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Website-- www.HillandValleyRiders.com
Facebook Page-- [@HillandValleyRiders](https://www.facebook.com/HillandValleyRiders)
Twitter—FYI-- No longer using Twitter
Remind Text-- [@6hgbhb](https://www.remind.com/@6hgbhb)

November-December 2017 Newsletter

NEXT MEETINGS

12/14/17 (also the HVR Christmas Potluck), 1/18/18, 2/15/18, 3/15/18 and 4/19/18
Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month at the Honeoye Fish & Game Club @ 7:00 p.m. **Exception** is the Christmas Potluck, second Thursday of December. Potluck Dinner 6:00 p.m.; business meeting 7:00 p.m.

TRAILS ARE CLOSED UNTIL DEER HUNTING (MUZZLE LOADING) SEASON ENDS ON 12/19/17
LIMITED TRAILS COULD OPEN ON 12/20/17 – CONDITIONS/WEATHER PERMITTING
+Check the website trail report, Facebook, and/or Remind Text for trail updates before you hit the trails+.
+Some trail work, such as sign posting and clearing has not been completed due to hunting starting in October+

MEMBERSHIP:
If you have friends and family that still need to join a club, share this information with them!

- There are several ways to join or renew your membership to our club:**
1. Visit our website, click on "Join Our Club Online", follow the instructions (helpful tips are listed on our website), pay by credit card and print out your voucher immediately.
 2. Download “membership application” and mail it back to us, then your voucher will be E-Mailed or mailed to you.
 3. Join us at a meeting and your voucher will be E-mailed or mailed out the next day!
 4. **If you are a landowner** that rides snowmobiles, we offer a free club membership. Please fill out the attached membership form and make a note that you are a landowner located on the trail system. Mail it to HVR’s mailing address at the top of this newsletter.

Sara Graham is our HVR/NYSSA Administrator. She produces any vouchers and insurance certificates on behalf of the club. Please contact her with any membership questions.

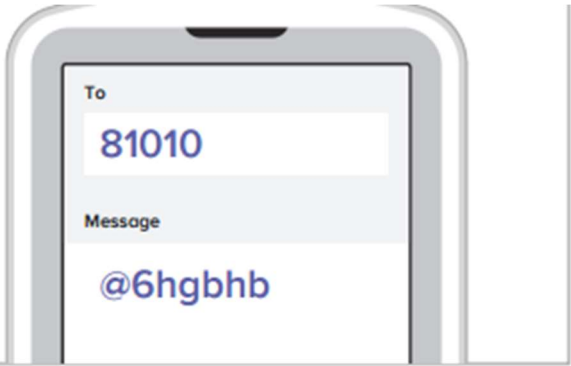
- WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA:**
For latest news, events and trail updates:
- Visit our website www.hillandvalleyriders.com
 - “LIKE” our page to receive news feed on Facebook ([HillNValleyRiders](https://www.facebook.com/HillNValleyRiders))
 - Sign-up to receive text/email updates on Remind following the attached flyer ([@6hgbhb](https://www.remind.com/@6hgbhb))

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Text the message [@6hgbhb](https://www.remind.com/@6hgbhb) to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try texting [@6hgbhb](https://www.remind.com/@6hgbhb) to (585) 919-1096.

* Standard text message rates apply.



FINANCIAL:
The Treasurer’s Report is as follows from November 17th, 2017:

Petty Cash	\$35.96	Savings	\$23,584.67
Checking	\$462.43	Groomer Balance	\$4,540.77

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE:

As you will all remember, last season was another bad year for snow across the Northeast. HVR didn’t get all our projected trail funding dollars from the NYSOPHP (NYSPARKS), nonetheless we are financially sound due to all the work that was registered by trail coordinators and trail workers. By filling out the work forms and entering the hours worked into the online NYS Parks Grant System, HVR was reimbursed a significant amount of money by NYS Parks even though limited grooming took place. The fact is, the majority of the club’s trail funding is received through sled registrations based on registrant numbers from the current December to the following December and club membership fees. Currently, membership is down state wide (including HVR). This is going to have an impact on future trail dollars awarded to clubs in NYS for 2017-2018 snowmobile snow season. We may find that some clubs across NYS may fold due to size, residual debt and some not conservative with their spending. We are hoping, that this will not be the case, as other clubs would have to pick up the slack in trail coverage. Having two bad winters in a row has driven a lot of people out of the sport. The cost of new sleds is another factor and lack of disposable cash for fun.

This sport takes a lot of work and many hands, more now than ever, to accomplish goals and to meet the constant new rules set by NYS for trail posting. Please come to meetings, help with trail work, and **get involved**. Take on a section of trail and maintain the signs for the season, erecting them and removing them at the end of the season. Over the past couple of years there has been a great effort to engage and get more trail coordinators working towards getting permissions and signing areas. We now have a greatly improved, marked trail system. Thank you to all that participate to make this happen.

Some reminders of our sport, please don’t take our riding privileges lightly. It can all vaporize quickly when our neighbors, the town or the school officials receive complaints about excessive speed, horsing around, loud pipes, not staying on the trail & late-night riding. We have three new landowners on the trail system on S41a and this trail gets a lot of use. They are concerned with noise, so we need to be very considerate of any late-night riding. Some common sense needs to prevail, in that when we are snowmobiling in town and near houses, it is prudent that we minimize noise and the time of night that we are riding. We will be posting signs that say QUIET PLEASE. That means IDLE through quietly.

We are also being asked by many landowners to curtail the late-night riding and associated noise levels. Since our community is growing around us, we may need to adopt and pass riding curfews within the area to maintain our permissions to ride through private property. This is being discussed in many clubs and given that our area keeps growing, with new houses sprouting up along our trail system, I believe we will need to make some changes soon. Always remember, we are able to have trails to ride because landowners are gracious enough to grant us permission to do so. One person with loud pipes and/or riding late could force a trail shutdown. If we lose a section of trail within our immediate riding area (C-4, S-41a and S-41), a re-route is nearly impossible, so preserving the right for use, is an absolute must.

We are known as a club that is considerate, who follows rules and respectful of landowner property. They call Honeoye the Little Old Forge of the Finger Lakes, mainly for the freedom of being able to snowmobile through the town, use the lake accordingly and the ability to ride into other towns and communities. Please make sure you share with your children and friends the discipline & respect that is needed when riding around our trail system. If you are wondering “How can I help HVR?” The answer: be a **volunteer** & help maintain a section of trail, reflect the club’s character mentioned above in your riding, and spread the word on appropriate **snowmobiling etiquette and responsibility**.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner and Business Meeting—**December 14th, 2017**
If you are able bring a dish to pass for us all to enjoy! HVR will provide the chicken wings and pizza. Cash bar. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM. Food will be available from 6:00 PM, through the end of the meeting at Honeoye Fish and Game Club.
- No \Steak Roast Dinner this year. Instead we will be posting other impromptu gatherings at local establishments. Pay attention and stay tuned regularly to postings on our Website and Facebook.

TRAIL WORK:

There have been a lot of trail improvements this year starting with a new culvert behind Faith Bible Church on C-4 trail that should eliminate the bad wet spot in that area. Last year a culvert was installed on 20a just to the East of Faith Bible church to line up the trail crossing across 20a. There is also a new house here and they are snowmobile friendly but are one of the landowners that is concerned of noise and horseplay as mentioned above.

A new culvert was installed on S-49 trail to Hemlock where it crosses 20a. This makes the approach to 20a much safer and eliminates a bridge that was there. This will enable the groomer to negotiate the crossing better also.

A new culvert pipe was installed on White Road where C-4 crosses by the water tower. This will make a safer and more gradual transition to cross the road for both the groomer and snowmobilers.

The Kip Gillan Bridge was re-decked with treated lumber this fall. Vice President, Aaron Graham headed up this large project and is ready for the season.

Clint VanDewark and the Boy Scouts—Troop #521 have performed work raising one of the bridges on the Sandy Bottom Trail.

We have gotten some old electric poles for bridge construction and they are stored at Wohlschlegel Construction on 20a. Bridge work is being planned for Filigree Inn bridge on the way to Lock, Stock and Barrell on S-41.

All our trails are up to date on GPS’ing. There are also plenty of signs and stakes newly purchased and stored in the HVR Shed behind the Honeoye, Fish and Game Club.

If you’re interested in grooming operations and learning how to groom, contact Dave Arnold.

SAFETY & RESPONSIBILITY:



According to the NYSOPRHP (New York State Opportunity- Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation), unsafe speed is the primary cause of snowmobile accidents from year to year. For the 2016-17 year there were a high number of accidents involved with speed, riding on frozen lakes where unseen objects on or in the ice were hit and fatal submersion (two of which were in Livingston County). However, most accidents continue to involve single-vehicle collisions with fixed objects, such as trees. There were 171 total accidents reported for the 2016-2017 season in NY, 20 of which involved fatalities (four accidents were double fatalities).

HVR, ISMA and NYSOPRHP Snowmobile Tips:

- Do not drink and drive a snowmobile.
- Drive within the limits of your machine and your own abilities.
- Obey the rules and laws of the state or province you are riding in.
- Be careful when crossing roads, and always cross at a right angle to traffic.
- Wear appropriate clothing and gear for warmth and safety and be sure your machine is in good shape when you leave (oil, gas, extra belt, spark plugs etc).
- Let family or friends know planned route, destination(s) and expected arrival/return time.
- Treat the outdoors with respect—do not litter or damage trees or other vegetation.
- Respect other peoples' property and rights, and lend a hand when you see a fellow rider in need.
- Stay on maintained and signed trails. Do not snowmobile where prohibited or unmarked.
- Take extreme caution if choosing to ride bodies of water, with particular regard to hazards exposed by changing conditions, ice thickness, and open water.
- Consider using additional safety equipment if planning to cross bodies of water, including flotation apparel and ice picks to assist self-rescue.
- Use speeds 45 mph or below whenever traveling at night for noise and safety.
- Check trail statuses and weather conditions before riding.
- On the trail, be aware of your surroundings and other snowmobilers by staying on your side of the trail and using proper hand signals.

NYS SNOWMOBILING FUN FACTS:

107,972 snowmobiles were registered in NYS for the 2016-17 season. The New York State Snowmobile Association, in cooperation with SUNY Potsdam, had performed an economic impact analysis 5 years ago and calculated the economic impact of snowmobiling in New York was \$875 million annually – an increase of 84% from the late 90s. The NYS trail system established by many clubs and associations across the state total to 10,300 miles out of the 136,853 miles of signed and maintained snowmobile trails in North America (ISMA)!

Hill and Valley Riders Inc. wishes you a wonderful snowmobile season!