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Snowmobile operators urged to slow down

On Saturday, February 7, OPP conducted motorized snow vehicle patrols on an Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Club (OFSC) trail in the Municipality of Meaford and in the Township of Chatsworth. As a result, seven (7) snowmobile operators were charged with various offences under the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act (MSVA).

Five of the offences were speed related. Speed limits must be obeyed. The legal provincial speed limits for snowmobiles are: 50 km/hr on a trail; 20 km/hr on highways with automobile speed limits of 50 km/hr or less; and 50 km/hr on highways with automobile speed limits of more than 50 km/hr.

Other offences included failing to produce evidence of registration and failing to produce licence.

To ride legally, snowmobile operators must always carry a valid driver's licence (or if under age 16, a Snow Vehicle Operator's Licence); proof of snowmobile ownership; snowmobile registration; proof of snowmobile insurance; and a valid OFSC Snowmobile Trail Permit if snowmobiling on an OFSC trail.

All of the operators, with the exception of one, reside outside of Grey County. They were all issued Provincial Offence Notices (PON).