



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Commissioners Announce 53rd Annual Snow Shovel Riding Championship

Board of Commissioners

Tony Amadio, Chairman
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**BEAVER COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

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(December 26, 2015, Beaver, PA)

The Beaver County Commissioners have announced the schedule and requirements for the 53rd Annual Snow Shovel Riding Championship, which will be conducted through the cooperative efforts of their Recreation & Tourism and Public Works Departments on Saturday, January 9 at Old Economy Park, just off Route 989 in Economy Borough.

“As County Commissioners, we are responsible for many programs throughout the year and the daily operation of County government for all our citizens. Over the years, the Annual Snow Shovel Championship has provided a unique opportunity for family entertainment. I encourage everyone to put this activity on your calendars and enjoy winter in Beaver County!” commented Tony Amadio, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners.

Registration for this event is free. Prizes will be awarded to the first and second place finishers in each of the following seven age categories:

- * girls age 10 and under;
- * boys age 10 and under;
- * girls age 11 -17
- * boys age 11-17
- * men age 18-54
- * women age 18-54
- * men and women age 55 and older
- * Modified Division (all ages can race with following sled requirements:

homemade sledding devices must include an attached full-sized, straight-edged shovel which touches the ground. Pointed shovels are not permitted.)

“Our Annual Snow Shovel Riding Championship is another great example of the year-round potential that our County Parks hold for individuals and families. Youth, young adults and seniors compete and have fun at the same time in this event! Families can even join together in the Modified Division! While County government faces many serious challenges on a regular basis, events like this Annual Championship are important because they provide opportunities to bring local residents and their families together in a relaxing and enjoyable environment” reflected Commissioner Joe Spanik.

“The Snow Shovel Riding Championship is a great family-friendly winter activity. As with many opportunities in our Parks, this event does not require any fees for participants. The Board of Commissioners has made significant investments in our Parks to enhance the quality of life for County residents of all ages. I urge you to visit all our Parks, starting with the Annual Snow Shovel event on January 9th! As you can see from the categories detailed above, attendees of all ages are welcome to spend an enjoyable day in Beaver County’s Old Economy Park. In addition to our staff from the Departments of Public Works and Recreation & Tourism, we also sincerely thank the individuals who have volunteered their time and talents to make this event a success” said Commissioner Dennis Nichols.

EVENT SCHEDULE - JANUARY 9 - OLD ECONOMY PARK

10:30am- 11:30am Practice runs permitted for participants

11am-12 noon Registration - Park Maintenance Building (across from barn)

(Children 13 or under must have a parent or guardian sign a waiver for their participation.)

12:30PM Event begins

RULES: Anyone can enter in an appropriate age category, as noted above. Participants must sit or lay on a shovel, push-off from the starting line and remain on the shovel while sliding down the 165 foot hill to the finish line. Each participant will be allowed two timed runs down the hill in their age division except for the Modified Division (where only one run will be conducted).

COURSE SUITABILITY: The Public Works Department will make a

determination on Thursday morning, January 7 as to the suitability of the course for Saturday's events. If snow is insufficient for the Championship, it will be postponed until the following Saturday or until the conditions on a subsequent Saturday will allow a competitive event (up to and including the last Saturday in February only.)

QUESTIONS: Scheduling inquiries can be made by calling 724-770-2060 on Thursday, January 7 from 12 noon - 11pm or by checking Facebook by searching for *Beaver County Ice Arena*.

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