

Support Boat - Pre-Checks

- **Please don't agree to take out the support boat if you are unsure of how to operate it and/or the radio. You could be putting not only your life but that of anyone in need of help out on the water at risk. If you are unsure then please ask for help and instruction.**
1. The key to the **support boat locker** is in the key locker in the rear porch.
 2. The boat should be locked down at the stern by a plastic covered wire strop locked to a fixing on the floor; the key to unlock this (along with the ignition key) should be behind the bar. Unlock and remove this strop.
 3. Unlock and remove the strop, then pull the boat trailer forward so that the engine is approx level with the water tap.
 4. **NOTE:** The boat runs on ordinary unleaded petrol and has a separate two-stroke oil tank located under the engine cover. So the fuel tank should ONLY be filled with petrol.
 5. Check fuel tank under the seat. Is the fuel pipe attached? Is there sufficient fuel (at least ½ a tank)? Make sure that the vent cap on the main fuel cap is unscrewed slightly to allow air to vent in and prevent a vacuum from forming in the fuel tank. Then prime the fuel line by pumping the bulb several times until resistance is felt.
There should always be a spare 20 ltr jerry can of fuel in the locker with the boat if needed and a spare 5 ltr can in the boat.
 6. Then check the two-stroke oil tank level, under the engine cover and keep this topped-up to at least halfway. Again there should always be a spare bottle of oil on the shelf beside the water tap in the locker.
 7. Lower the engine using the switch on the side of the throttle controls.
 8. Connect the “ear muffs” to the engine, making sure they cover the cooling water inlets, then turn on the water (not fully as this may damage the seals). Make sure you see water flowing out of the engine water outlets.
 9. Ensure the kill cord is attached, make sure the gear lever is in NEUTRAL, then start the engine and run for a minute or two so it warms up.
In cold weather it may be necessary to increase the idle speed by lifting the black gear lever. Pushing the key in activates the choke, then while pushing, turn the key to the right and keep cranking until the engine fires. If it does not start after about 10 seconds, re-prime the fuel pump and retry.



10. When the engine starts check that water is being circulated. Water should be squirting from the tell-tale mounted on the right hand side, just below the cover.

IF THERE IS NO WATER COMING OUT OF THE TELL-TALE, TURN OFF THE ENGINE IMMEDIATELY & GET ASSISTANCE

11. While the engine is running, check the tachometer dial for any warning lights. You may also hear a buzzer and see a warning light ☒

This indicates that the lubricating oil tank needs to be filled and must be done prior to taking the boat out.

12. Next turn on the radio and if there is anyone in the tower perform a radio check. (See 'use of radios' checklist for how to do this).

13. Turn off the water and disconnect the ear-muffs, then turn off and raise the engine.

14. Make sure you have at least one life saving ring, an anchor, the boat hook, the "crew safe" buoy and the long tow rope in the boat before setting off.

YOU ARE NOW READY TO LAUNCH THE BOAT