

Hilton Sno-Flyers
September 2009 Newsletter
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Snowmobile Operator Age Requirements

The most frequent question I am asked as a New York State Safe Snowmobiling Instructor is “Who needs to take a course?”

Of course, I recommend EVERYONE take a safe snowmobiling course. But, both you and I know that isn’t going to happen, unless the legislature requires it by a law.

Here is the official language I just received from the NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation with my season package of information. At the end of the NYS language is a table prepared by me to help. I want everyone to know it isn’t an official table from NYS.

Youth ages 14 through 17 years old may operate a snowmobile, on lands upon which snowmobiling is allowed, without adult or other supervision if they have successfully completed a snowmobile safety training course and received a Snowmobiling Safety Certificate recognized by the State of New York.

If youth ages 14 through 17 years have not completed the training course, they may operate a snowmobile if accompanied by (within 500 feet of) a person who is at least 18 years of age.

Youth ages 10 through 13 may operate a snowmobile, on lands upon which snowmobiling is allowed, if they have successfully completed a snowmobile safety training course, received a Snowmobile Safety Certificate recognized by the State of New York, and are accompanied by (within 500 feet of) a person who is at least 18 years of age.

Children less than 10 years old or less than age 14 without a safety certificate may operate a snowmobile only on lands owned or leased by their parent or guardian.

A non-resident operator who is a resident of another state or country and is the holder of a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued by that state or country shall be considered the same as the holder of a New York State Safety Certificate.

(Students taking the New York State Snowmobile Safety Course must be at least 10 years of age on the day the course ends.)

Here is a table that shows the age requirements for a NYS Safety Certificate:

Age 18 and above	No restrictions to operate a snowmobile due to age.
Ages 14, 15, 16 and 17	Legal to operate a snowmobile if supervised by an adult 18 years of age or older, or if they earn a NYS Safety Certificate.
Age 10, 11, 12 and 13	Not legal to operate a snowmobile unless they have both earned the NYS Safety Certificate AND are supervised by an adult 18 years of age or older.
Age 9 and younger	Not legal operate a snowmobile other than on parent’s or guardian’s land.

To be supervised is to have an adult 18 years of age or older within 500 feet of the youth operated snowmobile.

Mark Kesselring
New York State Safe Snowmobiling Instructor
Hilton Sno-Flyers Safety Coordinator

Membership Report by Jim Howard

The second meeting of the year is September 16th at 7:30pm at the Elks Club on Sweden Walker Road in Brockport. This is a good chance to get your membership renewed and start the club year out right. Please have a membership application (available on the website) filled out before you arrive to ease the line at the membership table. I would like folks to have it completed and drop it off at the table so that we can process them during the meeting for you to pick up on your way out the door. This year is going to be difficult with my Sprint wireless internet because of the coverage is poor in the metal building at the Elks Club.

I still suggest using the online membership form if you need your voucher immediately. The website is <https://membership.nyssnowassoc.org/club/show/485> this will take you right to it. Your member number is on your card from last year and I can reset your password if you have forgotten it. The Hilton Sno-Flyers do not mail out the membership cards; they come directly from NYSSA and are part of your state association fee that is built into your club dues. You should expect to receive yours before the snow flies. Keep your cards with you, there are various discounts attached to the card from different sponsors.

That is it from me for now; if you have questions about membership you can reach me at membership@hiltonsnoflyers.com or call me on my cell, 315-663-5721 between 6am and 9pm.

One last detail that we forgot to mention. Ski doo is offering area clubs the ability to receive up to \$1500.00 for registering your e-mail address with them. Also if 70% of the membership registers, they will be eligible for a new snowmobile. The registration form can be found on the NYSSA website. It's an easy way for our club to receive some funding.

Groomers – Dan Gurbacki

The groomers are receiving their PM maintenance and all is going well with them. We are having work details on Wednesdays at Robert Colby's farm. Sign up sheets will go around at the meetings so please sign up if you're available. The next work detail will be September 9th. We are also taking names of volunteers for Saturday, September 12th. At this work detail we will need individuals that can help get the tracks back on the groomers. This will be an all day project, but if you only have a couple of hours to offer, please don't hesitate to volunteer. Contact Dan Gurbacki @ 469-6789 if you're interested.

Trail Report – Jim Meyer

We are continuing to work on the Whittier Road right of way, as well as getting approval to go through the VerHultz property.

On Thursday, October 22, 2009 @7:00 trail bosses and workers are asked to gather at the Elks Club to participate in a NYSSA Trail Signing Workshop to gain consistency on trail markings in Monroe, Livingston, Orleans and Genesee Counties. The plan is to have the trails marked consistently through the entire state of New York. If anyone is interested in participating in trail signage, please feel free to show up at this very important meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

Trail Funding – Tom Francis

Our trails are funded by your registration fee. Of the \$45.00 you use for registration, \$35.00 of the funds go towards trails. We have 98 miles of trail that need to be taken care of and because of your registration, we're able to do it along with volunteerism.

Applefest and Snow Show

Don't forget that the Applefest in Hilton is scheduled for October 3 & 4, 2009. Get out there and have a great day and visit our stand and raze the guys some. They'll be selling French fries with cheese sauce for those that are interested. Also, the Snow Show is scheduled for November 8, 2009. The event is planned to take place at Doan Chevrolet. Come and support your club as well as enjoy the exhibits that have been set up for you.

Closing from the President – Rich Manley

The season has begun and I look forward to meeting as many club members as I can, I hope to see everyone at a meeting or work detail. I have a few projects that I am working on for this season, one of which is a trail status and conditions report on the web site. Steve Frosini has started the work on this and is optimistic to have it operational by the time the snow flies. This will be a coordinated effort by the Board of Directors and Trail Bosses to keep the club better informed. As we started last year, we will continue to look for members to volunteer for short sections of the trail to maintain near their home or where they regularly ride to lessen the burden on the trail bosses. Please contact any Board Member, through the web site e-mail or Trail Boss, to find out how and where you can help. The Club will be printing new trail maps this year and we need you help in acquiring sponsors. I've posted the form on the message board under general announcements, return it to any board member with art work and payment prior to October 15th so we can get them printed for distribution at the Snow Show. Please remember to support our sponsors. Times are tough for them and we should do all we can to assist them.

Respect the Landowners