

Minocqua Forest Riders Groomer Operator Meeting By-Law Policy And Grooming

Policy 6 - Groomer/Operator Required Training

The operation of our groomers is vital to our trail maintenance and requires training of operators.

- A. Equipment Operators - Experienced operators shall receive annual pre-season updates on all current equipment. Operators will receive additional training on new equipment. Experienced operators will also receive training on any modifications to trail system reroutes.

- B. New operators require more extensive training on equipment they will be operating, utilization of pre and post operations checklists, as well as hands-on equipment training under the immediate supervision of the Trail Supervisor and/or an experienced operator. New operators will not be able to operate equipment without an experienced operator until they are thoroughly familiar with equipment they're operating and with the trail system. The Trail Supervisor will give final approval to new operators and will determine the grooming schedules and routes. Normal grooming start time is 6pm or as directed by the Trail Supervisor. Groomer operators must turn in their blue time cards at the end of the season.

- C. Operators are encouraged to bring a cellphone along with them while grooming. A list of emergency numbers and contacts will be provided in each groomer. Phones may not work everywhere on the trail system; be aware of your location. You may have to walk or move a short distance to get reception. 911 may work in emergency situations where regular cellphone may not.

- D. Groomer Responsibility - Groomer operators reporting for duty shall not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. Any smoking in the groomer has to be agreed upon by all parties. Groomers normally run with 2 operators, however 1 operator is satisfactory if approved by the Trail Supervisor. Passenger ride-a-longs must be Club members or have approval of the President or Trail Supervisor. Passengers can provide additional safety in case of an emergency. Operators will monitor the condition of all trail signs and repair or replace them when possible. Grooming machines are equipped with chain saws to remove downed trees/limbs etc. when necessary. Groomer operators will replace signs utilized and refuel all equipment etc. upon returning to the shed. Operators will notify the Trail Supervisor the morning following their shift of any safety or equipment issues encountered.

- E. The BOD will establish a rate of compensation for new and experienced operators. Groomer operators may donate their time in lieu of compensation.