

Online Start Box Basics

Why an Online Start Box (OSB)?

Sometimes a trail is located too remotely for a club to properly maintain a Physical Start Box (PSB); other times, there is no host location available for a box. Allowing for online registration, with associated athletic waiver, lets clubs offer more events than would be possible otherwise.

Walk 'n Mass is pleased to offer multiple events through the Online Start Box!

OSB only events: Boston (Freedom Trail & Back Bay), Cheshire, Oak Bluffs, and Provincetown.

OSB/PSB hybrid events: Lowell, Quincy, Roslindale, and Providence, RI; use only ONE method to register & complete.

For group walks of Walk 'n Mass OSB events scheduled during the year, physical registration and stamping will be offered.

Getting Started: The Online Start Box is hosted by AVA: America's Walking Club at my.ava.org. If you have not used the Online Start Box before, creating an account should take less than 10 minutes.

What You Need:

To create an account, you need a personal, not shared, email address as each user account requires a unique email. You will also need a credit or debit card to fund your Event Bank. The minimum deposit amount is \$4 but you may choose to deposit up to \$100.

Registering for an Event:

Once you have an OSB account and have placed funds in your Event Bank, you can select any of the events hosted in OSB. After selecting an event, download the event PDF which includes directions to the Start Point, parking information, the trail directions, and other important details provided by the POC and sponsoring club. Save the file to your smartphone or print out the pages you need. You have 4 weeks after registering for an event to complete it (with exceptions). *Exceptions:* (a) if you register for an event prior to its opening date, your registration will expire 4 weeks after the opening date; (b) if you register near the end of a quarter (less than 2 weeks), the registration will expire 2 weeks into the new quarter unless the event is not yet open; (c) you have 2 weeks after an event closes or crosses a year boundary to complete the event and obtain the previous year's stamp.

Completing an Event:

Return to the OSB and log in to your account. Find the "Finish Table" tab and enter your participation details (date, distance, etc.). If you participate in AVA Special Programs, you will be able to get printable stamp inserts for each qualifying program along with inserts for your IVV Achievement Event and Distance Books. You can print them out immediately or defer until you complete additional OSB events (up to 8 can be printed on one insert card).