



Hill & Valley Riders Inc., P.O. Box 61, Honeoye, NY 14471

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Website-- www.HillandValleyRiders.com

Facebook Page-- [@HillandValleyRiders](https://www.facebook.com/HillandValleyRiders)

December 2021 Newsletter

NEXT MEETINGS

11/18/21, 12/9/21, 1/20/22, 2/17/22, 3/17/22 and 4/21/22. Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month (except December's meeting) at the Honeoye Fish & Game Club @ 7:00 p.m.

**TRAILS ARE CLOSED UNTIL DEER HUNTING (MUZZLE LOADING) SEASON ENDS ON 1/1/2022.
LIMITED TRAILS MAY OPEN ON 1/2/2022 – CONDITIONS/WEATHER PERMITTING**

+Check the website trail report and Facebook for trail updates before you hit the trails+.

MEMBERSHIP:

IMPORTANT NOTE: Deadline for Membership Renewal is December 1st, 2021 for clubs to receive funding that will apply to THIS snowmobile season for trail maintenance and grooming. After December 1st, the funding will go into next season. **If you join a snowmobile club before December 1st, your name will automatically be added to the NYSSA 1000.00 raffle contest where you could win 1000.00 just for registering early.** 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 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 snowmobile registration vouchers and insurance certificates for landowners on behalf of the club. Please contact her with any membership questions with the email or phone listed above.

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA:

For latest news, events and trail updates--

- Visit our website www.hillandvalleyriders.com
- "LIKE" our page to receive newsfeed on Facebook (@HillandValleyRiders)

FINANCIAL:

All Groomer Tractors and Groomer Drags are fully paid for. No bank loans. HVR is sitting very well financially, which is an excellent place to be in given all that we have purchased over the past 7-10 years.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner and Business Meeting at the Honeoye Fish and Game Club, 12/9/21.
- Stay tuned on Facebook for last minute events that will be weather dependent.
- Snowmobile Safety Course was completed on 11/6/2021.

Trail work completed or underway:

- New supports are being placed under the Maloney Bridge on S41 trail.
- A new culvert is being installed off Abby Rd and Pierpont Rd. to make the road crossing safer and easier for the groomer.
- New rubber belting was purchased for the PB groomer tractor and replaced this summer. This was a large job and took 3 people with quite a few hours to complete.
- A new Arrow Drag was purchased for the PB and work is being done to get this properly hooked up with hydraulics and towing connections.
- A new trail was bulldozed by HVR in HHSP to get the snowmobile trail off the edge of Dutch Hollow Rd. This will make for a safer trail and more accessible for the groomer, keeping groomers off the road.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Just a reminder to stay off the snowmobile trails until deer season is done on the evening of 1/1/22, which is a week longer due to NYSDEC's extension. Snowmobilers need to be aware and be respectful of the landowners' requests to stay off their properties during the hunting season. NYSSA and snowmobile clubs throughout NYS were not pleased with this hunting extension due to the long holiday weekend, which could be a big snowmobile season interruption if we have snow. Many times we don't have snow during this period of time, so it likely won't be a big deal. In some cases the extended holiday hunt may impede when trails can be marked, as some landowners prefer trails aren't marked till after the deer season.

Last season in Ontario Country, we had enough volunteer work in the system to get reimbursed our full amount awarded to us, which was enhanced by grooming hours due to the snow being around for up to 6 weeks straight. Livingston County we did well also with getting volunteer work hours and grooming hours entered into the system. It's very important to log all work hours done on state funded trails and make sure all grooming hours are entered. This will be more of a challenge this year due to the ATGP system being shutdown and replaced with a NYSSA prepared spreadsheet for tracking work hours, grooming hours and trail expenditures. We have up to 10 people with the ability to enter work or equipment hours on Google Sheets. Everyone please keep track of your hours on your work sheets and make sure they get entered into the NYSSA expenditure spreadsheet or contact an officer that can do it for you.

This sport takes a lot of work and we need many hands, more now than ever, to accomplish goals and to meet the constant new rules set by NYS for trail posting. Some excessive trail marking is needed in some places because snowmobilers can't seem to stay on the trails. This takes a lot of extra time, money and manpower to mark these sensitive areas. Please continue to come to meetings, help with trail work, and get involved. Thank you to all that participate to make this happen year after year. We desperately need some trail coordinators to take responsibility for some areas in the trail system. Currently, we have a couple of people doing a lot of trail set up work (signs, posts and permissions) on multiple trails and it's way too much for two people to do and it becomes a full time job for these two people. With over 200 people in our HVR snowmobile club, we are hopeful that some may be able to help out and take on a section of trail. It isn't hard to do and we'll show you and teach you how to do it. **The following trails we need help with to reduce workload on individuals:**

- S44 trail. The Area to be maintained is from Maxfield Rd. to Village of Naples, Middle Town Tavern.
- C4 from Ross Rd. through HHSP set up of cones and signs through the park.
- Volunteer for trail sections near your home or immediate riding area.

Lastly, please don't take our riding privileges lightly. Trails can be lost or shutdown when our neighbors, the town or the school officials complain about excessive speed, horsing around, loud pipes, not staying on the trail & late-night riding. We have 4 new landowners on the trail system for the upcoming season. We had several last year. They are all concerned with noise, so we need to be very considerate of any late-night riding. Some common sense needs to prevail, especially when snowmobiling in town and near houses. It's prudent that we minimize noise and the time of night that we are riding. That is why we have implemented the following **riding ordinance** which was adopted by the Towns of Canadice, Richmond and Naples due to trails crossing and utilizing town roads, such as Canadice Hill Rd. etc. **Sunday through Thursday 8:00 AM-11:00 PM. Friday and Saturdays 8:00 AM-12:00 Midnight.** You will see some signs stating QUIET PLEASE. That means idle through quietly as you can. 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.

Responsibility! As a club member, Rider, and Community member it is up to us to help each other. Protect our trails and our Neighbors. In the past year there has been some theft on properties, these types of actions by others are extremely disheartening. Support each other and if you hear or see actions take place speak up and reach out to authorities and club officers so we can protect our community!

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 and the ability to ride into other towns and communities. The Town Government and Highway Department support our sport 100%. Please make sure you share with your children and friends the discipline & respect that is needed when riding around our trail system.

If you're interested in learning to groom trails, contact Dave Arnold at the number listed above in this newsletter.

FUNDING AND GRANT INFORMATION:

Trail funding is a key piece of what allows HVR to exist and function. Presently, the Trail Fund reimburses an award of approximately \$24,000 a year for Livingston and Ontario Counties combined. This allows HVR to run groomers, install culverts, bridges, proper signage and posts, etc. **This reimbursement money is totally supported by snowmobile registration dollars and NOT tax payer dollars.** This reimbursement process is a function of NYS Parks and Recreation, in conjunction with Ontario County and Livingston County, who are the overseers/local government sponsors that will manage the payment of the reimbursements to the snowmobile clubs in the County.

Some examples of how the funds help benefit those outside of snowmobiling is improving Sandy Bottom Trail, local parks and private landowners properties. HVR has funded and repaired 3 bridges at Sandy Bottom. We have installed culverts and bridges on trails on NYSDEC properties, and NYS Park Land, as well as many private landowners' properties. We have installed gates to stop/manage trespassers during the off season and removed or planted bushes and trees for other landowners. Miles of bulldozer work to expand trails. All of this work takes a lot of members working for the common good of snowmobiling in our community. It's rewarding as a club and it gives us snowmobile trails to enjoy locally. We need to keep educating people the importance of staying on the trail and working with the landowners to continue this unique relationship of trust and accountability.

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