeks daily guided walks can be offered as well as all other sports described in the IVV – Guidelines.

Details to be obeyed:

- Each member club of a national member association can execute a guided walk/walking week. Approval will be given upon written application by the according national member association. This also refers to member clubs from national associations who want to organize an event in a country that doesn't have a national member association as of yet.
- With respect to the general rules of the IVV Guidelines and the guidelines of the national member associations the organizer will determine location, meeting point, common start time, number of participants and distance.
- The distance shall be 10 km. Minor walks (starting at 5 km) and longer walks can be offered.
- Slower participants have to be respected. With greater participation more groups have to be set up.

3. Permanent Walks

A permanent walk is a fix trail which usually can be walked on year round. The organizers of the currently existing round and long distance hiking trails (RWW) can stick to the present form or convert them into single permanent walking trails.

Details to be obeyed:

- Each member club of a national member association can establish one or more permanent walking trails. Approval will be given upon written application to the according national member association.
- With respect to the general rules and the IVV-Guidelines as well as the guidelines of the national member associations the organizer will determine location and start time.
- The distance shall be 10 km. Minor distances (starting at 5 km) and longer distances can be offered.
- At least one check point has to be established per each 5 km to ensure the correct walk (e.g. self control, restaurant, prominent spot)
- The participant has to receive information on the trail upon buying the starting card. It has to include details on trail description, trail marks and number of check points.
- Only **one** IVV evaluation stamp can be given per 3 months, but in any case the kilometre valuation for the actually walked distances will be given.
- In case an organizer leaves his RWW in the existing form, the participant will be given a valuation stamp per each stretch of the trail. A new starting card has to be bought for each single stretch.

II. Cycling

The options are: Cycling day(s) – permanent cycling trails.

1. Cycling day(s)

The Guidelines for walking days generally apply according to B) event options I.1.
Details to be obeyed:

- The cycling trail has to be at least 20 km. Further distances are possible.
- The kilometer evaluation will be recorded in separate evaluation books for the IVV – cycling badge.

2. Permanent Cycling Trails

A permanent cycling trail is a fixed trail which usually can be cycled individually year-round. The organizers of the currently existing round and long distance cycling trails (RRW) can stick to the present form or convert them into single permanent cycling trails.

The Guidelines for permanent trails generally apply according to B) event options I.3.
Details to be obeyed:

- The distance has to be at least 20 km. Longer distances can be offered.
- At least one check point has to be established per each 10 km to ensure the correct cycling trail (e.g. self control, restaurant, prominent spot).
- In case an organizer leaves his RRW in the existing form, the participant will be given a valuation stamp per each stretch of the trail. A new starting card has to be bought for each single stretch.

III. Swimming

Additional details to be obeyed:

1. The swimming distance has to be at least 300 m. Longer distances can be offered.
2. The distance has to be chosen in respect to type, depth and temperature of water.
3. Preference has to be given to public baths. Avoid deep water and speedy current.
4. No kilometer evaluation will be given at public swimming events.

IV. CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING/SNOWSHOEING/CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING WEEKS

The Guidelines for walking days generally apply according to B) event options I.1.
Details to be obeyed:

1. The cross-country skiing distance has to be at least 10 km; minor distances (starting at 5 km) and longer distances can be offered.
2. It is recommended to simultaneously offer a walk.
3. In case the organizer only offers a cross-country skiing/snowshoeing event and the weather conditions (e.g. lack of snow) do not allow for it, a walking trail has to be offered.
4. For cross-country skiing weeks the guidelines for guided walks/walking weeks apply according to B) I.2.

5. All participants have to be equipped with the necessary protection gear.

V. ICE SKATING

Details to be obeyed:

1. The distance has to be at least 400 m. Longer distances can be offered.
2. All participants have to be equipped with the necessary protection gear.
3. No kilometer evaluation will be given.

VI. INLINE SKATING

Details to be obeyed:

1. The distance has to be at least 10 km. The combination with optional walking trails is not permitted.
2. Selecting the trails the special requirements of Inline Skating have to be considered.
3. No kilometer evaluation will be given.
4. All participants have to be equipped with the necessary protection gear.
5. The organizer has to ensure sufficient safety measures.

VII. ROWING/CANOEING/KAYAKING

The range is: Rowing, Canoeing and Kayaking.

In detail the following has to be considered additionally:

1. The minimum distance has to be at least 1500m. Longer distances are possible.
2. The course can be chosen that way by the organizer that it may be completed more than once to achieve the event's specified distance.
3. Boating events must be conducted in a controlled water environment like a reservoir, a lake, a river with negligible current.
4. The course must be an out-and-back course so the event finishes at the point at which it started.
5. Each participant must wear a life jacket.
6. The presence of a certified Life Guard is required.
7. Course Marshals are required as security for the participants.
8. Only IVV event credit will be given.

VIII. PUBLIC SPORTS OLYMPIAD

With regard to the international understanding the IVV together with a national member association and local organizations organizes public sports Olympiads. For details please refer to the Olympiad Order.

I. Requirements for receiving the IVV – sports badge:

1. Acquiring the IVV evaluation stamp is only possible at approved events according to the IVV standards and can only be given in the official IVV – evaluation books.
2. Active participation and presenting the necessary check marks results in receiving an IVV evaluation stamp in the personal IVV evaluation books. For the entry of the distance in the IVV- evaluation book the actually walked kilometers will be noted. The IVV – evaluation book is nontransferable.
3. Getting the international IVV – sports badge is not limited to a certain year.
4. IVV-evaluation books can be obtained at the events.
5. Only stamps given by the according national member association or IVV evaluation stamps with the official verification number may be used.
6. The IVV stamp site has to be marked sufficiently. Responsible and adult individuals who have been trained on giving the IVV evaluation stamp have to be present. In case of defiance at giving the IVV evaluation stamp the organizer and the individuals giving the stamps sign responsible.
7. Participants presenting several IVV evaluation books and more than one starting card are to be dismissed.

SUGGESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

In the current version a participation and distance evaluation in different stages and formats are given. The RWK questions the up-to-date factor of this procedure, for increasingly less walkers in all member countries show interest in this awarding. A huge role plays the fact that the issued certificates as well as the pins are no longer up to date. This is also noticeable with the decrease in sale of the record books, which in some member countries went down to 50%. For one many participants do not purchase a starting card and on the other hand there are often observations of malpractice with the IVV evaluation stamp and most of the time this remains with impunity.

The commission does not have a patent remedy but with hours of discussion we were able to present some suggestions.

Suggestion 1:

Participation and distance record book will be combined in **one book**, with which the participation as well as the kilometer evaluation will be recorded. An evaluation for kilometers will only be recorded with active participation. Active participation means presenting the starting card with the check point entries.

Awarding of both evaluations will basically be given according to the present stages, whereas the RWK suggest a **basic reform of the single stages** as well as a modification of the modalities of the awards. Everything has to be more modern and contemporary. Suggestions are welcome any time.

Suggestion 2:

The current record books will be abolished. There will be a distinction between active and passive participants at the events. The active participants receive a confirmation in their record book, whereas the association will execute the awarding in different stages. **Passive participants will only receive a separate confirmation stamp of their attendance in a souvenir book.**

Suggestion 3:

A record book for participation with the option of kilometer evaluation in the same book.

Introduction of the **IVV - „Year Walker“**

- Abolishment of all current pins and badges (with transition period)
- NEW: A large certificate with an annually changing motive will be issued yearly by the IVV member countries. The certificate will show the number of participations and the mileage.
- NEW: The walker will have the option of getting an attractive annual bonus (e.g. series four seasons glass medal in a case) if a certain level is accomplished. The following stages could be established:

12 participations per year	Basic Award
30 participations per year	Basic Award in bronze
50 participations per year	Basic Award in silver
100 participations per year	Basic Award in gold

- ALTERNATIVE: Implementation of an annual badge with changing motives from the member countries according to the above conditions.