



Groomer - Position Description

Summary: There are a group of volunteer groomers led by a head groomer who are responsible for maintaining twenty kilometers of ski trails during the winter ski season.

Grooming includes, but is not limited to, packing new snow with a snowmobile, rolling deep snow to compact it, scouring ice and frozen snow to break it into finer consistency, and tracking which puts two ski-size, parallel grooves in the snow. Pine Hill Ski Club has three snowmobiles and all have wide tracks and low range gearing for towing grooming equipment. In addition, there is grooming equipment which packs, scours crusty snow and ice, and lays or not lays a ski track. Each piece of equipment can be used for a variety of jobs beyond their primary function and are used in combination depending on weather/snow conditions. A typical grooming consists of two snowmobiles packing the trails, with the second pulling one of the grooming pieces of equipment. The choice is often more of an art than science!

The head groomer is responsible for deciding what grooming method is appropriate for the daily conditions and calls in as many of the crew needed to do the work. Ideally, the head groomer will discuss the options possible for each day's job, so the crew learns "preferred" grooming techniques. The head groomer will keep a calendar of dates each groomer is not available, and coordinate the grooming schedule as needed.

The head groomer will determine the status of trail conditions and the status of closure based on conditions.

The care and basic maintenance of the machinery can be done by groomers who have knowledge of machinery. Annual tune-up is performed by mechanic as needed.

Timing & Accessibility: Grooming normally takes about two hours and averages three times a week pending conditions.