



Douglas Area Trails Association Snowmobile News

January 2024

Ride DATA Trails, Find Little Big Ole

Add some FUN to your winter rides in the
Alexandria Lakes Area.



Douglas Area Trails Association (DATA) along with Explore Alexandria is excited to announce our 1st annual Ride DATA Trails to Find Little Big Ole prize give away!

Find our Little Big Ole wearing his custom snowmobile suit along the DATA trails and enter for a chance to win weekly prizes or the yearend "Snowball" grand prize! Enter by locating Little Big Ole, take his picture (selfies are great), then email the picture and where you found him (nearest crossroad or coordinates) to info@exploreaalex.com. We will have 4 weekly prizes and a yearend snowball prize. The contest starts January 17, 2024, if/when our local trails are officially open. The yearend snowball will be awarded after April 30, 2024.

Little Big Ole will be moved by Wednesday of each week to a new location. Take your photo between Wednesday through Sunday. Weekly prizes will be announced the following week by Tuesday. Watch the Explore Alexandria website and the DATA website and Facebook pages for winners and weekly clues for the location of Little Big Ole. The year end "Snowball" will grow as the season progresses. Weekly prize value is between \$20 to \$50. The Snowball is starting out with about \$100 and hoping to end the season over \$1000.

DATA is looking for businesses to sponsor/donate items for the weekly prizes and to help grow the snowball. (Gift cards, certificates, items with business logo or merchandise). We look forward to working with all our business partners.

A Word From The President

Randy Dertinger

We are all so excited to finally get some SNOW that might even stick around for a while! Too bad we didn't get enough to open trails but as I write this, there is more snow in the forecast and the weather is looking to be much cooler. Everyone, do your best snow dance and we will do our best to get the trails groomed and open.

Our trails are ready to be ridden and our groomers are scratching at the door, waiting to get out. Jeff Linn and the rest of the trail crew have worked very hard this past fall and into the winter to make Douglas County a premier place to ride snowmobile. The DATA board couldn't be prouder of the crew. Keep up the great work!

Although our season may be cut shorter to start with, if mother nature cooperates, it can still be a fun season.

Don't forget the 2024 MnUSA Rendezvous at Thumper Pond, February 8 – 11, 2024. Ride SAFE and don't TRESPASS.

Groomertracker.com

The Groomer Tracker app is available for free download from the Apple store or Google Play. The app allows you to see the trails in participating club areas as well as sponsors near those clubs. If you want to see where the groomers are or have been, just purchase the data for each club you want to access. The cost is \$10 per season and the local club receives 50% of the profit to help with grooming costs.

Snowmobile Training Class – December 9

The youth snowmobile training class was held at Ollie's Service on December 9, 2023. There were a total of 41 youth attending the class and twenty volunteers who helped with coordination, registration, and training – both classroom and the driving course. The cold weather did not deter the excitement nor the participation in the event. Stay tuned to the DATA website for information on 2024 training events.

Logan J. Pfeffer Memorial Ride

You are invited to attend the Logan J. Pfeffer Memorial Ride on Saturday, February 10 at the Osakis VFW. The event will include a Memorial Ride on all or part of the 30 miles of DATA trails sponsored in memory of Logan, ending with a free will donation dinner and bake sale and an online silent auction to raise funds for a Memorial Scholarship in Logan's name. If there isn't enough snow to ride, the other events will continue. Visit burnoutsforlogan.com to register or follow the event on [Facebook](#).



DATA Membership

Do you know someone who would like to become a member of DATA? Visit our website at www.douglasareatrails.com and click on the Membership link.

Looking for DATA Board Members

Are you interested in making a difference for snowmobilers in Douglas County? Become a DATA Board member. We are looking for a few passionate snowmobile enthusiasts to join the board. We meet the second Monday of every month at the DATA shop.

Current board members are:

- Randy Dertinger – President
- Scott Goebel – Vice-President
- Brenda Gagnon - Secretary
- Darrell Kriese – Treasurer
- Mitch Doering
- Vern Engstrom
- Tanner Goeke

Contact Randy Dertinger at 320-808-1083 or rdertinger@charter.net if you are interested in learning more about becoming a DATA board member.

A Message from The Depot Smokehouse & Tavern

Mike Lindemann

Support the Douglas Area Trails Association by purchasing charitable gambling pull tabs when you stop at The Depot Smokehouse & Tavern. There is plenty of parking and The Depot is located right on the Central Lakes Trail in beautiful downtown Alexandria and next to Big Ole.

