



Arizona - California - Hawaii - Nevada

Who, What, When, Where in the region and beyond

Email me at [carl\\_pard@cox.net](mailto:carl_pard@cox.net) or [pa\\_rd@ava.org](mailto:pa_rd@ava.org) with questions, news to share, or be added to receive the Post.

## Olympiad Special Edition #2



*Bringing the World of Walking to you in San Antonio February 19-26, 2023*

Only three months to go!

Plenty of events and entertainment for fun fitness and friendship with walkers from around the world! First time EVER is the Western Hemisphere! *This is also the first time in history the Olympiad will be held consecutively with an IML event in the same location*

We have people signed up to attend from Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada! I know my goal of 150 is ambitious but I believe you can help our region get to that number and lead all the other regions in attendance. Encourage your club members, family and friends to come join us at this once in a lifetime festival!



## EARLY BIRD PRICING now till NOV 30th!



Sign up today at <https://ivolympiad2023.org>

I encourage you to register as soon as possible. Your registration by November 30<sup>th</sup> helps AVA plan and contract for the

operations, facilities and staffing needed for a world-class IVV Olympiad and IML Texas Trail Roundup. Plus the cost will go up slightly December 1<sup>st</sup>.

This international walking festival is different than traditional AVA events in that you buy an event pass for all of the IVV and IML sanctioned events instead of paying for each event. You choose which event(s) you want to do each day. For those that collect IVV stamps in your books good news! ALL IVV and IML events are sanctioned by AVA and all the passes include IVV credit.



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By the way, every day is a *different* walk route only available that day. Distances range from 5-21K. Marathon routes (42K) are only on Wednesday and Saturday.

Choose the Combined pass for seven days of sporting events and entertainment. Or the IVV Olympiad Only for Sunday thru Thursday. Or the IML San Antonio only for Friday thru Saturday. These passes include a souvenir goodie bag with T-shirt and event medal. Also access to the IVV Olympiad/IML San Antonio Village.

Day passes are now available if you can only join us for a day or two. Each day pass includes walk, bike and/or swim events for a specific day and entrance to the IVV Olympiad/IML San Antonio Village on that day only. It does not include the souvenir goodie bag or any separately priced event. It also does not include bus transportation for the 21K and 42K IML walks on Saturday.

*Please note the registration form asks you to indicate the longest distance you plan on walking each day. This is **ONLY** to give us an estimate of the number of volunteers we should plan for at checkpoints, start/finish, etc. You can change your mind and do a different distance from what you indicate when you start out each day.*

## **Olympiad/IML Special Events**

You will see these items on registration form not that are not included in pass cost.

### **MARGARITA AND TACO TRAIL WALK \$18**

San Antonio is designated as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy. Our culinary scenes are bursting with savory flavors and frosty cold beverages! This trail will introduce you to some of the finest frosty Margarita and scrumptious Taco places in San Antonio. Drop by participating restaurants, breweries, and shops on the trail, get your book stamped and receive free samples, coupons, and other goodies. All participants who fill up their passport book with stamps will receive a special award.

### **IVV/IML FRIENDSHIP CELEBRATION \$50**

The common purpose of the IVV, IML and AVA is to promote good health and foster international friendships and goodwill. Join us for a fun filled international celebration with music, food, entertainment and friendly people from all over the world! Break out the dancing shoes and let the party begin! Cost of admission includes light hors d'oeuvres, drink ticket and entertainment.

### **IML Bus Transportation \$10**

Note that the 21/42K IML routes on Saturday have a remote start. If you plan on doing one of them, then a small fee to defer the cost of transporting you to start will be charge on registration form. Bus reservations will be based only on those that pre-register for these walks.

## **King William Community Walk**

AVA Headquarters will host a community walk in King William neighborhood Sunday morning at 10. Start Point: **King William Park, at 131 King William St, San Antonio TX** Finish by 1pm to attend the 18<sup>th</sup> Olympiad Parade of Flags and opening ceremony.



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## Olympiad Hotels Link

### HOTEL REGISTRATION

The link above will take you to page where you can choose from several hotels and reserve your room for the IVV 18<sup>th</sup> Olympiad. The La Quinta San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel is the host hotel for the 2023 IVV Olympiad/IML Texas Trail Roundup Walking Festival. This is where you will pick up your swag bags and passes. It will also be the start point for the events each day. Special AVA rate includes breakfast and discounted parking.

**The Host Hotel is almost full!** *If the online registration link shows 'no availability' for your dates, call the hotel direct. They may be able to accommodate your reservation.*

The AVA has negotiated special room blocks and rates at several hotels that are in downtown San Antonio, all within blocks or a couple miles from the host hotel, La Quinta by Wyndham. These hotels have agreed to issue the AVA a rebate on room nights therefore, by staying at one of these hotels you are supporting the AVA!

#### HOTEL RESERVATION CUT OFF DATE

The guest room block will be held until 1/19/2023 which is 30 days prior to arrival or until such time as the block has been filled. The hotel link above is also accessible at <https://ivvolympiad2023.org>



A link appears on the [IVV 2023 Olympiad](#) page that takes you to the official Rodeo site to purchase tickets. This is optional and not included in the IVV/IML Walking Festival pricing. For those that are interested you can purchase tickets for any night to attend the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo. Each evening the Rodeo finishes with a live concert from a popular band/performer. These are listed on their website and some acts will sell out. So if this is on your bucket list it is best to buy your tickets early. Public transportation to the Rodeo grounds



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## **Club Exhibit Tables at the Olympiad Village**

All AVA clubs are invited to host an exhibit table at the 2023 IVV Olympiad and IML Texas Trail Roundup Village. The village will be open from 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 20 - Saturday, February 25, 2023.

There is no fee for clubs who want to host an exhibit table, only a commitment to open your exhibit a minimum of four hours per day, Monday - Saturday. Exhibits will come with an 8-foot table and two chairs, no tablecloths.

Note that the tables will be at the finish location for the walks and most of the entertainment and refreshments. So, when you finish walking you will already be there along with all your new international walking friends!

For more information and to reserve your table contact Erin at [erin@ava.org](mailto:erin@ava.org)

## **Volunteers R Us**

This will be an incredible event that will require many volunteers. If you would like to volunteer part of your time in San Antonio there is an option on registration form to volunteer. And a special volunteer link is on the [IVV 2023 Olympiad](#) page.

## **Like Us on the Olympiad Facebook Page!**

Please go to [www.facebook.com/2023IVVOlympiadUSA](http://www.facebook.com/2023IVVOlympiadUSA) and “like” us! Invite your volkssporting friends, fellow club members and family to like us. Help us build awareness and excitement in the final stretch to February 2023! There are some awesome videos promoting San Antonio and this event.

## **Upcoming Deadlines**

**NOV 30 – Early Bird Registration** Last day to save!

**JAN 19, 2023 – Hotel Room Block holds/special rates end**

## **Feedback**

The 2023 Olympiad/IML TTR committee is now meeting every two weeks. We welcome your concerns, questions, recommendations, and Olympiad stories! If you would like to share with us, you may contact us at [olympiad2023@ava.org](mailto:olympiad2023@ava.org)

## What is the IVV?



The **INTERNATIONALER VOLKSSPORTVERBAND** – or *International Federation of Popular Sports* – is the governing organization for volkssports, internationally, comprised of 3 geographic regions (Europe, Asia & Americas), 29 national members and 12 countries with single (club) members. The *AVA: America’s Walking Club* and *all our clubs* are part of the IVV.

The IVV was formed in Lindau, Germany in 1968, then registered in 1972. The founding countries were: Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Austria.

- The official languages are English and German, French is also used unofficially.
- The IVV Headquarters is located in Altötting, Germany (Bavaria)
- In 2016, our membership includes 30 national Federations and 10 ‘Direct Members’ representing more than 4,000 local clubs around the world.
- Each year, there are some 10,000,000 participations in more than 7,500 organized events around the world.

The IVV Presidium is its governing body with representatives from all national members. The IVV President is Giuseppe Colantonio (Italy) and its Vice-President is Graham Fawcett (Canada).

### IVV National members:

<i>Andorra</i>	<i>Estonia</i>	<i>Luxembourg</i>	<i>Slovenia</i>
<i>Australia</i>	<i>Finland</i>	<i>Lithuania</i>	<i>South Korea</i>
<i>Austria</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>South Tyrol</i>
<i>Belgium</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Spain</i>
<i>Brazil</i>	<i>Greece</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
<i>Canada</i>	<i>Great Britain</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Switzerland</i>
<i>Cap Verde</i>	<i>Hungary</i>	<i>Portugal</i>	<i>Taiwan</i>
<i>China</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Romania</i>	<i>United States</i>
<i>Croatia</i>	<i>Ireland</i>	<i>Russia</i>	
<i>Czech Republic</i>	<i>Italy</i>	<i>Serbia</i>	
<i>Denmark</i>	<i>Japan</i>	<i>Slovakia</i>	

IVV is a club-based organization, but also holds festivals... including the IVV Europiad, IVV Asianpiad and the biennial **IVV Olympiad**, being hosted in 2023 by *AVA: America’s Walking Club* in San Antonio, TX – from 19 – 23 Feb.



# INFORMATION PAPER on The IVV and the IML (vers 2.1)



## What is the IML?



The **IML Walking Association** (known as the **International Marching League** until 2006) is a non-profit organization which promotes recreational walking in the form of international non-competitive multi-day walking events ("marches") in its member countries. The motto of the organization is *Nos iungat ambulare* ("May walking bring us together"). There are now 27 member nations holding IML events.

Unlike the IVV, the IML *does not govern national organizations* made up of walking clubs. IML's organizing paradigm is its annual international calendar of events.

IML has its origins in the annual International Four Days Marches Nijmegen, Netherlands. The success of this event led to the creation of similar annual events in other countries. In 1986 the multi-day walking event organizations of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland agreed to form the *International Marching League*, which was officially founded in 1987. Normally, there is only one authorized IML event per member country, but a second can be accepted under certain conditions, in particular if it is held at a sufficient distance from the first and in a different topography. New member events can be admitted if they have been held for three years and offer routes over a minimum distance of 20 km per day.

AVA clubs in the United States currently host two (2) IML calendar events annually – the US Freedom Walk Festival every October in Arlington, VA and the Texas Trail Roundup every February in San Antonio, TX.

### Countries with IML Events:

<b>1987 Founders</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>2004</b>
Austria	Czech Republic	France
Belgium	Germany	<b>2006</b>
Denmark	New Zealand	China
Luxembourg	<b>1997</b>	United
Ireland	Australia	<b>2007</b>
Japan	Finland	Spain
The Netherlands	Indonesia	<b>2011</b>
Switzerland	Korea	Sweden
<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2014</b>
United Kingdom	Israel	Lithuania
<b>1991</b>	<b>2001</b>	
Norway	Italy	<b>2022</b>
<b>1994</b>		Croatia
Chinese Taipei		