



KMR News

January 2015

Kettle Moraine Riders, Eagle, WI
www.kmrsnowmobileclub.com

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**SAFETY
IS EVERYBODY'S
RESPONSIBILITY!**

It's finally Here, Sledding Season!!

We have been waiting a long time for this wonderful cold and snowy weather. Keep in mind when sledding, that safety comes first. Did you know January 17th through 25th is International Snowmobile Safety Week? It's the perfect time to review hand signals and make sure your sled is running properly. Be sure to carry emergency essentials with you such as a well charged phone, first aid, matches, a flash light, and extra belt and/or other needs for minor breakdowns. You can always be better prepared so don't delay, get ready!!



Stop

Left arm is raised from the shoulder and extended straight up over the head with palm of hand flat. Note that some riders may indicate the STOP signal by extending their right arm instead of their left since the left hand is used for braking; therefore watch for and be prepared to stop for either signal



Left Turn

Left arm extended straight out from the shoulder to point in the direction of the turn



Find more safety/hand signals below

Chili Brat Bash Just Around the Corner

Sign up sheets will be coming in a separate attachment. They will also be at the February meeting which is just before the event.

Signs have been distributed and should be popping up all over town and on our trails. Thanks to everyone who has helped get these in place.

Raffle tickets are starting to sell. Anyone wanting tickets before the February meeting please contact me at kksledder@aol.com or 262-470-1783.

When you obtain a donation, please let Carter Shelton know and he can add it to the list. Early notification is very important. We want to recognize our sponsors, so posters are created with their business and or names on it which is then displayed at the event. The raffles are what make this so successful. If you don't have an outlet to get a donation and would like to contribute, baskets are always a hit and easy to raffle. Please know, we have no control over what items bring in monetarily, so be prepared if your item may not go for what you had hoped. Every year the crowds are different. Looking forward to another successful year!!

Trail Master Update:

Trails are closed.

Please watch for emails from Dan when the trails are open or closed and also you can check out the various county trail conditions on the hotlines:

Waukesha: 414-299-0330

Walworth: 262-742-2664

Jefferson: 920-699-SNOW

Also, this information can always be found on our website:

www.kmrsnowmobileclub.com

Club Trip Information:



Date: January 21 – 25, 2015

Location: Gateway Lodge

1. 4103 County Road B, Land O' Lakes, WI 54540

Phone:(715) 547-3321

For more info contact Tom Rowinski at tom_rowinski@hotmail.com

Looking forward to another awesome trip with the club!!! Always a great time..

This is a tried and true location. Hope you can join us.



Welcome New 2015 Members!!

Please extend a warm welcome to:

Daryll Holloway

Terry & Sue Ewers

More Safety Hand Signals



Right Turn

Bend your left arm at the elbow to shoulder height; with your hand pointing straight up and your palm flat, your arm should make a right angle.



Oncoming Sleds

Guide your snowmobile to the right while pointing to the right side of trail over your head, signaling to riders behind you that they should make sure they are riding on the right half of the trail and are yielding to on-coming traffic.



Slowing

Left arm extended out and down from the side of the body with a downward flapping motion of hand to signal warning or caution.



Sleds Following

Left arm is raised with elbow bent; with thumb pointing backward in hitchhiking motion, move arm forward to backward over your shoulder to advise approaching riders there are other sleds behind you in your group. Note that many riders may instead raise a number of spread fingers to indicate how many sleds are following in their group (if five or more, simply hold all five fingers up with fingers spread, or flash multiples of five). If traffic is heavy or if you're riding in the middle of a large group that is spaced fairly close together (next sled is clearly visible directly behind your sled), it is best to keep both hands on the handlebars and concentrate on driving your own snowmobile versus worrying about this signal since it should be quite obvious that other sleds are following.

**Last Sled in Line**

Left arm is raised at shoulder height, elbow bent and forearm vertical with hand clenched in a fist; important signal used to advise approaching riders that you are the last sled in your group.

Safety signals and quiz below compliments of Safe Riders Snowmobile Safety Awareness Program. Go to the site below for more info.
<http://www.saferiderssafetyawareness.org/index.html>



Safe Riders' Quiz

Section 3: Riding Tips

When starting your snowmobile::

- A: Be in a position where you can control it once it starts
- B: Make sure it is pointed in a safe direction
- C: Make sure the track, skis and throttle are not frozen
- D: Make sure key is 'on' and emergency kill switch is 'up'
- E: All of the above

1. Why is it important to learn more riding positions than only 'sitting' on the snowmobile seat?

- A: So other riders can see your hand signals better
- B: They help save fuel and make the snowmobile run better
- C: They are more comfortable and much safer
- D: So you can safely and confidently respond to changing trail and terrain conditions
- E: A and C

2. A right turn is signaled by:

- A: Bending your right elbow, forming an "L" or right angle
- B: Extending your right arm straight out from your shoulder
- C: Bending your left elbow, forming an "L" or right angle
- D: With your left arm, point to the right side of the trail while motioning over your head
- E: Turning on the snowmobile's right turn signal

3. Which signs do snowmobile operators have to obey?

- A: Stop and yield signs
- B: No trespassing, stay on trail, and speed limits
- C: When on or along a road, all traffic signs posted for automobiles including highway speed limits
- D: A and B
- E: All of the above

4. When riding in a group on trails:

- A: Keep a safe distance between sleds by following the 3-Second Rule
- B: Ride side-by-side to help keep your group together
- C: Always ride single file
- D: A and C
- E: None of the above

5. When riding with passengers:

- A: Place children in front of you on the seat
- B: Do so only on snowmobiles with an extra long seat designed for 2 passengers
- C: Go faster to help turn corners more easily
- D: All of the above
- E: None of the above

6. When riding alone

- A: Enjoy the opportunity for solitude and explore new places
- B: Be doubly certain to ride safely and pack your emergency kit and safety gear
- C: Always let someone know exactly where you're going and when you will return
- D: B and C
- E: Absolutely never ride alone

7. If you get your snowmobile stuck, you should:

- A: Stand up, wave, and call for help
- B: Stand up, jump on the running boards, and give it full throttle to drive out
- C: Walk for help
- D: All of the above
- E: None of the above

8. When riding at night it is important to:

- A: Slow down and keep the snowmobile's tail light clear of ice and snow
- B: Avoid trails since wildlife likes to travel on them at night
- C: Drive faster to help scare wildlife off trails
- D: Understand a snowmobile's headlight shines only 400 feet in front of it
- E: All of the above

9. What can be safely towed with a snowmobile?

- A: Inner tubes, sleds and toboggans
- B: Skiers
- C: A cutter with a rigid hitch
- D: All of the above
- E: Nothing should be towed with a snowmobile

10. Winter weather can produce a wide range of unpredictable snow conditions:

- A: Always be prepared for the unexpected
- B: Always speed up when riding in powder or wet snow
- C: Riding on dirt or ice is the same as riding on packed trails
- D: All of the above
- E: None of the above

11. All snowmobile riders must:

- A: Respect skiers, hikers, snowshoers and dogsleds using the same trail
- B: Avoid snowmobile trails when cross-country skiers and dog sleds are present
- C: Respect access across private and public lands since it is a privilege, not a right
- D: A and C
- E: All of the above

12. If you meet a trail groomer on the trail:

- A: Slow down immediately since it travels very slow and you'll be there quickly
- B: Move your snowmobile to the far right side of the trail or off the trail
- C: Try to stay off the freshly groomed trail once it passes by you
- D: All of the above
- E: None of the above

13. Snowmobiling on a freshly groomed trail before it has had time to set up and refreeze:

- A: Is the best possible riding experience since it allows everyone in the group to spread out and enjoy smooth trails
- B: Allows you to go fast without worrying about bumps in the trail
- C: Quickly destroys the trail base and results in rough trails
- D: Provides a great opportunity to practice maneuvering your snowmobile
- E: A and B

Event Calendar:

February 3, 2015 Club Meeting - 7:30 - Suhmers Saloon
February 7th, Chili and Brat Bash -
March 3rd, Club Meeting - 7:30 - Suhmers Saloon
April 7th, Club Meeting - 7:30 - Suhmers Saloon
May 5th, Club Meeting - 7:30 - Suhmers Saloon



January Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. Two new members were introduced. The minutes of the previous meeting were not read as they were posted in the newsletter. Members were encouraged to read them if they had not.

Correspondence:

Craig received info on the Blue Ribbon Coalition.

The club received a thank-you note from the Mukwonago Food Pantry.

Eagle Business Association sent an invoice to renew our advertising in the Eagle booklet. It is \$80 to renew as is or \$130 for a half-price ad and better visibility in the booklet. Motion made and

seconded to take out a half-price ad.

President's Report: None.

Guest Presentation: None.

Coordinator Events:

County Raffle Tickets – Steve brought raffle tickets to distribute. Members are encouraged to sell tickets as the club receives \$0.50 for each ticket sold. The drawing will be March 11.

Chili & Brat Bash – Craig brought tickets for distribution. Kim brought road and trail signs to distribute. Tom has a couple of road signs at his house that he will bring in. Karen will send out sign-up sheets for volunteers for the day of the bash. Jan had flyers printed, and members took them to hang at various locations around the area. Members were encouraged to pick up raffle prizes wherever they can. E-mail Carter with any prizes as well as the donator so that our sponsor board can be updated. Tom reviewed the changes and laws regarding raffles. The next meeting for the chili bash committee will be on January 15 at a location to be determined.

Club Trip – Tom updated the membership roster as well as the club trip roster. He will email a snack sign-up sheet to those going on the trip a week or so prior to the trip, as well as an updated roster as to who is going when.

Snowmobile Safety Course – This course will be held at Brandybrook Community Center in Wales on January 24 and 31.

Webmaster – Dave updated the Webpage and Facebook regarding the chili bash. Tom suggested we put a chili bash flyer on Craig's List, but Karen already took care of that.

Trails – Trails are closed as we need 2-3 more inches of snow. Walworth and Jefferson are also closed. Steve had seen the groomer out in his area. The trail has opened up behind Brookwood Inn. Bad news – the landowner behind Bradfords changed his mind and all trail-marking stakes have been pulled. Dan is writing a letter to him and is hoping he'll allow the trail next year. Apparently the landowner misunderstood that the trail would be a county-wide trail, not just a local trail. Dan put more streamers up on the berm by Jericho Drive. Dan opened up a few gates along the trail. Tom said a lot of gates are still closed in the forest. Dan will call Don regarding that. Dan ordered new signs for next year. Trail maps should be available on Monday. Craig has map boxes ready to go. Tom will pick up the boxes at Road Track & Trail on Saturday. The state forest brushing had an awesome turnout. Fifteen people spent five hours cleaning up five miles of main trail. Dan will meet with Jon Weinkauf to finalize the paperwork, but we should net \$1,000-\$1,100 for our club.

Old Business – None.

New Business – None.

Announcements – Tim Arquette has a group going to the Town of Curtis in the UP February 14-17 if anyone is interested in going. He has rented a house that has a couple of openings left, otherwise there is a resort nearby. Steve brought in trailer stickers and club stickers for sale, as well as business cards. He also had horse trail maps.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin M. Douglas