



Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association

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MEMO

TO: Club Contacts, Club Presidents
FROM: Nancy Hanson, Business Coordinator
DATE: May 26, 2021
RE: Updates

Charity Survey – Each year at this time, MnUSA prepares a charity report for the International Snowmobile Council. The information you provide helps us to remind the non-snowmobiling public and government agencies that snowmobilers are caring, community minded volunteers. The numbers we collect are used in national and international data and in Minnesota in our communications with media, legislators, and the general public. It is a very important tool when meeting with different government agencies to let them know who we are. The form includes your volunteer hours. If your club holds safety training classes and/or maintain trails, those hours should be included. We would appreciate your help in completing the survey and returning it to MnUSA by **June 30, 2021**. The survey is enclosed and can be found on the MnUSA web site at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/clubs/information>

NOTE: If there is someone else in your club that should be receiving this request, please pass this information on to them. To assist with discussions with DNR on the volunteer hours that go into the snowmobile program, please fill in the hourly information even if your club does not donate funds to charities.

MnUSA Spring Meeting/Publisher. Attached you will find a copy of the minutes from the MnUSA Spring meeting which includes information on the status of the *Minnesota Snowmobiling* publication. The MnUSA Board of Directors voted to support Option 3 as MnUSA's new publisher. The company is Midwest Outdoor and MnUSA is excited with the opportunities this company will provide. Midwest Outdoor will be looking to clubs for stories and events as we move forward. As soon as the new contract is signed, more information will be available. Stay tuned...

Legislative Update – The session ended without legislation even funding the grant-in-aid program. We now wait for the Special Session for that funding bill to pass.

Trail Improvement Grants – Updated Trail Improvement Grant applications will be available on the DNR website by the first week in June with an application deadline of **July 15, 2021**. While the majority of GIA funding is dedicated to maintaining the existing GIA trails throughout Minnesota, grants-in-aid for trail improvements are also available. These grants are reimbursement-based where eligible costs are matched at up to 75 percent. Total project costs must be at least \$10,000 and projects must be matched at 25% of the total project costs. (For example, a \$10,000 project would be funded \$7,500 and require a \$2,500 match.) Additional information and application forms can be found at https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/gia_snowmobile.html



MnUSA Summer Event will be held July 10, 2021 at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Stillwater. Due to the uncertainty of Covid restrictions, a one day event was planned. Hope to see you there! Information on the event is enclosed and can be found on the MnUSA website at <https://mnsnowmobiler.org/get-involved/mnusa/mnusa-events> .

Nominations for MnUSA officers also begin at the general membership meeting at the summer event. All positions are open for nominations. If you are interested, or you know of good candidates, have your nominations ready for the meeting Saturday morning. Nominations will be open again at Fall Workshop prior to the elections.

Snow Goer Club Promotion –MnUSA’s membership committee is very excited to partner with Snow Goer magazine again this year on the Snow Goer Spread the Word About Clubs campaign. Take advantage of all the new interest in outdoor activities and promote your club through Snow Goer. For \$49, your club will be listed in the December issue of Snow Goer magazine, on SnowGoer.com with a link, with social media and e-newsletters. Information on how to participate is enclosed and can be found on MnUSA’s website at <https://mnsnowmobiler.org/clubs/information> . The deadline to participate is **August 15, 2021**.

Minnesota Rider Assist Directory is a benefit provided to all MnUSA members in printed format with their membership card. If you are interested in extending a helping hand to a fellow MnUSA member in need, please consider joining the RAD Team. Information on the program is enclosed and can be found at <https://mnsnowmobiler.org/discover/resources/mn-snow-rad>

Summer Event Opportunities. If your club has a booth at a community event, county fair, etc., this summer, please let the MnUSA office know as soon as possible so that it can be promoted on MnUSA’s web calendar.

Make plans to Attend the MnUSA Fall Workshop- October 22-24, 2021. Region 4 and the Blizzard Snowmobile Club are planning great seminars and lots of fun at MnUSA’s annual meeting at the Holiday Inn in Fairmont the weekend of October 22-24. There will be seminars, guest speakers, MnUSA’s annual meeting, elections and more. Additional information will be available on MnUSA’s website. Hope to see you there! <https://mnsnowmobiler.org/get-involved/mnusa/mnusa-events>

Club Updates: If your club has recently held elections, please help us update your club information for next season’s mailing by completing the club officer form that is enclosed and can be found at <https://mnsnowmobiler.org/clubs/information> and returning it to the MnUSA office. Thanks!

Thank you for all you do for snowmobiling. If you have questions on any of the above, please contact the MnUSA office.

cc: MnUSA Executive Board & Board of Directors