

# SNO-DAK NEWS



## Happy New Year!

**Board Messages**  
**Club News**  
**Region Reports**

DATED MATERIAL

SND 1600 E. Century Ave., Ste. 3 • Bismarck, ND 58503-0649  
Snowmobile North Dakota

JANUARY 2018 • Vol 43 No. 4



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**CONTRIBUTORS:** We welcome unsolicited materials and letters for possible publication. The Sno-Dak News accepts no responsibility for returns, losses or damage of unsolicited materials. The Sno-Dak News is the official publication of Snowmobile North Dakota. CF41, 9.SNO-DAK NEWS USPS 393-110) is published six times each year in the months of October, November, December, January, February and March at Bismarck, ND 58501. Periodicals postage paid at SUBSCRIPTION: Subscriptions available through membership to Snowmobile North Dakota for \$20 per year. Enclose payment and mail to below mailing address.

**POSTMASTER:**  
 Send address changes to:  
**SNO-DAK NEWS**  
 1600 E Century Avenue, Suite 3  
 Bismarck, ND 58503-0649

**ADVERTISING RATES**  
 Multiple Issue Rates

Full Page Spread.....	\$1,677.00
Page & 1/3 .....	\$1,168.00
Full Page .....	\$861.00
Half Page (H) .....	\$498.00
1/3 Page .....	\$369.00
1/4 Page .....	\$245.00
1/6 Page Vertical .....	\$184.00
Business Card Horizontal .....	\$124.00

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**Executive Director  
Todd Thronson**

It really does add up. The link and directions to sign up are on our website at [snowmobilend.org](http://snowmobilend.org).

I have already been out inspecting some trail signing as some areas completed

Here at SND, we are also lucky to have the opportunity to work with our partners, North Dakota Parks and Recreation. There are so many good people working in this department of state government. We all have the same passion for the outdoors and trails. It takes many different projects and planning to make SND and the trail systems happen. From our organization, we thank you!

**Looking forward to another good season and hope to see everyone at the State Ride in Edinburg in February and on the trails this winter!!**

Todd Thronson

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# Board Messages



**Troy Klevgard**  
**President**

Hello all,  
This winter seems like it has been flying by. Now that the trails are all signed and hopefully by the time this article is published, the groomers around the state are all running.

I'd like to take this time to share what our club has been doing. Over the past few years, we have been thinking about following the advice of

the Rough Rider Snowmobile Association to get Cert training. If you don't know, CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team. After a club meeting to finally decide to make this happen. Although we have a few hours that is left on our training, from what we have gotten out of the class has been very educational. When introducing ourselves, the Sheriff's department was very glad to see that we were taking an interest as an organization.

The motto of CERT is "Doing the Greatest Good for the Greatest Number of People." I truly believe that this goes along with what our organization as a whole stands for. If your club

is at all interested in helping out your communities, please consider this training. The Rough Rider group has been called on for multiple calls to help with their Sheriffs' Department. This is a great testament to what our clubs and associations can do to help the communities that we live in. If you would like more information on how to start, please feel free to contact me. It's not about the miles, it all about the smiles.

*Troy Klevgard.*



**Laura Forbes**  
**Vice President**

Hi everyone,  
How is the winter going for you? The temperatures have been very mild, which is great when we were putting up signs and Christmas decorations. I would really like to go snowmobiling. Mother Nature where is our snow. We all need to start doing

the snow dance.

It is really hard to get people enthusiastic about snowmobiling when there is no snow. We went to a fun run this past weekend and there weren't that many people. Since there is no snow then a person needs to think outside the box. A couple of us rode our side by sides on the fun run. We had a great time. If you don't own a side by side get a group of you together and ride in one vehicle or rent a bus. Good Times! The next article I will have more information, on the side by sides on trails, who will be hosting

the 2018 SND Snowmobile Convention and any new information that is brought up at the annual meeting.

Take care and stay safe on the trails.

*Laura Forbes*







# North Dakota Parks & Recreation

*Justin  
Robinson*

"Oh I'm not ready for winter....." seems to always be the phrase I hear in conversations, when I get excited for snowy forecasts or even talk of that white stuff in the summer. I'm sure; many of

you are having visions of your friends that have this same mindset. The other surprised look I was getting this summer, was when I mentioned I went to the International Snowmobile Congress meetings in Winnipeg, MB.....In June. What can I say, like so many of you, I dream of 10 degrees below with crisp clean air and nothing but white on the horizon.

I have worked for the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department for 15 years. Five as a ranger and the last 10 as a park manager. I have always enjoyed going to the local club meetings and teaching snowmobile safety at school or in the fire halls. I always strive to make the classes fun but to stress the importance of safety and stewardship to our youth. I wanted to attend the snowmobile conference in Winnipeg, to get ideas of bringing more youth into the sport. Not just because of my job, but my interest in the local club. I am a Dad of three and my oldest just went through the safety class at last year's state convention. One of the best discoveries at the congress was to hear that manufactures are listening to us and have started bringing back smaller engine sleds.

So much has changed from this past summer and the snowmobile congress in June. I thought I would be looking for a youth sled for my daughter as our slower time of the year progressed. However, our Department has gone through a restructure and split the field staff into two regions. I honestly thought I would retire from Icelandic State Park in several years and remain a local club member. I am happy to say that I received one of the Regional Manager positions. My office is based out of Graham's Island State Park, but I travel from Lake Metigoshe State Park to Beaver Lake State Park and all the properties east. With this restructure some job duties have changed with our employees. I find myself on a steep learning curve and wishing it was next winter.

One of the ideas for change has been to get the rangers and managers back into the local clubs and assist you in teaching/ co-teaching the youth safety classes. Many of our field staff attend the state convention and are excited to hit the trail. We recently have been able to rotate two newer snowmobiles in the field. I located them in areas where they can be utilized for trail enforcement. SND & the NDPRD has always had such a great working relationship. One of the areas I want to foster in my new position is how we can assist the local clubs. I welcome invitations to your local meetings, to share knowledge and see if we can increase our youth registered riders in the state.

"Oh, I'm ready for winter...." Let it Snow,

Justin Robinson  
NE Regional Manager



# CLUB \* NEWS

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## Rough Riders Snowmobile Club

Hi from Bismarck. I guess we are ready for the season to begin, signs are up and the groomer is ready to go! All we need is snow!! We have had a trace of snow and a fair amount about 60 miles north of here. Enough snow for a short shakedown cruise of about 30 miles that was fun. We do have two poker runs scheduled for January and February. Hope Mother Nature cooperates.

We are looking forward to the club ride to the Black Hills in January and West Yellowstone in February. We would like to welcome the new and younger members to our club. We all need some younger members to keep clubs soaring!

Happy Holidays to all and be safe no matter what you are doing!

Don Schmidt

## Sheyenne SnoDrifters

The Sheyenne Sno-Drifters have been busy signing the trail and organizing events for the upcoming season. In what has become an annual tradition, we are working on a window display for the Barnes County Museum for the month of January. The museum has been gracious enough to offer us this space for several years and it is always fun to see all the folks who stop and reminisce about their snowmobiling adventures. We would like to expand this event to include an open house one day where we can offer refreshments and invite some of the local snowmobile historians to spend the day sharing their memories.

Many of us plan to ride in the poker run hosted by the James River Driftskippers on January 13th and are planning a fun run with them that will encompass both their north trail and our northwest sections of trail on February 3rd. We hope to include some fun activities for riders and non-riders so be sure to watch for more information on what has become an annual event for our clubs. We also have a crew ready for the State Ride in Edinburg and are looking forward to a great time there. Finally, we are anticipating the annual Vintage Ride in Fort Ransom on March 3, 2018. Fort Ransom is a beautiful area to ride our trails and if you are looking for a great location for an overnight stay, check out the yurts at Fort Ransom State Park.

If you would like to keep up with the activities of our club please join our Facebook page, Sheyenne SnoDrifters Snowmobile Club.

Chris Iverson  
Secretary





# CLUB ❄️ NEWS

## Dakota Trailblazers

The Dakota Trailblazers Snowmobile Club of Minot and Surrey have gotten their trails signed for the SnoTrails system and were waiting for the snow as of December 1st.

The Dakota Trailblazers hosted their annual Fun Run sponsored by the SnoTrails on December 9th. It included the Big Dog in Surrey, the White Buffalo and Bradin' Iron in Granville and ended at Big Reds in Deering. There was no snow and the temperature was at 40 degrees. There were 214 cards sold.

The next meeting for the club will be January 5th at the Big Dog in Surrey at 7:30 pm.

There will be a SnoTrails meeting on January 9th at 7:00 p, at Pat's place.

The Snowmobile North Dakota State Ride will be February 9th and 10th at Edinburg, ND. The club will have a weekend trip to Lake Metigoshe on February 2nd-4th. There will be a club meeting at the Slemmen Lodge in the Metigoshe State Park on February 3rd at 7:30 pm.

The annual club men's weekend will be February 23rd-25th at Lake Metigoshe.

Hope to see you on the trails this winter!  
Dale Deibert

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# Region Reports



## Dale Deibert Region 1

Dale Deibert reporting from Region One of Snowmobile North Dakota out of Surrey. The weather has warmed up and we have lost almost all the snow we had.

The Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers Club had a club weekend of clearing and grubbing the trails of the Peace Garden system on December 1st – 3rd. A lot of downed trees were removed; all the trails that went off Lake Metigoshe were cleared. The ice thickness ranged from 8 to 13 inches thick. More days are planned for more of the trail cleaning.

The Magic City Driftbusters will have their Fun Run on January 6th. There will be stops in Ruthville, Deering, Lansford and ending in Glenburn.

There will be a SnoTrails meeting on January 9th at 7:00 pm at Pat's place.

The next Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers Club meeting will be January 10th.

The Gasmann Coulee Cruisers Fun Run will be on January 13th and will end in Carpio. Other stops for the Fun Run will be Berthold, Burlington and Foxholm.

The Snowmobile North Dakota State Ride will be on February 9th and 10th in Edinburg nad hosted by the Tri-County Trailriders.

There will be a SnoTrails meeting on February 13th at Pat's place at 7:00 pm.

See you on the trails this winter!

## Jesse Fritz Region 2

Farewell from Region 2. I have decided not to serve another two years on the board so this will be my last time visiting through the Sno-Dak News as a Board Member. It's been a great experience and I've enjoyed getting to know everyone and how the program works on a daily/yearly basis. There are many things that go on behind closed doors that make the program run smoothly and we can all be thankful for that.

There are a lot of great volunteers across the state who are very passionate about snowmobiles and that is great too! Ever since I can remember snowmobiles have been a very important part of my life and I can't imagine a life without them. Snowmobiles have taken me to some amazing places and allowed me to meet some amazing people. Some of those folks are the ones who can be found each year at State Poker Runs and at the convention. One of the things I'm most proud of while being a part of SND is getting the legal age to operate a snowmobile dropped from 12 to 10. As a father of 3 boys, this was a very good thing. Last March on a sunny Sunday afternoon I found myself on a snowmobile trail with 2 young boys in front of me leading the way. We had a destination in mind and they knew the way well. As I proudly took up the rear I couldn't help but think how lucky we are. We were doing something we love. We were riding the best machines on earth (Ski-Doo). We were on a freshly groomed trail following signs placed by a local club member so we could have a safe and enjoyable ride. There was nothing special about the ride, but in that moment, it was very special. Snowmobiles have a way of creating special moments.

Cheers to all of you dedicated to generating excitement for the sport of snowmobiling!







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**ski-doo**





# International Snowmobile Safety Week: January 20-28, 2018

The snowmobile community is again holding the International Snowmobile Safety Week. This is the 25th year where the entire snowmobile community, including State and Provincial Snowmobile Associations, Visitors and Convention Bureaus, Chambers of Commerce, Snowmobile Clubs and local and state and provincial agencies join together to recognize the importance of safe, responsible snowmobiling. Many groups highlight safety week by holding various snowmobile safety training programs. All of the efforts concentrate the key position statements highlighted by the safety week efforts. Those key points include:

- Snowmobiling and alcohol don't mix - Don't drink and ride.
- Smart Riders are Safe Riders – Take a snowmobile safety training course.
- When night riding slow down – Expect the unexpected.
- Know before you go – Always check local ice conditions.
- Cross with Care.
- Know the risks and be prepared – Make every trip a round trip.
- One is the loneliest number – Never ride alone.
- Ride safe, stay on the trail – Respect private property.

Snowmobiling is important to all local snowmobiling communities and therefore it is important to highlight that snowmobiling is a Fun Family Activity where we must keep safety as a top of mind awareness issue.

This year we are expanding our education that private landowners and public land managers deserve all snowmobilers respect. We highlight the need to protect land use privileges and to stay on the trail and if you don't know – don't go.

Snowmobile Clubs and Associations / Federations are encouraged to invite local representatives from the business community to go snowmobiling with them and show them our known, safe riding standards. There is information available from the ISMA Office to help support your efforts.

That information includes: a 22-minute Safe Rider DVD, various posters highlighting safe responsible snowmobiling behavior, reflective decals for placement on helmets and/or snowmobiles with the Safe Riders! Logo and position statement, brochures with quick safety tips.

You can visit the [snowmobile.org](http://snowmobile.org) website where you can view the Safe Riders! Video as well as any of the public Service Announcements available to use throughout your local media. There is also available to download the Safety Week Manual with ideas on how to set up a Safety Week event or get International Snowmobile Safety Week recognized in your community.





# BASIC HAND SIGNALS:



**FAST SLED**



**SLOWING**



**ONCOMING SLEDS**



**RIGHT TURN**



**LEFT TURN**



**STOPPING**

## Safe Riders! pledge

- I will never drink and ride a snowmobile.
- I will drive within the limits of my machine and my own abilities.
- I will obey the rules and laws of the state or province I am visiting.
- I will be careful when crossing roads, and always cross at a right angle to traffic.
- I will keep my machine in top shape and follow a pre-op check before each ride.
- I will wear appropriate clothing, including gloves, boots and a helmet with a visor.
- I will let family or friends know my planned route, my destination and my expected arrival time.
- I will treat the outdoors with respect. I will not litter or damage trees or other vegetation.
- I will respect other peoples' property and rights, and lend a hand when I see someone in need.
- I will not snowmobile where prohibited.






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# Facts About Snowmobiling

As we begin the 2017-18 snowmobiling season, we thought you may be interested in the following facts while you are preparing to go ride this season:

**2**

The average snowmobile snowmobiler last season rode 1,125 miles / 1,891 kilometers. The number of miles ridden, on average, is dependent on snow cover, so we will see if Mother Nature brings us more days of snow for riding this season.

**3**

58% of snowmobilers belong to a club and participate in many of their club's events. If you do not belong to a snowmobile club, I recommend you consider joining! Clubs hold great riding events, great parties, and are made up of wonderful people that become great friends. Join a club and have a great time!!!

**4**

About 50% of the people that snowmobile, trailer their snowmobile to their riding area. The other 50% ride from their home or cabin.

**5**

Snowmobiling is a family friendly activity. 96% of all those responding to surveys report that they snowmobile with family and with friends and with club members.

**Snowmobilers come in all ages. The average snowmobiler however, is 44 years old. The age breakdown is as follows:**

- 8% are under 18 years old
- 10% are 18-29 years old
- 27% are 30 – 44 years old
- 28% are 45-59 years old
- 19% are 60-69 years old
- 8% are 70 years old and up

**1**

As you can see, snowmobilers make up all segments of the population!

**6**

Snowmobilers are outdoor recreationists all year around. Following is a list of recreational activities that snowmobilers participate in when they aren't out riding:

- 56% go Camping
- 55% go Boating
- 55% go Fishing
- 54% go ATV Riding
- 47% go Hunting
- 30% go Hiking
- 29% go Motorcycle Riding
- 26% go Golfing
- 19% go Personal Watercraft Riding
- 17% go Downhill Skiing
- 14% do other recreational Activities

**Yes, we are a year around active group!**

**7**

**Approximately 75% of the snowmobilers are male.**

**8**

Snowmobilers are a big part of the winter economic engine by spending an average of \$2000 each year going snowmobiling, traveling to their snowmobiling spot, and food, gas, and lodging. In many places of North America, snowmobilers pay the bills for many people involved in the Winter Tourism Industries and related businesses.



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Reilly Bata  
613 11th Ave  
Langdon, ND 58249  
701-305-0419  
bata.farms93@gmail.com

**REGION 4**

Shawn Cole  
2055 W Main St  
Valley City, ND 58072  
701-840-1663  
scole2055@gmail.com

Joel Iverson  
11435 33rd St SE  
Valley City, ND 58072  
701-490-2566  
vcsledheads@msn.com

**REGION 5**

Jeff Seifert  
412 N 3rd St  
Casselton, ND 58012  
701-261-1635  
4seiferts@msn.com

Brent Haugen  
17164 28th St SE  
Argusville, ND 58005  
701-866-7461  
haugens43@msn.com

**2017-2018****Clubs****2017-2018****Beaver Valley Sno-Goer's**

Dan Tveito  
PO Box 394  
Linton, ND 58552  
701-254-4433

**Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers**

Paula Berg  
PO Box 457  
Bottineau, ND 58318  
701-228-6555

**Cattail Snoriders**

Ben Gullicks  
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Galesburg, ND 58035  
701-371-2165

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701-721-9378

**Flatland Trailblazers**

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Harvey, ND 58341  
701-693-6523

**Gasmann Coulee Cruisers**

Michael Hammer  
PO Box 14  
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**Jim River Driftskippers**

Gene Leininger  
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Jamestown, ND 58401  
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**Lake Region**

John Lange  
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Devils Lake, ND 58301  
701-739-6156

**Magic City Driftbusters**

Diane Helseth  
PO Box 1094  
Minot, ND 58702  
701-722-3919

**Marion Snoriders**

Brad Rodin  
PO Box 104  
Marion, ND 58466  
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**Minto Area Joy Riders**

Trevor Slominski  
PO Box 11  
Minto, ND 58261  
701-330-3649

**Moonlighters Snowmobile Club**

Randy Bata  
9453 104th Ave NE  
Langdon, ND 58249  
701-256-4037

**Mouse River Sled Runners**

Tony Best  
PO Box 523  
Towner, ND 58788  
701-537-0500

**Nekoma Trailblazers**

Bob Wilhelmi  
212 Main St  
Nekoma, ND 58355  
701-949-2781

**North Valley Riders**

Chris Lewis  
12 Garfield  
Bathgate, ND 58216  
701-520-3007

**Northern Exposure Snowmobile Club**

Alli Lindbo  
403 WASHINGTON St  
Bisbee, ND 58317  
701-351-1019

**Northern Lights Trailblazers**

Cory Heilmann  
PO Box 191  
Rugby, ND 58368  
701-776-2978

**Pembina Hills Trail Riders**

Tod Soeby  
PO Box 825  
Wahalla, ND 58282  
701-265-2608

**Ransom County Driftskippers**

Todd Rasmusson  
6340 Valley Rd  
Lisbon, ND 58054  
701-683-4914

**Red River Sno-Riders**

Jon Ries  
PO Box 181  
Horace, ND 58047  
701-730-7377

**Red River Snowmobile Club**

Steve Magnuson  
225 Plain Hills Dr  
Grand Forks, ND 58201  
701-330-0773

**Ridge Runners**

Perry Brintnell  
PO Box 132  
Fordville, ND 58231  
701-331-1096

**Roaring 20's**

Loren Johnson  
61 Green Acres Rd  
Bottineau, ND 58318  
701-228-4272

**Rough Rider Snowmobile Association**

Dustin Fischer  
PO Box 4162  
Bismarck, ND 58502  
701-220-0282

**Rural Cass Snowmobile Club**

Brent Haugen  
PO Box 58  
Casselton, ND 58012  
701-866-7461

**Sargent County Snowmobile Club**

Aaron Lyons  
620 7th Ave  
Milnor, ND 58060  
701-640-1251

**Seldom Seen Snowmobile Club**

Scott Gaiffus  
PO Box 25  
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701-370-0524

**Sheyenne Sno-Drifters**

Joel Iverson  
PO Box 342  
Valley City, ND 58072  
701-845-2565

**Sno-Busters**

Drew Courtney  
9425 103rd Ave SE  
Oakes, ND 58474  
701-490-0824

**Southern Valley Trail Riders Association**

JD Link  
17290 78th St SE  
Wahpeton, ND 58075  
701-640-8061

**Tri-County Snow Dusters**

Bev Bachmeier  
10517 55th St NE  
Brockton, ND 58321  
701-655-3691

**Tri-County Trailriders**

Christian Larson  
PO Box 55  
Park River, ND 58270  
701-284-6207

**Turtle Mountain Snowmobile Club**

Dennis DeCoteau  
PO Box 1951  
Belcourt, ND 58316  
701-477-5673

**Turtle River Roughriders**

Brandon Thorvilson  
PO Box 131  
Manvel, ND 58256  
218-791-9818

**Valley Snow Drifters**

Gene Loftsgard  
125 Manvel Circle  
Grafton, ND 58237  
701-360-0380

**Walsh Coulee Cruisers**

Chad Lindell  
301 3rd Ave  
Adams, ND 58210  
701-331-2459

**Williston Trail Riders**

Matt Jeannottee  
PO Box 235  
Williston, ND 58802  
701-270-3113





2017-2018

## Associate Members

2017-2018

**C&L Electric, LLC**  
409 7th Ave  
Munich, ND 58352  
701-370-1555

**Calio Bar**  
Main Street  
Calio, ND 58352  
701-682-5360

**Dakota Implement NAPA**  
515 College Dr N  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

**Hanson Repair**  
1390 Hanson Lane  
Linton, ND 58552  
701-782-4366

**Harper Oil Co.**  
120 South Main  
Rugby, ND 58368  
701-776-6421

**Hwy 66 Pit Stop**  
124 Main St  
Egeland, ND 58331  
701-266-5121

**Joe's Sport Center, Inc**  
909 US-2  
Devils Lake, ND 58301  
701-662-4071

**Midwest Sports  
Publishing Network**  
7887 Fuller Rd,  
Suite 101  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
952-473-7870

**Moritz Sport & Marine**  
2540 Marina Rd SE  
Mandan, ND 58554  
701-222-2000

**Open Road Honda**  
4120 Memorial Hwy  
Mandan, ND 58554  
701-663-4023

**Pain Reliever**  
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Nekoma, ND 58355  
701-949-2211  
**Precision Autobody &  
Glass Inc.**  
701 1st St NW  
Rugby, ND 58368  
701-208-0301

**Ramsey National Bank**  
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Devils Lake, ND 58301  
701-662-4024

**Ray's Repairs**  
609 1st St NE  
Rugby, ND 58368  
701-776-9052

**South Dakota  
Snowmobile  
Association**  
PO Box 206  
Gary, SD 57237  
605-272-5900

**Sports Specialties**  
111 45th Ave NE  
Minot, ND 58702  
701-852-6092

**T's Team Yamaha**  
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Bottineau, ND 58318  
701-228-3882

**Wheels Inc.**  
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 Fargo, ND 58103  
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Fill out the form below and mail to 1600 E Century Ave, Suite 3 • Bismarck ND, 58503

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Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliated Club: \_\_\_\_\_

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