

# INFLATABLE KAYAK OWNER'S INFORMATION PACKET

**MODEL FH202** 



IMPORTANT!
BEFORE PROCEEDING
READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY

Save these instructions for future reference

## INFLATABLE KAYAK INSTRUCTION MANUAL MODEL FH202



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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CALL US AT: 888-545-1424

## 1 CAUTION - SAFETY WARNING

Users of this product agree by their use to accept the inherent risks involved in this paddlesports activity and agree to follow all instructions, cautions, and warnings carefully before using this Kayak.

(PLEASE READ CAUTION STATEMENT CAREFULLY)

## CAUTION

#### SAFETY WARNING

PADDLESPORTS CAN BE VERY DANGEROUS AND PHYSICALLY DEMANDING. THE USER OF THIS PRODUCT SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT PARTICIPATION IN PADDLESPORTS MAY INVOLVE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING SAFETY STANDARDS WHENEVER USING THIS PRODUCT.

- · GET PADDLESPORTS INSTRUCTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS TYPE OF CRAFT.
- · OBTAIN CERTIFIED FIRST AID TRAINING AND CARRY FIRST AID AND RESCUE/SAFETY EQUIPMENT.
- · ALWAYS WEAR A NATIONALLY APPROVED PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE.
- · ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET WHERE APPROPRIATE.
- DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS; COLD WATER AND/OR COLD WEATHER CAN RESULT IN HYPOTHERMIA.
- · CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO EACH USE FOR SIGNS OF WEAR OR FAILURE.
- · NEVER PADDLE ALONE.
- · DO NOT PADDLE IN FLOOD CONDITIONS.
- · BE AWARE OF APPROPRIATE RIVER WATER LEVELS, TIDAL CHANGES, DANGEROUS CURRENTS, WEATHER CHANGES, AND STRONG OFF SHORE WINDS.
- · SCOUT UNFAMILIAR WATER; PORTAGE WHERE APPROPRIATE.
- · DO NOT EXCEED YOUR PADDLING ABILITY: BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF.
- · CONSULT YOUR PHYSICIAN PRIOR TO BEGINNING YOUR PADDLESPORTS TRAINING.
- $\cdot$  YOU MUST NOT USE ALCOHOL OR MIND ALTERING DRUGS PRIOR TO USING THIS PRODUCT.
- · FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE USE OF THIS PRODUCT.
- IF ADDITIONAL OUTFITTING IS REQUIRED, USE MANUFACTURER'S APPROVED MATERIALS ONLY; DO NOT IMPAIR ENTRY OR EXIT ACCESS.
- · READ OWNER'S INFORMATION PACKET PRIOR TO USING THIS PRODUCT.

THE USER OF THIS PRODUCT ACKNOWLEDGES BOTH AN UNDERSTANDING AND AN ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK INVOLVED IN PADDLESPORTS.

Please read this entire manual for additional safety information. Please pay close attention to items marked Important, Caution, Warning, Never, and Always.

## 2. INFLATING INSTRUCTIONS

Use either a bellows style foot pump or two-way hand pump to inflate your kayak. Be sure that the fitting on the pump hose fits snug in the valve on the kayak. NEVER USE COMPRESSORS, CO2, OR COMPRESSED AIR AS THEY MAY DAMAGE YOUR KAYAK

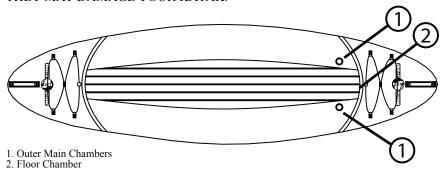


Figure 1. (3 CHAMBERS)

### 2.1 Understanding Your Valves

 The Adventure kayak uses standard Boston valves for inflation of the side Main Air Chambers. The following figures give details on how to operate these valves.



Figure 2. Inflate/Deflate Boston Valve

#### 2.2 Inflation

Inflate your kayak in the following order: FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO YOUR KAYAK. DO NOT OVER INFLATE.

- 1. Inflate Chamber 1 until it feels firm to the touch.
- 2. Inflate Chamber 2 until it feels firm to the touch.
- 3. Inflate chamber 3, "floor", (using appropriate fitting). Fill with air until firm. **CAUTION: Do Not Over Inflate.** The floor should still be a little soft, not rock hard

A good way to gauge if the kayak is fully inflated is to check the width in between the tubes at the center of the kayak. There should be 15" of distance between the main tubes.

4. Inflate the seats until firm and place inside kayak to spread it out. The wider seat should be in the middle position.

#### IMPORTANT:

DO NOT OVER-INFLATE THE KAYAK. OVER-INFLATION IS THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF DAMAGE. INFLATE THE KAYAK UNTIL MOST OF THE WRINKLES ARE GONE OR UNTIL IT FEELS FIRM TO THE TOUCH.

CAUTION: Water temperature and weather will affect the air pressure of the kayak. In cold weather your boat will lose some pressure as the air inside contracts. If this occurs, you may want to add a bit more air to improve your kayak's performance. However in hot weather, or prolonged direct sunlight, the air inside will expand. You must let some air out of the appropriate chambers to prevent the kayak from failing due to overpressure. You should avoid exposing your kayak to extreme temperatures (hot or cold).

### 3 GUIDELINES FOR USAGE

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After you have inflated your kayak, and before you put it in the water, inspect your equipment for obvious signs of wear or failure, review local rules and regulations, and read again the "CAUTION" statement.

Most areas have local laws and regulations about the use and equipment of small boats. Usually a phone call to the local authorities will provide you with the needed information. Some areas may require that you register, and display a registration number on the front of the kayak. Once you have been issued a number, it is best to affix it to the kayak by printing it on the material with a permanent ink marker. If you are required to display a sticker or vinyl letters, an inflatable boat ID kit can be purchased at most marine stores.

Your kayak is designed to be paddled with a double bladed kayak paddle. Paddle with short, and even strokes. Keeping the blade close to the kayak and the paddle almost vertical. Pull with your lower hand and push with your upper hand. To reduce the amount of swaying at the front of the kayak, ease off on the force of your stroke. Paddling with a backward stroke can sometimes offer quick maneuverability.

#### **CAUTIONS:**

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Always practice safety, and take the time to learn about the area where you are paddling. Get official information about the local tides and currents before paddling there. Be careful that you do not over-estimate your strength, your endurance, or your skill. Be careful never to under-estimate weather conditions..

Be aware of the dangers before you begin. Be aware of your skill level. Be sure you understand and accept the risk of these dangers. There are many paddling clubs all over the world. These can be a great source of information on places to paddle, people to paddle with, and most importantly continued safety practices.

## 4 PROPER CARE

Your inflatable kayak is made of very durable materials. However, like anything else, proper use and care will increase the life of your kayak. Before storing your kayak make sure it is both CLEAN and DRY. You may clean your boat with a mild liquid soap and water. Never use strong solvents to clean your boat as they will destroy the material. If your kayak has been used in salt-water, rinse it off with fresh water and allow it to dry before storing. Use a dry towel to wipe up all moisture. It should be deflated and kept out of direct sunlight when stored. Avoid exposure to extreme temperatures (hot or cold). If your boat is exposed to freezing temperatures while storing, allow it to warm before unfolding.

### 5. REPAIRS

All Kayaks come with a repair kit that includes glue and several patches. This should remain with the kayak in the event that you may need it.

#### TO REPAIR SMALL PUNCTURES AND CUTS:

- 1. Cut a rounded patch at least 1/4" or 1/2" larger than the hole or cut.
- 2. Clean the area where the patch will be placed with water and/or mild soap.
- 3. Make sure all surfaces are dry.
- 4. Spread a thin layer of glue on both the patch and on the damaged area and let it sit for three to five minutes or until tacky.
- 5. Press the patch onto the desired area, making sure that no air bubbles form.
- 6. Apply pressure evenly to the patch by placing weight on it. Do not peel back.
- 7. Do not inflate the boat for at least twelve (12) hours.

## **Paddling Notes**

It is always a good idea to keep notes of your paddling experiences. Your notes can serve as a reminder of what to look out for, as well as what gear to bring along, and what conditions are like.

Date	Time	Location	Notes



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