



Greetings Fellow Snowmobilers

There is GOOD news and BAD news!

The BAD NEWS

Unfortunately our season ended very quickly on March 6th after another thaw cycle that took out much of the trail base. We were hoping for some late season snow but it missed the East and covered everywhere else in Manitoba.

So it is what it is. !!

The Season was full of challenges for the club with the very mild wet November and then the unprecedented snow load in December. The swamps did not freeze until well into January and then we had a thaw and rainy week. The swamps posed huge problems for the club with water running across our trails in many spots and the unstable base which lead to several "stuck" groomers.

The GOOD NEWS

The club members pulled together and we came through the season with smiles on our faces.

Our volunteers worked some long and hard days keeping our equipment running and our trails groomed. Short as the season was we had some amazing trails....

At least between the snow melts.

We had a great KINGS KOOKOUT BBQ on February 18th where riders on trail 768 were treated to a BBQ of Dancyt smokey dogs



and given an opportunity to try their hand at our “stationary poker derby” where Ernie was the eventual winner with four 6s. The 50/50 pot gave him a \$83 payday. It was a beautiful sunny day and a great time to tell stories around the outdoor fire.

Our THANKS to all who came out for the event!!

We even did our first “RIDE” to Hecla on February 27th. Unfortunately the ride was by car as the trails were not safe across the lake but the 5 couples who made the trek had a GREAT time. The hotel and spa was fantastic and the camaraderie was a lot of fun. We will do it again next year and hopefully take our machines.

Many riders have told us that our renovation to Agassiz Hut on trail 763 was a very welcomed project and all of the riders who stopped by to warm up appreciated the work done by our work party last fall. It is such a beautiful part of our trail system and some new windows, door and interior finishing has elevated the riding experience.

We are already looking forward to next season. We had some issue with trail 62 south of Ridge Riders Hut as a large beaver dam had flooded over the trail and made grooming impossible. With the guidance of Conservation and the help of 2 local licenced trappers we are actively addressing the issue and hope to get permits to remove the beaver house shortly. This process will allow us to re-open trail 62 for

next winter and again meet the trails on highway 15.

And now for the exciting news.

At our SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING on February 27th the club authorized the purchase of a 2007 Prinoth Husky groomer.



Here it is in the shop in Sudbury being pre-serviced. It will be delivered to our building in Seven Sisters on March 24th. We will be sending out an email to all members as soon as we know the exact time as it will be an opportunity for all Operators, members and supporters to take a close look at the new groomer. The addition of this unit to our fleet will allow for better and earlier grooming of our system. The big difference is weight distribution over the frozen swamps and snow filled ditches. Our New Holland conversions placed about 5 lbs per sq. inch of track where the Husky runs at about .8 lb per sq. inch. A huge difference. Prepacking of the trails will always be a necessity but with the weight distribution of

the Husky we should be able to groom sooner with less risk to the machine and operator.

Equally as important is the ability to run with 2 operators on the trail which provides a new level of comfort and enhances our level of safety to our volunteer operators.



Our Groomer Committee worked long and hard searching the internet and dealers for a machine that met our needs and budget.

Our membership thanks all of those members for their hard work and I am sure that we will all see the benefits of their labour next season when we hit the trails with the Husky.

Our next regular meeting April 11th 7p.m.

Tourist Hotel, Seven Sisters

Social hour and dinner from the menu at 6p.m.

MARK YOUR CALANDER

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday May 6th followed by a dinner and social evening.

May 6th 2017

There will be door prizes at both the meeting and social evening.

Watch for an email update on location.

If you have some time and wanted to help the SnoPals this is your opportunity to come out, socialize and put your hand up to take on a project..... a couple of hours, a day work party or a seasonal role.

Or maybe you just want to come up and spend the evening with the Club.... that is OK too.

Hope to see you all at the AGM

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Club Meeting !