

**BYLAWS
of the**

**Madison Area Volkssport Association
(a.k.a. Dairyland Walkers)
American Volkssport Association (AVA) Number 835**

Madison, Wisconsin

ARTICLE I: NAME AND AFFILIATION

Section 1. The name of the organization will be the Madison Area Volkssport Association (MAVA), also known as the Dairyland Walkers.

Section 2. The Madison Area Volkssport Association is affiliated with a national organization known as the American Volkssport Association (AVA). The AVA is the U.S. affiliate of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV). The designation of the MAVA is AVA Number 835.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Section 1. The MAVA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian, voluntary membership organization, organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, to promote the public health, physical fitness, and well-being of the population, by organizing, promoting, and conducting scheduled programs of noncompetitive, family-oriented, participatory lifetime sports including, but not limited to, walking (including jogging and running), bicycling, swimming, cross-country skiing, and such other events as may be sanctioned by the AVA or IVV. Included are the following specific purposes:

Section 2. The objectives of MAVA shall be to promote and encourage walking and related activities for the improved morale, welfare, and physical condition of its members and all other interested persons, especially those in the Madison area of Wisconsin and adjoining geographical regions.

Section 3. All activities of the organization shall be performed to be responsive to the needs of all persons, without regard to race, religion, sex, age, national or cultural origin, place of residence, economic circumstances, lifestyle, or social status.

Section 4. This club shall not be used in any way for political purposes, nor shall it, as a club, actively participate in the political candidacy of any person.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP AND CLASSIFICATION

Section 1. Membership in this club shall be (a) Active or (b) Honorary as described below.

Section 2. Active Membership

- a. Persons and/or families [at one(1) mailing address] interested in membership in the MAVA must complete a membership application and forward the application along with one(1) year's dues to the Membership Chair. Upon receipt of said application the Membership Chair will add the name(s) to the membership rolls, and forward any appropriate information concerning the MAVA to the new member(s). An individual or family membership shall be considered the same as long as there is only one(1) mailing address.
- b. Active members may be any individual or family who supports the objectives of the organization and pays annual membership dues.
- c. Active members are encouraged, to the extent possible, to attend meetings, participate in walks and other events and activities, participate in club committees, and be elected as officers or directors of the club.
- d. All persons, without regard to race, religion, sex, age, national or cultural origin, place of residence, economic circumstances, lifestyle, or social status are eligible for membership.
- e. Life membership (a category of Active membership)
 - (1) Any person who has been an Active member of the club, and has performed some distinguished service to promote the aims and purposes of this organization may be elected by a majority vote of the Board of Directors as a Life member.
 - (2) A Life member shall not be required to pay annual membership dues but shall be entitled to all privileges of an Active club member.

Section 3. Honorary Membership

- a. Any person, who is not already an Active member, who has performed some distinguished service for the MAVA or for the promotion of walking as a healthy, recreational activity, may be elected by a majority vote of the Board of Directors as an Honorary member for a period of one(1) year and thereafter may be reelected annually.
- b. An Honorary member shall not pay membership dues, and shall be entitled to all privileges of Active club membership, except those of voting and holding office. An Honorary member shall receive the regular club newsletter.
- c. An Honorary member shall not be obligated to attend club meetings and/or activities.

Section 4. Removal from Membership

The Membership Committee may establish criteria under which a member may be removed from the membership rolls. These criteria must be approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS AND QUORUMS

Section 1. This club shall hold periodic general membership meetings. General membership meetings are open to all interested parties: members, guests, and the general public. The date and place of membership meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The annual meeting of this club should be held at a regular meeting no earlier than September 1 and no later than November 15. The meeting date will be set by the Board of Directors, and the general membership will be notified at least 30 days in advance,

Section 3. For the purpose of conducting business at a membership meeting, including the annual meeting, a quorum shall consist of the number of members present.

ARTICLE V: ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Officer positions may be held jointly by two(2) persons (i.e., Co-Presidents, Co-Secretaries, etc.). No person shall simultaneously serve as an elected director and an officer. Jointly held positions shall have only one(1) vote.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected from the list of Active or Life members.

Section 4. Officers may simultaneously hold an appointed position.

Section 5. All officers shall enter their official duties on the first day of January of each year and shall serve for a term of one(1) year. They may be reelected to the position for successive terms.

Section 6. The President has the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Be the executive officer of this club.
- b. Preside over all meetings of the club and the Board of Directors.
- c. Promote the objectives of the organization.
- d. Represent the views of the club to the American Volkssporting Association.
- e. Perform such other duties and responsibilities as usually pertain to such office.

Section 7. The Vice President has the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside at all club and Board of Directors meetings.
- b. Perform such duties and responsibilities as usually pertains to such office or as may be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

Section 8. The Secretary has the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Keep minutes of the meetings of the club, Board, and committees as appropriate.
- b. Submit reports to the club at such times as the President or Board may require.
- c. Perform such other duties and responsibilities as usually pertains to such office or as may be assigned by the President or Board.
- d. In the absence of the President and Vice President, the Secretary shall preside at all club and Board of Directors meetings.

Section 9. The Treasurer has the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Receive all funds paid to this club and promptly deposit them in the official depository(ies).
- b. Disburse funds as directed by the Board of Directors.
- c. Maintain the club financial accounts and records.
- d. At all times, make available for inspection by the President, the Board, or any authorized auditors, the financial accounts and records of the club.
- e. Make a financial report to regularly scheduled Board meetings, membership meetings, at the annual meeting of the club, and at such other times as the President or Board may require.
- f. Perform such other duties and responsibilities as usually pertain to such office or as may be assigned by the President or Board.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers and one(1) elected director, and the appointed positions named in Article IX, Section 1.

Section 2. Each director shall be an Active or Life member in good standing.

Section 3. The elected directors shall enter upon their official duties on the first day of January of each year and shall serve for a term of one(1) year.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall determine the policies and activities of the club, approve membership policies, approve the budget, advise committees and appointed chairs, and have general management of the club.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall meet regularly at least every other month and hold additional meetings at the call of the President or a majority of the Board.

Section 6. An Executive Committee of the Board of Directors is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the Board when it is deemed difficult or impossible to gather the Board for a special meeting. The Executive Committee shall be made up of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and at least one(1) director. Decisions made by the Executive Committee will be reviewed and/or confirmed at the next regular Board meeting.

Section 7. Each member of the Board of Directors carries an equal vote, and a quorum shall be a majority (6) of the Board membership.

ARTICLE VII: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1. The election of officers and directors shall be held at the annual meeting.

Section 2. Voting shall be by ballot. Only Active (including Life membership) members present and in good standing may vote. There shall be no voting by proxy or absentee ballot.

Section 3. At least eight(8) weeks prior to the annual meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee. The committee shall consist of not less than three(3) members and, if possible, at least one(1) past President. The President shall designate the chairman of this committee. The duties of this committee shall be to make nominations, with the consent of those nominated, and to prepare a ballot for the election of such officers and directors.

Section 4. At least four(4) weeks before the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee shall submit to the President a list of nominees not exceeding two(2) in number for each of the elected positions to be filled.

At least two (2) weeks before the annual meeting the list of nominees will be made available to the membership. At the annual meeting, nominations from the floor may be made for any office and, when so made, together with the list submitted by the Nominating Committee, shall then be the list of nominees submitted for an election of officers and director.

ARTICLE VIII. VACANCIES IN OFFICE

Section 1. In the case of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall succeed to the office. In the case of a vacancy in the office of Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or director, the vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX: APPOINTED POSITIONS

Section 1. The following positions are to be appointed, from the Active members, by the President with the approval of the elected members of the Board of Directors. Each of these appointments shall become a full voting member of the Board of Directors.

Membership Chair
Sanctioned Event Coordinator
Trailmaster
Newsletter Editor
Webmaster

Section 2. The following positions are to be appointed, from the Active members, by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. Any of the following positions may be held by an Active member or by an officer or director. Additional positions may be appointed as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Program Chair
Special Activities Chair
Equipment Manager
Publicity Chair
Hospitality/Social Committee
Volunteer Recognition
Specialty Products

ARTICLE X. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The basic standing committees should include:

- a. The Membership Committee
- b. Club Administration Committee
- c. Public Relations/Marketing Committee
- d. Program/Events Committee

Section 2. Where desired, there shall be the option of expanding the committee structure by creating other standing committees which would enable the club to function more effectively in terms of its own needs and interests. The duties of such committees shall be determined at the time they are created.

Section 3. Each standing committee may be composed of three(3) or more members and shall serve for a term of one(1) year, commencing on the first day of January. All members of a committee are appointed by and are subject to removal by the President. Each committee shall be responsible to the President and shall make such reports as the President or Board of Directors may direct.

Section 4. Subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, special committees may be appointed by the President and they shall perform such duties as may be defined in their creation.

ARTICLE XI. OBLIGATIONS

Section 1. This club shall exercise fully the privileges and rights of membership in the American Volkssport Association (AVA) and the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV) and shall discharge promptly all obligations imposed by these two(2) organizations.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall provide for the prompt review, approval, and forwarding of all required reports.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall provide for the prompt payment of all dues and other obligations.

Section 4. The President or his designee should act as club contact to AVA and IVV.

Section 5. The President should be the club's delegate at any regional or national meeting of AVA. In the event the President is unable to attend the regional or national convention, the Board of Directors should elect alternate delegates.

ARTICLE XII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of substance or procedure not specifically covered in these bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Any amendment of these bylaws may be adopted by two-thirds(2/3) vote of the Active members present at any regular meeting, provided written notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given to the members at least two(2) weeks prior to the meeting. The members in attendance shall constitute a quorum. There shall be no voting by proxy or absentee ballot.

Adopted by the General Membership on:

October 14, 2009

(date)

(President – Madison Area Volkssport Association)

(date)

(Secretary – Madison Area Volkssport Association)

(date)