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Round 1 of the 2017 AMA Championship Snow-Bike Series to be held in conjunction the X Games Snow BikeCross Qualifier

Minneapolis, Minnesota – A number of “firsts” are coming to the exciting and relatively new sport of snow bike racing on the weekend of December 17-18. For the first time snow bikes have been invited to participate in the prestigious X Games, and a qualifying race for them will be held on Saturday, December 17 at the ERX Motorpark near Minneapolis, MN. The following day on December 18, the first round of the 2017 AMA Championship Snow Bike Series will be held at the same location. This will also mark the first time that America’s premier motorcycle sanctioning body, the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA), will sanction a snow bike event. The track will feature a ½ mile, course with jumps, banks and right and left hand turns with whoops and dips, similar to a slightly de-tuned outdoor motocross track.

Snow-biking is a relatively new form of winter recreation, where a ski and a lightweight, high-performance track are fitted to modern, off-road motorcycles. Snow-bikes are easy to maneuver, and weigh under 275lbs. and the cost of entry into this sport is relatively inexpensive, and allow a dirt bike rider to quickly and easily convert their motorcycle for use in the winter. AMA Motocross Director, Kip Bigelow stated, *“The AMA is excited to be getting involved in the new and innovative sport of snow bike racing. We have been watching it with interest for several years and decided that it makes sense to embrace this interesting new motorcycle segment.”*

Snow bike racing is not new; one round of the race series has run in Idaho since 2009, drawing well-known motorcycle competitors over the last eight years such as: John Dowd, Ronnie Renner, Mike Metzger, Brock Hoyer, Reagan Seig, and many others. Spectator admission is \$10 for ages 13-Up, \$5 for kids 6-12 and free to 5 and under. Veterans and active military members will be offered free admission with Military ID or in full uniform. Practice begins at 9am, with racing starting at 11am on Sunday December 18th.

Ron Dillon, series director, said, *“We have learned from past snow-bike events that when dirt, dust and rocks are eliminated, racing gets closer. Racers will be riding inches from each other, fighting for a spot in our main events, and it is an absolute blast to watch them go at it. We are proud that snow bike racing has reached the point that it is going to be included into the prestigious X-Games and this is a great opportunity for racers to start the season off with a bang!”* Joe Duncan, Sport Organizer for X Games Aspen said *“As the sport of snow bike racing grows, it is great to team up with the innovators like Ron and the AMA Championship Snow Bike Series. With the addition of snow bikes into the X Games, the sport will see even more growth and expansion into the winter sports community and we are honored to be a part of that expansion.”* For more information about Sunday’s event and the AMA Championship Snow Bike Series, call Ron Dillon at (208) 573-4255, or visit www.amachampionshipsnowbikeseries.com. For more information about Saturday’s X Games Qualifier, contact Joe Duncan at SportOrganizer357@gmail.com.
