



## *Snowmobile Rules and Guidance*

Dear Members,

Snowmobiling on Haystack Mountain at night from 4:30-9:30 PM may be one of membership's most exciting benefits. It can also be challenging with some of the similar risks associated with downhill skiing and boarding. We wanted to point out several rules in an effort to guide our members more safely. Please make sure that anyone operating your snowmobile on Hermitage Club property has read this notice.

### **Rules:**

- Snowmobile riding on the Haystack Mountain is open to Hermitage Club Members and their guests only. The hours are from 4:30 pm until 9:30 pm.
- Only four-stroke machines are allowed on Hermitage Club property. We have made the investment in our tour and mountain operations fleet to significantly reduce noise and emissions and require the same of our members.
- **Always stay to the right side of the trail.** If terrain doesn't allow please proceed up a line to the far right as remains safe.
- Rider access is limited to certain trails on the mountain. Please reference the Snowmobile Trail Map.
- Restricted areas will be indicated by reflective signs that include a No Snowmobiling symbol. These signs will be placed at the top and bottom of restricted trails.
- The attached map shows designated snowmobile trails. The trails are signed appropriately on the mountain as well. **PLEASE RIDE ON DESIGNATED TRAILS ONLY!!!** In addition to these trails being deemed the most appropriate for snowmobiling, we plan to groom these trails regularly after snowmobiling hours. If you ride on other trails than designated, chances are we will not groom them which causes safety hazards for skiers and riders....**please, please, please...**ONLY use designated trails.
- Juniors riding adult machines must be 14 years of age, be directly supervised by their parents and show proof of Vermont State Snowmobile Safety Course.
- A Vermont Snowmobile Safety Course is required for any driver born after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1983. You may take this course online at: <https://snowmobile-ed.com/vermont/index.html>
- Studs are highly recommended for improved braking and control. These can be installed by your dealer.

### **During Ski Area Operations:**

- Around The Hermitage Inn you are only allowed to ride/park around the circle. The Taje lift line, the XC trails, the snowmobiling touring trails, the tubing area and the general rear area of The Inn are OFF LIMITS.
- Snowmobiles can scare our horses. Will and Bill provide sleigh rides during the day and evening. Go VERY SLOW (5 mph) on approach and departure from the Inn area. Limit acceleration in this area as well.

- When at the Inn, please do not park in the area near the Ski Home Trail or ski racks. Park in the designated parking area in the circle.
- Designated snowmobile parking for the Club House will be on the north side of the building, across from the Ski Patrol Building. When traveling to and from the Club House during operational hours, the **ONLY designated** trail for snowmobiling during operations is "Fanny Hill." **Since you may encounter skier traffic at any time, it is imperative that you stay to the extreme right side of the trail and limit your speed to no more than 10MPH.**

### Registration:

- You will need to register your snowmobile with the Club and display the issued 2015-2016 Hermitage Club season sticker on your sled at all times to ride the mountain. No exceptions. The sticker should be displayed near your registration sticker.
- To register your snowmobile with the Hermitage Club:
  1. Complete the application form on the last page and provide a copy of your registration and proof of insurance at the concierge desk at the entrance to the Club House or email a copy of all documents directly to Glenn Toole.
  2. Your application will be processed and a numbered sticker will be issued.
  3. You will receive an email when your stickers are ready to be picked up at the Concierge Desk.

Contact Glenn Toole with any questions about this process: [gtoole@hermitageclub.com](mailto:gtoole@hermitageclub.com) or (802-490-0775).

### Guidance:

- Ride a safe line with the natural grade that doesn't pull you to the left or right into the woods. Typically it is important to stay in direct line with the fall line.
- When ascending steeper grades, never stop mid-climb. Maintain your momentum in a controlled manner. If you stop mid-climb, you will likely need to turn around. *Turning around midway up an ascent is extremely dangerous and may lead to a roll-over.*
- Allow a safe distance between you and other riders. If the rider in front of you experiences an issue, proper distance will allow you to adjust your path of travel. Maintaining a safe distance from other riders is extremely important for this reason.
- Slow down and stand up when coming over a ridge with little or no visibility. Assume a rider is coming from the other direction with the same visibility challenges. *Head-on collisions are one of the most common cases of accidents and death.*
- *Stay off the steep slopes:* much of the black terrain is off limits to ride. Steep grade can lead to a roll or a flip.
- When coming down the mountain remember to stay to the right and *always maintain a straight path of travel.* Turning left or right during a descent can lead to a roll-over.
- Be aware that you may encounter ice underneath a thin snow covering, as well as variable conditions.
- When descending steeper grades, it is often not possible to bring the snowmobile to a complete stop. Attempting a complete stop while descending a steeper grade will cause the back of the snowmobile to swing toward the front, resulting in a roll-over. Choose your path of travel and timing of descent carefully.
- When snowmobiling with guests or new operators, remember to limit their riding to moderate terrain. *Just as you wouldn't bring a new skier down steep blue or black diamond trails, please use the same discretion when snowmobiling. **Your family and guest's safety is your responsibility.***
- Remember that riding with a passenger can complicate turning ability unless they are guided to lean with the driver. *Inexperienced passengers tend to lean in neutral or opposite direction and make operating more difficult for the driver.*

- Pay attention to and avoid roped-off areas or trails. *Roped off trails can lead to casualties if visibility is poor and rope catches the operator, Body, or helmet.*
- Look for green and red reflective markers indicating uphill and downhill routes to assist you in staying on designated trails,
- Grooming and snow making may be in progress at any time. Always be on the look-out and avoid these hazards. Please avoid trails where snowmaking is in progress as poor visibility, high pressure water and air and electric cables exist. We also ask that you please stay off freshly groomed terrain when grooming is in progress. Snowmobile tracks ruin the groomed surface that we pride ourselves in delivering to the ski and ride experience. We are mindful of the multiple uses that our mountain provides but want to protect the quality of our skiing surface and excellent grooming.
- Ride only on trails that have been groomed since the last significant snowfall/snowmaking. Un-groomed trails may have bare spots exposing rock outcroppings, water bars, culverts and dips.
- If trail coverage is thin, please stay off the trail. Snowmobiling on thin cover will stir up dirt.
- Do not drive over snow making air or water hoses and electric cables. Your skis and your tracks will damage the hoses. A good rule of thumb is to never ride behind a snow gun as the hoses and cords generally come from the tree line side, behind the gun.

Contact Glenn Toole with any questions: [gtoole@hermitageclub.com](mailto:gtoole@hermitageclub.com) or call (802-490-0775).

Be safe out there for yourself and your guests. Follow these rules and guidelines and we will all stay safe and enjoy an incredible amenity!

Enjoy the ride.

Glenn Toole  
Activities Manager

## 2015 - 2016 Hermitage Club Snowmobile Registration Form

Name:	<input type="text"/>	HC Sticker #	<input type="text"/>
Phone:	<input type="text"/>		
Email:	<input type="text"/>		

office use only

### Snowmobile Info:

Make:	<input type="text"/>	Model:	<input type="text"/>
Year:	<input type="text"/>	VIN #:	<input type="text"/>
Color:	<input type="text"/>		

Members are allowed to access the designated trails on Haystack Mountain from 4:30 pm until 10:00 pm. All snowmobiles must be registered with the club. **Only 4-stroke snowmobiles are allowed. No exceptions!**

We have developed a new snowmobiling text information system. This will enable us to keep members updated in real time as to any closures, hazards, and events that will affect member snowmobiling. **All members that would like to take advantage of our on mountain snowmobiling are strongly encouraged to sign up at the address below.**

<http://hermitageclub.com/snowmobiling>

Please include a copy of Vermont Snowmobile Registration & Proof of Insurance