



Northwest Trails Association

Celebrating 50 years

Date: January 7th 2025
Time: 7:30pm Medina Entrainment Center

General Membership Meeting 01/07/2025

Called to Order 7:30 pm by President – Randy Baudler

Welcome new members:

Secretary's Report – Clive Burton - *Filed for audit*

Treasurer's Report – Matthew Chimento

- Reviewed P & L – Filed for audit
 - Map costs coming soon - Estimated Cost: **\$14933.18**
 - Cost for Blade mount on north Groomer was paid on the Club Credit card at **\$ 472.00**
 - River Inn submitted multiple years of landowner certs – this was paid out

Director-at-Large Report – Brandon Kobberdahl – Not present

Trail Coordinator Report – Colin Brown

- **Land owner List** - This will get sent out again, please update and send me an email if/when your done – mr.cliveburton@gmail.com
- **Volunteer hours tracking** – This is required for state audit - We know how much time/work you dedicate to this trail system, and we appreciate it. 😊

OLD Business

- **Map Update** – Jason & David (Fractional Toys – Rogers)
 - Map Ad checks mostly in and proofs are set and approved.
 - Maps are on their way to being printed.
 - Randy will pick up the map stand copies from St Cloud while we await the folded copies.
- **MN USA Fall Workshop 2025 ideas**
 - What ideas can you bring to the table? Region 8 to host MnUSA workshop
 - Venue ideas - To host 100+ ideally
 - Events and programs to put on?

New Business

▪ **NWT Re-Structure Proposal**

- ***Proposal documents have been attached at the end of this document***
- Open discussion regards a proposed idea to restructure Northwest Trails Association to bring it inline with other similar snowmobile associations both locally and state wide.
- Lots of discussion and questions asked about by-laws, and what needs to be changed and the timeline for completion if this is something that is going to happen.

At the end of Q&A , the membership present were asked if this was something the club should pursue. The room agreed to further looking into and broach the subject with local club members as well.

▪ **Insurance**

- Insurance has been updated for the club – **Cost \$3688.33**

MnUSA Update – <http://www.mnsnowmobiler.org>

- Jerry shared the fall workshop and meeting dates

Club Updates

- Hamel **Sno-Runners** - Not much to report with the lack of snow
- Maple Plain **SnoMads** - Not much to report with the lack of snow
- Elm Creek **Sno-Cruisers** - 33 people attended the kick-off meeting (with a few cross-over members attending) projected same if not more for the second meeting.
Club Meetings will be **2nd Monday each month at Sundance starting 7pm**

Committees

- Groomers: Both are running and need snow to complete final testing.
- Membership: no report
- Safety: No report
- Sunshine: no report
- By-Law committee: no report
- Fund Raising / Grants: no report

Good of the association

- Club apparel being stored with David in Rogers – Fractional Toys

Adjournment – 8:34pm

- If you have new business for consideration, please email the board at nwtboard@gmail.com
- Next Meeting February 3rd, 2025

Proposed New Changes to NWT Structure – Jan 2025

We are looking at some changes to the NWT structure. Many Trail Associations in Minnesota have gone this route in the last few years. It eliminates members from the association and moves all members to its associated Clubs. NWT is still operating under bylaws written in the '90s. Since we are looking at upgrading those now makes it a perfect time to look at this also.

Advantages to NWT

NWT would no longer need to collect and pay Dues to MNUSA. No more rosters.

NWT would no longer collect \$10 per year for dues. No more tracking who has paid and who has not.

This would eliminate all member liabilities for NWT

Disadvantages to NWT

NWT would not be collecting \$1000 to \$1500 per year for memberships

Advantages for our clubs

Clubs would still be able to collect \$10 from members for their needs or could reduce dues by \$10 for each member, their choice.

Disadvantages to clubs

Clubs would have to collect and pay MNUSA dues from their members and maintain a roster.

2 members, of the club's designation from each club, would be needed to attend board meeting for NWT. This gives clubs a say on what NWT does and spends \$ on.

Any possible Member liabilities would shift to the clubs. NWT would still maintain and pay liability insurance for the trails and our clubs.

What stays the same Everything else

Proposed Timeline

Feb, first intro to NWT and discussion

March, first draft of bylaws, discussion and Motion to move forward with first mailing

April, Second Mailing

May, Elections and vote on new bylaws change

June, New board, new bylaws take effect

Other Proposed Changes

Trail Administrator. The Trail Administrator shall act as liaison to all government officials on behalf of the NORTHWEST TRAILS ASSOCIATION as required by any grants or government contracts. The Trail Administrator shall delegate duties to other members of the Board of Directors and Club Trail Coordinators to resolve landowner disputes or concerns, and as required by grants or government contracts. The Trail Administrator will be elected by general membership.

Club Trail Maintenance Coordinators. Each Club Trail Maintenance Coordinator shall supervise and be primarily responsible for the coordination of all trail grooming activities, including but not limited to: scheduling operators, maintaining trail groomers, oversee maintenance records and equipment logs, and other maintenance activities. All Trail Maintenance Coordinators will answer to the Trail Administrator and are appointed by each club

Club Trail Captains

Each club will maintain a list of all trail captains in their club region. Each Club Trail Captain will answer to the Club Trail Maintenance Coordinator. Club Trail Captains should notify the Trail Administrator when Land Owner issues are involved. All Train Captains should be appointed by the Club Trail Maintenance Coordinator.