

## Outboard Motor SOPs

The SUZUKI 4-Stroke 2.5HP outboard motors: they are small engines and require attention to proper operation and maintenance to keep them running well through the season. This is a primer for doing so.

### **Fuel:**

- Only use the highest octane available and wherever possible use gasoline without ethanol as this attracts water when left for long periods. (This often happens for our boats).
- Marina fuel stations often carry ethanol free gasoline which is ideal. Chevron stations have a 94 octane which is good and often does not contain ethanol.
- Regardless of whether or not you are able to source ethanol free gasoline, **Seafoam must be added to every new tank full**. Seafoam conditions the fuel and has a special solvent that dissolves fuel varnish. This varnish forms because the engines are used so little and rarely operate at full load and heat. The fuel varnish WILL clog the small idle jets in the carburetors which precludes the engines being able to idle properly.
- **Use the more concentrated ratio of 15 ml of Seafoam per liter of gasoline**. There is a small glass measuring cup in each boat for this purpose. It should be kept with the motor starting lanyards. I have marked the cups on each boat with the ratio needed.

### **Start Operation**

- Open fuel valve and loosen fuel vent valve on top of tank. Wait a few minutes for fuel to flow into the carburetor bowl.
- Gear in neutral (Lever pointing aft)
- Starting (red) lanyard plastic fitting pushed under red knob on engine tiller
- Full choke on
- Pull crank line until it starts

### **Running Operation**

- Once started, gradually reduce choke until the engine idles with no choke (this will take a few minutes as the engine needs to warm up). Don't hurry this.
- Ensure good stream of water out the back
- When ready and engine is idling, pull gear lever fwd to engage.
- **Note: there is NO reverse gear so plan your approach to a dock etc. accordingly**. If you want reverse, simply rotate engine 180 degrees.
- If possible, give the engine a good run under load each time you use it to get the engine up to proper operating temperature and lots of fuel flow through the carburetor.

## Stop Operation

- Simply push the red button or remove the Starting lanyard

## When back in home harbour

- Install motor back on pushpit mount and tighten holding screws firmly
- Turn fuel off
- Tie bucket up so it covers the prop and water intake, and run freshwater to keep it full
- **Ensure engine is in neutral (leaver aft)** then start and run engine until it runs out of fuel (carburetor is dry)
- Gently tighten fuel vent valve
- Remove starting lanyard and put inside cabin
- Relock the engine to the pushpit with the combination lock
- Put cover back over the motor and tie it down so it doesn't blow off.