



P&H SEA KAYAKS OWNERS MANUAL

Photo: Erin Bastian

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Congratulations on your purchase and welcome to one of the finest lines of British designed and manufactured sea kayaks on the planet.

ABOUT P&H CUSTOM SEA KAYAKS



As our tag line "The British specialists in sea kayak design" suggests we have a long pedigree for fine designs and outstanding craftsmanship. Being out on the water is in our blood and we pride ourselves on delivering the choice, quality and innovation you would expect from people who

not only design and build kayaks but who actually use them too. Our experience is what has kept us at the very forefront of the industry since we started designing and manufacturing sea kayaks here in the UK over 30 years ago. Our factory is still on the same site in Derby in fact.

The skill, dedication and passion of all our staff is what takes the company forward and importantly maintains these high standards and we hope reassures you that owning a P&H kayak is the right choice. We have built this kayak just for you and we hope you enjoy paddling it for many years to come.

ABOUT THE USERS MANUAL

We're sure that you know kayaking is fun, enjoyable and has proven to be a very safe sport. However we want to make you fully aware of all the possible safety information you may need, so this manual does contain **Warnings** and **Cautions** concerning the consequences of failure to maintain or inspect your kayak or the failure to follow safe paddling practices. Most of the information is logical and should make sense to you but it's important that we point it all out in any case as you may forget something or perhaps just not realise how important it is.

- 1 The safety alert symbol  and the word **Warning** indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in serious injury or death.
- 2 The safety alert symbol  and the word **Caution** indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury, or damage to your kayak or a component.

Please don't forget to use your common sense.

SAFETY



WARNING: MAKE SURE YOU HAVE, REVIEWED, AND UNDERSTOOD THE WARNINGS, INSTRUCTIONS, AND CONTENT OF THIS MANUAL PRIOR TO USING YOUR KAYAK.

The following warnings and advice are aimed as a guide and cannot, by the nature of the sport, be fully comprehensive. They are intended to help you make a more informed decision as to whether you should participate. If you are not willing to assume all risks to yourself or others and abide by a duty of care for other water users, you should not go kayaking. The user of any P&H Sea Kayak is personally responsible for his/her own safety and assumes all risks and all responsibility for any injury or death, which might occur while using any P&H product.

All forms of kayaking can be dangerous and physically demanding. To enter exciting and challenging situations in relative safety, the paddler should have relevant knowledge, skill, training and build experience in controlled situations. Consult your national sports governing body who should offer comprehensive training and advice on how, where and when to paddle. These sports contain inherent risks including, but not limited to, property damage, the risk of personal / catastrophic

injury or death. All risks may be increased by variations in terrain, weather conditions, other persons or other causes. All paddlers must constantly exercise and review their own judgment for the safety of themselves or others.

As activities such as mentioned above can be dangerous, SAFETY should always be the first consideration. Don't paddle any stretch of water UNLESS YOU CAN DO SO SAFELY, and don't paddle where you would be unhappy swimming if you had to.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOU

- 1 Take lessons from a competent instructor first.
- 2 Start paddling in sheltered calm waters first before you advance to more open stretches of water, rapids or tidal races.
- 3 We recommend that at all times you wear appropriate safety gear, such as an approved PFD [personal floatation device], approved helmet, suitable clothing and footwear.



- 4 Do not use this kayak if under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication.
- 5 Understand all the risks involved in the use of this kayak before participating.
- 6 Ensure that you are fully trained and equipped for relevant rescue and first aid.
- 7 Consult your doctor before participating in any form of paddling.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR KAYAK

A P&H Sea Kayak can last 20+ years if looked after, but no kayak is indestructible.

- 1 Is your kayak fit AND FITTED OUT for your purpose?
- 2 Technical whitewater, rough handling and seal launches increases the wear and stress on every part of your kayak. Shells or parts under high stress may fail, causing you to lose control. Because of the risk involved, P&H Sea Kayaks recommend that you comply with the Care and Maintenance recommendations on page 8.

- 3 Not every kayak is built for every activity. If in doubt check with your P&H dealer to make sure you have the right equipment.
- 4 If using on open or moving water, you should fit buoyancy bags and ensure they are secured in your kayak.
- 5 Ensure that you and your equipment are fully insured against all risks.
- 6 You must be able to freely and easily exit this craft at all times.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PADDLING CONDITIONS AND GROUP

- 1 Never paddle alone. A minimum of three is recommended.
- 2 Always wear an approved personal floatation device (PFD) when on or near water.
- 3 Always wear a helmet when rock hopping and in other higher risk situations.
- 4 Take suitable emergency clothing, food drink, telephone

and first aid equipment with you in a waterproof container and ensure it is securely tied on the kayak.

- 5 Ask about local conditions before setting out and always let somebody know your plans, when you expect to return, and contact them after your paddle to let them know that all is well.



Photo: Mladen Hanzir



WARNING: ALTHOUGH MANY CATALOGUES, ADVERTISEMENTS AND ARTICLES ABOUT KAYAKING DEPICT PADDLERS PADDLING HARD WHITEWATER, AND / OR USING ON OPEN WATER SUCH AS LARGE LAKES OR COASTAL SEA, THESE ACTIVITIES ARE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS, INCREASING THE PADDLER'S RISK OF INJURY OR DEATH, AND POTENTIALLY INCREASES THE SEVERITY OF ANY INJURY. THE ACTION DEPICTED IS BEING PERFORMED BY EXPERTS WITH TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE. EVEN WITH THAT TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE, PADDLERS WHO ENGAGE IN SUCH ACTIVITY CAN GET SERIOUSLY INJURED. IT IS ALSO FORESEEABLE THAT SOME WHITEWATER SITUATIONS, AND EVEN DURING SOME COMPETITION, THAT THE PADDLER WILL EXCEED THE DESIGN CAPACITY OF THE SHELL OR COMPONENTS, WHICH MAY RESULT IN SOMETHING ON THE KAYAK BENDING OR BREAKING. IF A SHELL OR COMPONENT BENDS OR BREAKS, SUCH MAY LEAD TO LOSS OF CONTROL, SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.



SERVICE AND MODIFICATIONS

It is impossible for this manual to provide all of the information required to properly repair or maintain your kayak. In order to help minimize the risk of injury any work carried out on your kayak should be performed by a P&H Sea Kayaks Dealer.

Your kayak has been engineered and tested with specific components and parts. Modifying the shell or components may make the kayak unsafe.

If you must add components, have this done by a P&H Sea Kayaks Dealer.

For more information about caring for your purchase, please refer to the care and maintenance section in this user manual.



WARNING: NEVER MODIFY YOUR KAYAK IN ANYWAY. DO NOT SAND, DRILL, FILL OR REMOVE PARTS. AN IMPROPERLY MODIFIED KAYAK COULD FAIL AND CAUSE YOU TO LOOSE CONTROL.

CAUTION: ANY MODIFICATION TO YOUR KAYAK OR COMPONENTS MEANS THAT YOUR KAYAK NO LONGER MEETS OUR SPECIFICATIONS AND THEREFORE VOIDS YOUR WARRANTY.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

1 INSPECTING YOUR KAYAK: Because of the risks involved, P&H Sea Kayaks recommends that you conduct a thorough inspection before each paddle. If you hit a rock, fall out of your kayak or drop your kayak, inspect yourself for injury, then carefully inspect your kayak for damage. Here is what you should look for when you inspect your kayak for this type of accident: bent or broken components, such as the shell, seat, end decks and handles, gunwales and or any specific dents, cracks, scratches, deformation, or discolouration caused by the accident. Because damage may be internal and hidden, if any of these signs are present, stop paddling until your kayak has been thoroughly inspected by your P&H Sea Kayaks dealer.

2 CARING FOR YOUR NEW PURCHASE: P&H Sea Kayaks recommends that you regularly wash out your kayak with clean water. P&H manufactures kayaks with the best available materials. However if you fail to regularly wash out your kayak, exposure to salt water and some chemicals found in regular rivers, lake water and swimming pools can cause corrosion to metallic parts within the kayak. Special attention should be made to any metal based moving parts if fitted.

P&H recommend that these are regularly lubricated with a PTFE based lubricant.

If you chose a lightweight construction it will require slightly more care when handling and paddling.

Try to avoid direct 'hard' impacts with objects which can dent and/or delaminate the lightweight constructions

Do not transport lightweight boats directly onto hard metal racks. Appropriately shaped padding or kayak carries should be used to eliminate stress concentrations when transporting these boats.

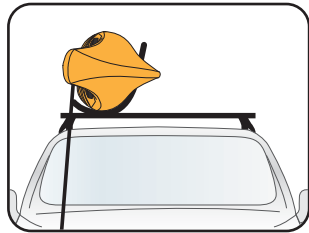
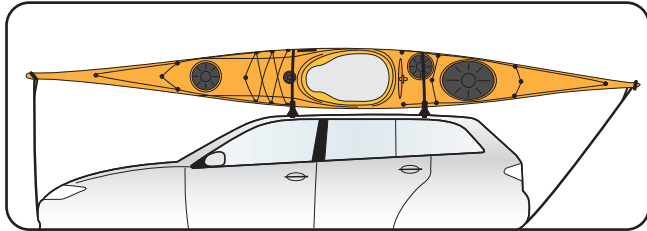
3 LOST AND DAMAGED PARTS: Spares can be obtained through your P&H Sea Kayaks dealer.

4 STAINS AND MARKS: Most can be easily washed from the surface with soapy water. Do not use other cleaners as these can have a damaging effect.

5 REPAIRING KAYAKS: In the unlikely event that you dent, heavily gouge, or split your kayak, you should seek advise from your local P&H Sea Kayaks dealer. Minor repairs are possible but should only be carried out

by an authorised P&H Sea Kayaks Dealer.

- 6 TRANSPORT:** Kayaks can be transported safely and easily on a standard roof rack. Kayaks are transported best on their side, supported by J type bars on the roof rack in



order to avoid denting the hull. This is particular important for kayaks with high performance hull shapes. Alternatively upright bars can be used in order to carry the kayak on their side. In this case the hull should be placed against the

uprights. For ease and simplicity, webbing roof rack straps with self-locking buckles are best [available from your local dealer]. Shock cord or bungee cord should NOT be used, as it will not hold your boat securely. P&H Sea Kayaks also advise to tie both the bow and

stern to the front and back of the transporting vehicle. Ensure that proper lifting techniques are used when lifting / carrying the kayak. You should get another person to help you lift / carry your kayak.

- 7 STORAGE:** P&H Sea Kayaks suggest that, if at all possible to store your kayak indoors out of direct sunlight and with as much support as possible. If stored on a rack for any length of time make sure the part of the rack the kayak will sit on is no less than about 10cm (4") wide. **Do NOT hang kayaks by their end grabs or toggles, these are not designed to take even this apparent light loading for periods of time.**

All P&H Sea Kayaks are manufactured with very strong ultra violet stabilisers, but keeping it indoors will prolong the life of your craft. If the kayak must be stored outside, try to keep it under cover. Avoid subjecting the kayak to any undue pressure for any length of time. This can occur in situations such as letting the kayak fill with rainwater or stacking boats on top of one another. These pressures can warp the shape of the kayak and the effect can be more severe the longer the kayak is subjected to them.

CARE OF SKEGS

It is always a good idea to check the skeg housing for any little pebbles or other debris that might have lodged and ensure that the skeg is functioning properly before you start and at the end of your trip.

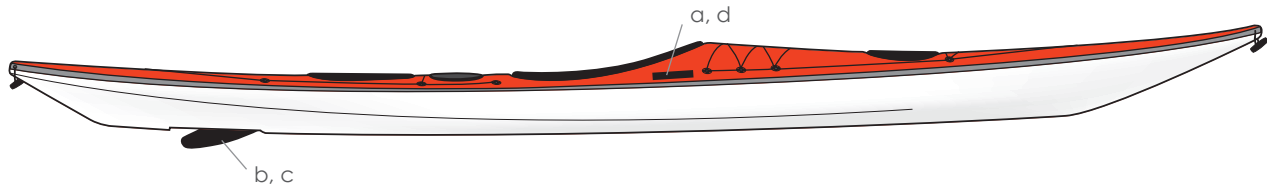
GENERAL CARE OF WIRE SKEGS: The retractable skeg should be removed and the wire lightly lubricated once a year (something else to add to your pre-season checklist). Insert the small Allen (hex) key provided into the skeg slider knob (a) and loosen the grub screw, which holds the wire. Unhook the skeg unit (b) and remove from the hull of the kayak, slowly pulling the skeg wire completely out. After a light lubrication (spray furniture polish is ideal as it is generally silicone based) the skeg wire and skeg can be reinstalled as above. When reinstalling move the skeg slider knob to the rear position and set the skeg in the furthest down position you want it then tighten up the

grub screw in the slider. Check the operation of the skeg unit and that when raised the skeg is completely in its housing.

NOTE: Do not use oil on the wire as it may attract dirt into the tubes and jam the cable.

GENERAL CARE OF DYNEEMA CORD SKEGS: Clean the skeg system with fresh unsalted water every couple of trips. Every few months inspect the skeg system for signs of general wear and tear. There is no need to remove the skeg system for this, a visual inspection of the shockcord located in the skeg housing (c) and Dyneema control line (d) will do adequately. In the field running repairs can be made with any thin cord (2mm) that will pass through the tubes.

New skegs and spare parts are available from your local P&H dealer.



WARRANTY

P&H Sea Kayaks make a warranty for one year from the date of retail purchase, that this product is free of defects in material and workmanship only. The warranty is not transferable, as warranty does not apply to second hand craft.

The Online Warranty Registration Form must be completed to make the warranty effective. P&H Sea Kayaks does not warrant the craft unbreakable.

P&H Sea Kayaks expressly disclaims any warranty of fitness for particular purpose and warrantability. P&H Sea Kayaks does not warrant that any kayak or part is unbreakable or cannot be worn out.

COVERED UNDER WARRANTY

- 1 Repair including labour or replacement, at P&H Sea Kayaks option, to all or any parts of the product, at P&H Sea Kayaks discretion.

NOT COVERED UNDER WARRANTY

- 1 Wear and tear.

- 2 Damages caused by abuse or failure to carry out normal maintenance.
- 3 Alteration or repair by non-P&H personnel.
- 4 Kayaks used for hire or rental.
- 5 Any other expenses.
- 6 Consequential damages.
- 7 Incidental damages including damage to property and personal injury.
- 8 Transportation charges either way.

HOW TO MAKE A WARRANTY CLAIM

Contact the dealer who sold the craft to you. You will be required to provide the dealer with the following information.

- 1 Your name: _____
- 2 Your address: _____
- 3 Your telephone number: _____

4 A description of the problem: _____

5 A description of how it happened and any witnesses:

6 Why do you feel that it is a warranty problem?

7 Kayak serial number: _____

8 Where it was purchased: _____

9 Date of purchase: _____

10 Proof of purchase: _____

11 You may also be asked to supply images of any damage.

ONLINE WARRANTY REGISTRATION

Activate your manufacturers' one year warranty by completing the online warranty registration form. Please complete the online registration form at www.phseakayaks.com.

CONTACT DETAILS

UK AND WORLDWIDE

P&H Sea Kayaks
Unit 1 Premier Point
Aston Lane South
Whitehouse Industrial Estate
Runcorn
WA7 3GG
England

MODEL: _____

SERIAL NUMBER: _____

www.phseakayaks.com