

# 2024 AVA Participation Types and Their Proper Use

## Introduction

This document provides a guide to the different AVA event participant types and their use with respect to event start cards and registration logs kept by the clubs that are later tabulated and entered into their AVA participation reports. The abbreviation, “NWP” is used for “New Walker Packet” when referring to walk Coupons in the packet.

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## Participation Types

### Award

An **Award** participant has paid for an award and the club event participation fee (or submitted a NWP Coupon). This participant stamps books (“walks for IVV credit”) and appears on the Event Registration Log [Form\\_900B](#). Note that **Strider** participants who have paid for award should **NOT** be counted in the Award category.

### Credit/Paid

A **Credit** (aka Credit Only) participant has paid the club event participation fee (or submitted a NWP Coupon). This participant stamps books (“walks for IVV credit”) and appears on the Event Registration Log [Form\\_900B](#). A **Paid** participant has paid the club event participation fee (or submitted a NWP Coupon) and appears on the Event Registration Log [Form\\_900A](#) for clubs that do not track **Award** nor **NonIVV** participants.

### NonIVV

A **NonIVV** participant has paid the club event participation fee (or submitted a NWP Coupon). This participant does NOT stamp books.

### Guest

A **Guest** participant has NOT paid the **club** event participation fee (but may submit a NWP Coupon). This participant does NOT stamp books. The club is assessed the AVA participation fee (\$2) for a Guest participant.

### ChildNoStamp

A **ChildNoStamp** participant is a person aged 12 or younger who does NOT stamp books, is **NOT** charged a Club participation fee. Clubs are not assessed the AVA participation fee for a ChildNoStamp participant.

During the February 2024 AVA Board meeting, the board passed a new policy that allows AVA clubs to determine if they will charge a participation fee for children 12 and under who do not stamp books. Furthermore, it is up to the clubs to determine if they will send the AVA's portion of the participation fees (\$2.00) to the AVA for children 12 and under. If children 12 and under are charged the \$4.00 participation fee, then the club must pay the AVA its part of the participation fee (\$2.00). Under this new policy, the recommended Club participation fee for anyone over the age of 12 is \$4.00.

## Strider

**Strider** corresponds to a Strider sponsored participant. They do not pay club event participation fees. This participant may stamp books and is NOT later counted as a Paid Participant. A Strider participant is a Strider credentialed member Strider program. Clubs receive an AVA participation fee credit for each Strider participant. (See the later section on the Strider Program.)

## New Walker Packet (NWP) Coupons

The AVA sells New Walker Packets (NWPs) that contain, among other things, a number of Coupons. These coupons are meant to encourage those new to AVA events to participate. Instead of paying the club participation fee, a participant may instead submit one of their NWP Coupons. A participant submitting a NWP Coupon should only be counted as an Award, Credit, Non-IVV, or Guest participant.

## Strider - Club Participation Reimbursement for Strider Participants

The AVA has a new agreement with Grouper (formerly known as "Element3 Health") to promote their new referred participants called Strider participants (Walkers) to our events. This program is for Strider participants who use a physical start box and/or attend any of our other non-competitive sporting events to include Traditional events. Grouper will sponsor these participants by paying their \$2.00 event participation fee that clubs would have to pay the AVA and their \$2.00 event participation fee that goes to clubs.

Here is how it works. Grouper will pay the AVA the \$2.00 club portion of participation fees for all Strider participants who attend any of their YRE/Seasonal Event or a Traditional Events and have physically signed an AVA Athletic Waiver (Registration Log or Start Card) for the event. Clubs will receive a \$2.00 credit for each Strider participant who has attended any of these Events. The credit will be applied to their quarterly event participation invoices.

What this means is that all Strider participants are sponsored by Grouper and should not be charged a club participation fee when they attend any of our Events. However, in order to credit clubs \$2.00 per Strider participant, clubs must record the number of Strider participants in their traditional and quarterly event participation reports (TE and YRE/SE). The event (TE and YRE/SE) participation reports will have a NEW category labeled Strider. This is where clubs will enter the quarterly Strider participant count beginning the second quarter of 2024 for YREs and Seasonals and starting 6/1/2024 for Traditional events.

The Strider participation credit program does **not** apply to ACE Weekday Guided events.

There is currently no support for the club to get a \$2 credit for a Strider participant who has registered and completed an OSB Year Round/Seasonal online. A separate process will be developed for Strider participants who use the online start box in the near future.

Strider participants must pay for any/all additional fees beyond the exempted \$4.00 participation fee such as awards, park fees, special events, etc. Should you have any questions please contact [henry@ava.org](mailto:henry@ava.org).

## Participation Types Summary Table

The following table summarizes the participant types include the AVA fees paid by or credited to the club.

AVA Club Participant Types for 2024											
Participant Type		Participation Reported to the AVA	Participant Paid for Award	Participant stamps books	Club Participation Fee Paid by Participant	Club Participation Fee NOT Paid by Participant	Participant is age 12 or younger	Participant is a Strider	Club Pays \$2 to the AVA	AVA pays \$2 to the Club	PPSF* YRE/SE Club Pays Additional \$1
Award	Paid	X	X	X	X				X		X
Credit		X		X	X				X		X
NonIVV		X			X				X		X
Guest		X				X			X		X
ChildNoStamp		X				X	X				X
Strider		X		X		X		X		X	X

## AVA Participation Fee Formulas

### Participation (P):

$$P = \#Award + \#Credit/Paid + \#NonIVV + \#Guest + \#ChildNoStamp + \#Strider$$

### AVA Paid Participation (PP):

$$PP = \#Award + \#Credit/Paid + \#NonIVV + \#Guest$$

### AVA Paid Participation fee Eligible (PPE):

$$PPE = PP - \#Coupons - \#Strider$$

### AVA Paid Participation Fee (PPFee):

$$PPFee = \$2 \times PPE$$

$$AVA \ TE \ Fee = PPFee \quad AVA \ YRE/SE \ Fee, \ not \ PPSF^* = PPFee \quad AVA \ YRE/SE \ Fee, \ PPSF^* = PPFee + \$1 \times (P - \#Coupons)$$

\*PPSF - Per Participant Sanctioning Fee. A club may choose to designate a YRE/SE as PPSF when the event is sanctioned. For PPSF events, the club is not charged any AVA Event Sanctioning Fee upon approval by the Regional Director. Instead, a \$1 fee is assessed for each event Participant (P) when the club reports its event participation.

## Online Participants – Online Start Box (OSB) and Grouper RSVP

Event participants who register online are tracked separately. This means they do **NOT** need to complete nor sign an event participation log nor start card prior to doing an event. These “Online Participants” include:

1. Those who use the my.ava.org Online Start Box (OSB) system to register for and complete events.
2. Those who use the Grouper online system to RSVP for an event.

Note that an Online participant should not sign a participant log or start card. Since the OSB/RSVP participants are tracked separately they should **NOT** be included in club entered participation data. OSB/RSVP participation is automatically included in their participation invoices.

Clubs are credited for both OSB and Grouper RSVP participation in their quarterly participation invoices. Note starting in 2024, the RSVP credits will only be credited annually in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter invoices.

Clubs who have a Grouper portal are notified via email when a Grouper member has RSVP'd for one of their activities.

Currently, clubs are credited \$1.00 for a RSVP participant of YRE/SE self-guided event. Clubs are credited \$1.75 for a RSVP participant who attends a Traditional Walk, Group Walk, Club Social or Club Meeting activity where the club later also confirms the participation via the club Grouper portal for the RSVP in question.

Note, the AVA periodically sends YRE/SE/TE event information to Grouper that is then uploaded into their online activities calendar. Grouper members may view and RSVP for activities in their vicinity using this online calendar.

Clubs who want their Group Walks, Club Social, or Club meeting activities to be available to RSVP participants should use the activity upload interface, available via their club's Grouper portal, to separately upload information for these activities.

Should an RSVP participant sign AVA participation log or start card **and also** pay the club participation fee, then the club should report the participation as an Award, Credit/Paid, or Non-IVV so that the appropriate AVA participation fee is assessed. Clubs will still be credited for the RSVP participation as noted above.

## Usage of Legacy Participation Types for a Large Traditional Event

The legacy participation types (Award, Credit, NonIVV) are important for Start Cards for events with a large (>200) number of participants, where the event finish area includes a Finish table, Award table, and Stamping table that provide efficient end-of-event service.

Should a **Strider** participant also pay for an Award the start card should be marked as **Strider** (not as **Award**). Instead the card should be separately annotated to indicate the participant paid for an award.

For these events, the participant carries the marked/signed start card that is marked at Checkpoints that are later turned in at the Finish, where carbon copies of the start cards are kept.

At the event **Finish table**:

- A **NonIVV, Guest, ChildNoStamp** participant turns in their Start Card and is done.
- A **Credit, Award, or Strider** participant does **not** turn in his/her Start Card. Instead, the Finish table staff marks both the Start Card and the corresponding carbon copy as finished.
- The **Award** participant (and **Strider** participant who has paid for an award) is then directed to the Awards Table.
- The **Credit** participant (and **Strider** participant who has **not** paid for an award) is then directed to the Stamping Table.

At the **Awards table**:

- The **Award** participant (and **Strider** participant who has paid for an award) presents their finish-marked Start Card at the Awards table, collects his/her award, then proceeds to the Stamping table.

At the **Stamping table**:

- A **Credit, Award, or Strider** participant turns in their finish-marked start card and presents his/her books for stamping.

Note by using 3 different tables (**Finish, Awards, and Stamping**), participants do not needlessly all queue up at a single table. Often the **Stamping** table consists of at least two separate tables, one for those with just AVA event and distance books to stamp and another table for those who are stamping AVA event and distance books as well as Special Programs books.