



Northwoods Riders SC –  
Supporting the best snowmobile trails in and around Tomahawk, WI!

# Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club

## November 2025 Newsletter

### Next Meeting

**November 24, 2025**  
**Billy Bob's**  
Meal Served at 6:15 pm  
General Meeting at 7:00 pm

### Board Members

#### Officers:

President – Greg Johnson  
Vice President – Dale Elliott  
Treasurer – Kay Collom  
Secretary – Lisa Elliott

Membership – Chetek Wenker  
Newsletter – Lisa Elliott

#### Directors:

John Collom  
Thor Gilbertson  
Mark McDonald  
Aimee Merkel  
Gary Waters

### Membership Totals:

We currently have 276 memberships in our club with 6 new memberships. There were 48 members in attendance at the October meeting including member Randy Johnson at his first meeting, guest Dean Stride, and landowners Dan Johnson, Lori Rogney & Jim Hanson, and Dale & Lisa Elliott.

### Reduced Fee Trail Passes:

Plan ahead for riding season! **Your club dues must be paid and processed before you can order reduced fee trail passes from AWSC.** Our \$30 Individual and \$35 Family memberships include your AWSC dues. If you haven't mailed in your club new/renewal membership card and check OR paid for it online at [www.northwoodsriders.org](http://www.northwoodsriders.org), it's time to get it done so you are ready to ride! After your new/renewal club membership is processed, the AWSC also processes your membership and then you can order reduced fee trail passes from them. This process can take 2-3 weeks so don't wait until the last minute to renew your club membership and order trail passes.

## **Snowmobile Safety Class:**

Snowmobile Safety Class will be held on **Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00am-4:00pm at Erv's Sales and Service in Tomahawk.

Youth must be registered in advance online at <https://gowild.wi.gov> with their DNR Customer Number. Search for our class in Tomahawk, Lincoln County.

Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club is covering the cost of the class for all participants. Bring a lunch to eat during class. Study Guide will be mailed to you before the class so register now! Contact Greg Johnson at 815/222-3913 or email [info@northwoodsriders.org](mailto:info@northwoodsriders.org) with questions.

Any person who is born on or after Jan. 1, 1985, and who has reached the age of 12, must have completed and received a snowmobile safety certificate in order to operate a snowmobile in Wisconsin. The certificate must be carried while operating the snowmobile and displayed to a law enforcement officer upon demand. The snowmobile safety course consists of at least six hours of basic instruction in the principles of laws and regulations, rider ethics and general snowmobile safety. <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/Education/OutdoorSkills/safetyEducation>

## **Trail Clean-up Days:**

Northwoods Passage Club trail brushing took place on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> with approximately 88 volunteers helping! The volunteers were split up into groups to cover different sections of the Northwoods Passage trail system. Dan Hoover organized the day by having everything planned out and clear directions for the work that needed to be done.

Trail brushing was also done by 32 volunteers for the Northern Trails Unlimited trails on October 25<sup>th</sup> and by the Knight Owls Club trails on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

All clubs are working through action items identified during the brushing and continuing to prepare the trails for the upcoming season.

A big thank you to all club members who brought equipment and worked very hard clearing trails with the local grooming clubs. Many thanks also to those who organized the post-brushing party at our club shed after. Your help makes a difference every year!

More pictures of the work and fun that took place can be found on our Facebook page under Photo albums.

***Thanks to each and every one of you!***



## **Club Board Elections:**

Final nominations and voting for open club board positions took place at our October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. There were 5 positions open this year; President, Secretary, and 3 Director positions. Nominees were given the opportunity to share a little about themselves and their interest in serving on the club board. Voting ballots were distributed. Votes were collected and tallied. The elected members are:

President: Greg Johnson

Secretary: Lisa Elliott

Directors: Gary Waters, Amiee Merkel and Thor Gilbertson

Other board members currently in office are:

Vice President: Dale Elliott

Treasurer: Kay Collom

Directors: John Collom and Mark McDonald

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Cody Egan and Matt McDonald for serving as Directors for the last two years. Their input and work during their time on the club board is much appreciated!

## **Club By-Law Revisions:**

Our current club by-laws were written 30+ years ago in 1994 when the Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club was formed. The Club Board recently reviewed the by-laws and is proposing revisions to reflect how our club has evolved and currently operates. Highlights of the revisions include:

- Update the mission statement to include education and community support to be more reflective of what our club does and who we do it for.
- Increase the spending limit without board approval from \$200 to \$500.
- Allow the president to vote.
- Add the Membership Coordinator as a club board position.

The by-law revisions were presented at the October general meeting and emailed to all club members. The proposed by-laws will be voted on at the next general meeting on November 24th.

Revising the by-laws supports our future plans to change our tax filing status to 501(c)(3) and apply for our own raffle license.

## **Destination Overnight Club Ride:**

Join us for this year's Northwoods Riders Weekend Destination Club Ride!!!

When: January 30-February 1, 2026, Friday thru Sunday (2 overnights)

Where To: The Lodge at Manitowish Waters

13859 ILG Road

Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

Pack your saddlebags for the weekend and we'll depart on Friday 8:30am from the Northwoods Riders club shed located at 2640 County L in Tomahawk and ride to Manitowish Waters. Trail routes, location stops, and dinner plans to follow as the season gets underway.

You must call the hotel at 715-543-2024 to make your reservations under the Northwoods Riders block of 10 rooms. Please also call or text Dale Elliott 715-551-8555 with any questions and to confirm you are joining the ride.

This is a great way to explore other trails in Wisconsin with people who are excited to share the experience with you!

### **Other Club Updates at our October Meeting:**

**AWSC** – Gary Hilgendorf – The 25-2026 AWSC Miss Snowflake is Jena Lenz from Jefferson county. DNR sled safety weekends are planned for Jan 30-Feb1 and Feb 6-8, 2026. Wisconsin had 9 fatalities and Michigan had 15 last season. AWSC life insurance coverage has been discontinued for this season. Another program is being pursued. Railroad crossings is a current hot topic and some may be closed. There is a proposal to increase registration fees to \$45 per year, it is waiting legislation approval. Gary has \$20 raffle calendars available if anyone is interested.

### **Northwoods Riders Thank-yous:**

The Trunk or Treat event at The Loop Hole was a great success on October 26th. Special thanks to members Greg Johnson, Mark McDonald, John and Kay Collom, and Lisa Elliott for their help. We partnered with the Northwoods Passage and enjoyed promoting snowmobiling in our area while having fun with the community!



### **Special Donation:**

Amiee and Darren Merkel from Boomba Bar generously presented a check for \$2,025.80 raised from their sales of 230 Pontoon Palooza t-shirts! A huge thank you to them for their support, it is much appreciated!



## **Motions Passed:**

Prize donations will be made by the Northwoods Riders Club to these area clubs toward their banquets or fundraisers during the 25-2026 season: Northwoods Passage \$2500, Knight Owls \$1500, Northern Trails Unlimited \$1500.

Businesses that host our monthly club meetings will be given a \$200 donation by the club to help offset the cost of the food provided at the meetings. We will also purchase the \$25 gift certificate that is drawn for at each meeting. We appreciate the local businesses that host our meetings!

## **October Meeting Winners!**

Amiee Merkel won the \$25 Tilted Loon gift certificate.

Joan Hilgendorf won \$175 in the 50/50 Drawing.

Big thanks to Nate and Holly Carr from The Tilted Loon for hosting us and serving up a great meal for everyone!

## **2025-2026 Area Club Events**

*All Northwoods Riders club events and meetings are listed on our website under Events & News> [Northwoods Riders Calendar](#) and on our Facebook page.*

*A comprehensive list of events for all area clubs can be found on our website under Events & News> [Area Clubs Event List](#) and in the **chart below**.*

<b>TOMAHAWK AREA SNOWMOBILE CLUB EVENTS 2025-2026</b>				
<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Location</u>
10/4/2025	3:00-5:00 PM	Meat Raffle	Har Wanderers	Town Pump
10/18/2025	9:00 AM	Trail Brushing	NWPSC	Club Shed
10/18/2025	12:00-4:00 PM	Vintage Snowmobile Show & Swap Meet	Knight Owls	Nut-Zee's
10/25/2025	9:00 AM	Trail Brushing	NTU	Boomba or Willow Haven
11/1/2025	3:00-5:00 PM	Meat Raffle	Har Wanderers	Little Rice Resort
11/1/2025	9:00 AM	Trail Brushing	Knight Owls	Groomer Shed
11/8/2025	9:00 AM	Tomahawk Sports Center Open House		Tomahawk Sports Ctr
Dec 1-31,2025	11:15 AM	Daily Calendar Raffle	NWPSC	Castaway's
12/6/2025	9:00 AM	Youth Snowmobile Safety Training	NWR	Erv's Sales & Service
1/4/2026	2:30 PM	Big Cash Raffle	NWPSC	Bootleggers Lodge
1/10/2026	3:00 PM	Slush Run	NWPSC	Birch Lake
1/15-16/2026	11:00 AM	Ride with the Cup		TBD
1/17/2026	3:00 - 5:30 PM	Winter Fest	Har Wanderers	Billy Bob's
1/30-2/1/2026	8:30 AM Fri depart	NWR Destination Ride	NWR	Lodge at Manitowish Waters
1/31/2026	9:00 AM	Radar Run	Hooligans	Holly's
2/7/2026	11:00 AM-3:00 PM	NWR Trail Cookout	NWR	NWR Garage
2/7/2026	3:00-5:00 PM	Meat Raffle	Har Wanderers	Stars & Stripes
2/7/2026		Gun Raffle & Cash	Knight Owls	Sure-Wood Forest
2/8/2026	9:00 AM-12:00 PM	NWR Member Breakfast	NWR	TBD
2/14/2026		Pizza Feed	NWPSC	Twin Bay
2/14/2026		Community Ride	Knight Owls	
2/21/2026		Maday's Fisheree	NWPSC	Maday's Fish Trap
2/21/2026		\$100 raffle	Knight Owls	Nut-Zee's
2/15/2026		Equipment Fundraiser	NTU	
2/28/2026	2:00 PM	Sled Raffle	NWPSC	Somo Lake Resort
3/7/2026	3:00-5:00 PM	Meat Raffle	Har Wanderers	Willows End
3/14/2026	5:00 PM	Winter Celebration	NWPSC	Inshalla
3/28/2026	3:00 - 5:00 PM	Fun'd Run and Meat Raffle	Har Wanderers	My 10 Point Bar
4/25/2026		Spring Hoot	Knight Owls	Inshalla
5/24/2026		Beer Raffle	Knight Owls	Castaway's
7/18/2026		Pontoon Palooza	NWR	The Landing
<b>Other snowmobile events but not club associated:</b>				
1/24/2026		Radar Run Shootout and Bikini Run		LaCanne's