



Proposal from Sweden to the EVAA General Assembly in Zittau 2012:

Remove Medal Standards from the European Veteran Championships

Many protests against Medal Standards

Many veteran athletes and veteran leaders in Sweden, in the Nordic Countries and in other European Countries have raised questions about medal standards being introduced in European Veteran Championships for veterans. We have received hundreds of emails, letters and phone calls from veterans who are very critical and protest against the reintroduction of this provision.

Unnecessary Bureaucracy

Sweden and its Veterans protest sharply against the reintroduction of medal standard at the European Veteran Championships. Our experiences from both international and Swedish Veteran Championships are that these standards have created and now again create a completely unnecessary bureaucracy and constant discussions. We do not understand the purpose of this change at all.

Undermine the fundamental idea of veteran athletics

Veteran Competitions on both international and national level are largely characterized by the togetherness across age groups and with friendship and joy in focus. We think it's obvious that all veterans must be included and always be awarded a medal if they happen to reach the podium! We are convinced that the medal standards undermine the fundamental idea of veteran athletics.

Constant discussions about wrong levels of medal standards

When we earlier had medal requirements in our Swedish Championships and also in international Veteran Championships there were constant discussions with the Swedish veterans about wrong level of medal standards. Many felt that the limits were too tough, while others thought they were too lenient. In our opinion it is impossible to create a fair system of medal standard. We regard it as a **play with figures**.

Bad weather and tactical running

To stand on the podium and not be awarded a medal most veterans found totally reprehensible. It is sensitive for top three competitors to miss the medal and it is particularly sensitive to miss the medal by narrow margin. Tactical running or competing in bad weather conditions could be the causes for not reaching normal levels of performance

The purpose of introducing medal requirements, we in Sweden consider to be very unclear and not based on a proper analysis! We now really hope that the delegates in Zittau are voting for Sweden's proposal to remove Medal Standards from the European Veteran Championships

Ivar Söderlind

President of the Swedish Veteran Athletic Committee