

Hydro Skeg® Maintenance Instructions

After use in salt water, rinse out the skeg box with fresh water from underneath the boat. A garden hose is ideal for this.

Hydro Skeg® Adjustment Instructions

In normal use the Hydro Skeg® requires no adjustment. However, in exceptional circumstances you may find that the skeg blade does not fully return into the skeg box when the glide button is operated. If that is the case, adjust as follows.

- Working inside the cockpit, open the bypass valve located beside the glide cylinder.



Bypass valve and glide cylinder seen from inside the cockpit

The valve is open when the operating lever is aligned along the pipe; the valve is left closed in normal operation.



Close-up of bypass valve, here shown in open position

- Slide the glide button fully back to the skeg closed position.
- Push the skeg blade into the kayak hull manually.



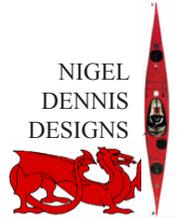
Operating the glide button

- Now slide the glide button slightly forward towards the skeg down position and close the bypass valve again.
- To check the adjustment is sufficient, push the glide button fully forward to deploy the skeg, then fully back to the skeg closed position. Repeat instructions above if the blade still does not return into the skeg box.

Kari-Tek



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Hydro Skeg® User Manual

Kari-Tek also supply a full range of carrying systems to make the most of your new kayak. See our website www.karitek.co.uk for details.

- easy load roof racks
- trailers
- trolleys and straps
- roof rack cradles

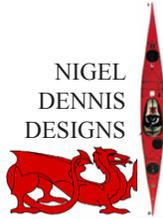
For technical support with your Hydro Skeg®

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Kari-Tek



Hydro Skeg® User Manual

The Kari-Tek Hydro Skeg® offers class-leading levels of control and reliability.

We recommend that you follow the simple steps in the **Maintenance Instructions** section of this User Manual to keep your skeg working as new.

The Kari-Tek Hydro Skeg® uses a simple hydraulic system to achieve its revolutionary performance levels. In normal use the system never needs adjustment; should this be needed however follow the **Adjustment Instructions** section of this User Manual.

Loss of fluid from the hydraulic system is extremely unlikely. If this occurs, perhaps because of major damage to the kayak, the system will need refilling with fluid and the air removing. To do this, follow the **Bleeding Instructions** section of the manual.

Hydro Skeg® Bleeding Instructions

- Connect one end of the bleed kit feed tube (the plain tube without a 'Y' fitting) to a water bottle using the fitting supplied.
- Remove the blanking plug from the 'Y' piece at the skeg glide box inside the cockpit (see picture). To remove simply press in the 'Y' piece coloured collar and pull out the plug.
- Don't lose the plug!
- Fit the other end of the bleed kit feed tube into the 'Y' piece in place of the blanking plug: simply push the pipe end into the coloured collar.
- Clamp the soft part of the feed tube shut. Tip! A clothes peg or Bulldog clip will do the trick.
- Fill the water bottle with 75% water, 25% anti-freeze. Tip! For emergency repairs in the field use 100% sea or fresh water, but remember to refill with a water/anti-freeze solution before winter.
- At the skeg glide box inside the cockpit, open the bypass valve (valve is open when the lever is aligned along the pipe: see close-up in the Adjustment section).
- Using the Allen key provided, remove the two screws attaching the skeg cassette to the underneath of the kayak's stern. Don't lose the screws!
- Partially withdraw the skeg cassette and disconnect the two pipes at the cylinder by pressing in the coloured collars on each elbow.



Blanking plug by glide cylinder inside cockpit



Close-up of blanking plug after removal: don't lose this!



Bleed kit pipe clamped shut with clothes peg



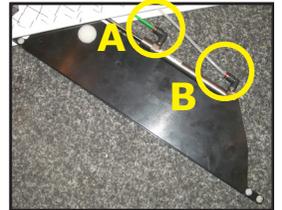
The skeg cassette being withdrawn

Hydro Skeg® Bleeding Instructions (cont.)

- Connect the ends of the two pipes to the bleed kit drain tube 'Y' piece. Place the other end of the drain tube into a container to catch excess fluid.
- Unclamp the bleed kit feed tube allowing fluid to flow through the system.
- While the fluid is flowing, slide the glide button backwards and forwards to expel all air from the system, continuing until no more bubbles emerge from the drain tube.
- Clamp shut the soft part of the drain tube first and then the feed tube.
- Now bleed the skeg operating cylinder separately: submerge the entire skeg cassette in water and move the skeg blade up and down. When no more bubbles emerge from the cylinder, close the skeg blade while the cassette is still under the water.
- Holding the cassette up to the kayak, disconnect the green pipe from the bleed kit drain tube 'Y' piece and immediately plug it back into the elbow nearest the skeg hinge (A).
- Plug the clear tube into the other elbow (B).
- Slide the cassette back into the kayak making sure that the tubes are not twisted. Secure the cassette with the two original screws.
- Remove the bleed kit feed tube from the glide cylinder 'Y' connector and replace the blanking plug. Slide the glide button to the up position (nearest the stern of the kayak).
- Close the by-pass valve by the glide cylinder: it's closed when the lever is at right angles to the pipe.
- Adjust the skeg: see the Adjustment instructions.



The two pipes shown connected to the bleed kit drain tube Y piece underneath skeg box



Reconnecting the two pipes at the skeg cassette after bleeding