



Thousand Islands Snowmobile Club 2008-09 Season Newsletter

September 2008

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Welcome!

Welcome to the start of another great season! While last winter didn't bring nearly as much snow as us snowmobilers would have preferred, that didn't deter our Club one bit! We were busy in the 2007-08 season developing a web-site; researching and acquiring equipment to better maintain our trails; updating the Club by-laws; and preparing for the upcoming year.

One of our missions for the upcoming season is to improve membership participation. Included in this newsletter is a pin-up season calendar. All events with known dates are already posted; however, many more will be added throughout the season. We hope this helps you plan ahead and we look forward to seeing new and familiar faces at future meetings and events.

Trail preparation begins the weekend after Labor Day. Contact our Trail Coordinator to see how you can help. More information provided on Page 4.

2008-09 Open Registration

A membership application has been enclosed for your convenience to register for the 2008-09 season. You can either return the membership application to the address listed on the form or register on-line at www.NYSSnowAssoc.org. On-line registration is a fast and convenient way to acquire your voucher for registering your snowmobile at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Please consider a donation to the Trail Defender Grant when you register this year.

The Trail Defender Grant is an upgrade to your NYSSA membership. The donation of \$20 goes to the Trail Defender Fund, which was established to assist NYSSA member clubs by providing grants to defray the costs of preserving and protecting snowmobile trail access at the local level. Any NYSSA member club may apply for grant assistance when legal action is needed to keep trails open.

Membership Corner

Including your e-mail address on your TISC membership application is the most efficient and timely way to obtain your DMV voucher. *Please share your address if you have one.*

In an effort to reduce overhead Club expenses please note that TISC Membership cards will no longer be issued.

In the same regard, TISC stickers will not be mailed, but will be available to members at general meetings for those living within the trail system. Members living outside a reasonable distance can request a sticker from the Membership Coordinator (see pin-up season calendar for contact information).

Coming Soon -TISC On-line

Coming this fall you can find the latest TISC news at www.1000IslandSnowmobileClub.com. This site will be updated regularly with NYSSA communication, trail conditions, trail workday announcements and upcoming events.

Don't miss out- check back frequently!



Please be considerate of our land-owners and fellow sportsmen!

Snowmobile trails open when hunting season ends (December 15, 2008) and Mother Nature provides ample snow so we don't damage trails and private property!

Trail Safety

Snowmobile safety courses will be held this fall/winter; dates to be announced. Check our website for details as they develop. We should all respect land owners and stay on trails and heed trail signs.

Treasurer's Chest

As we begin another season we look to improve the ride on our trails. We have 60+ miles of trails and only one groomer to maintain those trails. A committee has been tasked with researching the various groomers and drags that are on the market today to see which one would be appropriate for our needs. Our goal is to purchase another groomer so we can be more effective and timely during the height of the season. Research into possible grants from the federal and/or state government is being done to hopefully secure monies that will help fund a new groomer and drag. Anyone with experience in grant writing who would be willing to help write a grant application is encouraged to contact Kathy Scheible, Club Treasurer, at the club email address.... TIsnowclub@gmail.com.

The club is also investigating what limits or restrictions there might be on how we spend the state monies we receive annually. As we grow in size and we purchase more equipment, we need a location to house everything. All possibilities are being looked at and explored. An update on our progress will be in our next newsletter.

Want to Party?

Work parties will be held in September, October and November to clear trails and post signs. Volunteers are *always* needed and *always* welcome. As a special thanks to work party volunteers, all parties will be followed by a cook-out. Those who contribute at least 6 hours to trail maintenance or Club activities with a Board member also receive a TISC discount card!

Save money at local snowmobile dealerships, restaurants and accommodations. To volunteer come to a monthly meeting or contact Don Delaney, our Trail Coordinator, at JDD3602@aol.com or 315-686-3602.

News from NYSSA

The big news this year was the raiding by the NYS Budget Director of the Snowmobile Registrations Trail Maintenance fund of \$1,000,000. With the help of a great number of people, including our local representatives in Albany, this money was restored. A big thank you should go to Senator Aubertine for his work and also for letting our trail cross his land.

Another big change is that there will be no New York Snowmobiler Magazine this year due to the huge increase in printing cost. The magazine will be replaced by an online magazine. To receive your online magazine send a request to Fritz Delaney at Fritz3009@aol.com and it will be forwarded to you.

NYSSA is developing a new web page this year, supposedly with an easier to navigate format. The web site will be in three site areas: one site for the general public, a site for NYSSA members only and a site for membership administrators. The forum page will be accessible to members only.

The 2009 NYSSA annual forum will be held at the Holiday Inn in Syracuse. Make your plans to attend early. This is always very informative to the workings of NYSSA and a good time. Contact an officer for more information on time and dates. A reminder from NYSSA - *register your sled early; this helps to determine the reimbursement rate per mile for maintenance of trails.*

Many hours of work by all volunteers go into laying out, marking and signing trails. This work is done for your safety and enjoyment of the trails. So please do not destroy signs stakes - they are very expensive to maintain and are for your protection.

Help Us Help the Environment

How? Simple! Provide your e-mail address on the enclosed membership application.

TISC is going paperless!

All future TISC newsletters and announcements will be communicated via e-mail and available on our website. *****Please add our e-mail address to your address book (and confirm there are no blocks) so TISC emails will avoid your spam/junk box.***

Additionally, your e-mail address is required for on-line registration, and to receive your DMV voucher, NYSSA Newsletter and NYSSA communication.

Did you know if you redeem your returnable cans and bottles at the St. Lawrence Redemption Center on St. Lawrence Rd in Clayton the refund you would have received can instead be directly donated to TISC? Just let them know to send it our way! It is a quick and easy way you can help the environment and the TISC.