HOOT®ETV™

OWNER'S MANUAL

Forward

Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of a HOOT®ETV™. The HOOT®ETV™ is a six-wheel drive, amphibious ETV (Extreme Terrain Vehicle). This vehicle has been designed to be simple to operate and maintain. With proper care and maintenance, it will provide many years of enjoyable service.

Important

- To protect the future of your sport, make sure you use your vehicle legally, show concern for the environment, and respect the rights of others.
- Irresponsible conduct can potentially cause environmental problems as well as conflicts with other people. Please use your HOOT®ETV™ in a responsible manner.
- **NO PASSENGERS** allowed on the HOOT®ETV™.
- **Always wear a DOT approved helmet.**
- **Never allow anyone under the age of 18 to operate this HOOT®ETV™.**

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WARNINGS

1.1 General

- Never operate the HOOT®ETV™ without proper instruction.
- Before operating your HOOT®ETV™ please read the Owner's Manual and all labels.
- Before riding the HOOT®ETV™ for the first time, it is recommended that level, open space be selected.
- **NO PASSENGERS** are allow on the HOOT®ETV™
- **Never allow anyone under the age of 18 to operate this** HOOT®ETV™.
- All operators should take a certified training course before operating the HOOT®ETV™. Go to www.atvsafety.org or call 1(800) 887-2887 to learn where to complete a certified training course.
- Always wear a US Coast Guard Approved life jacket during water operations.

- Always wear a DOT approved helmet.
- Before operating, understand the capabilities, limitations and maintenance requirements of this HOOT®ETV™.
- Good, overall stability has been designed into the HOOT®ETV™. However, if the operator fails to take proper precautions, a collision or roll over can occur quickly, even during routine maneuvers, such as turning, or driving on hills or over obstacles.
- Never operate any ETV while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- The owner is responsible for being knowledgeable concerning the regulations covering the use of ATVs/ETVs in his/her particular province or state; this includes various age restrictions. Liability insurance is required in some provinces and states for any motorized off road activity.

1.2 Maximum Inclines

- Do not exceed 15 degrees of slope when going sideways across a hill.

- Do not exceed 25 degrees of slope when going up or down hills.

1.3 Load Capacities: NO Passengers

- Never carry a passenger or overload your HOOT®ETV™. This increases your risk of losing control.
- The load capacities of your HOOT®ETV™ are as shown in the following chart:

Maximum load (operator and gear) on **land**	600 lbs. (272 Kg.)
Maximum load (operator and gear) on **water**	300 lbs. (136 Kg.)
Maximum **trailer** weight (trailer and gear)	1000 lbs. (453 Kg.)

1.4 Driving Surfaces

- Never operate your HOOT®ETV™ on public roads. It is illegal and could result in a collision with another vehicle.

- The HOOT®ETV™ is not designed for use on paved surfaces.

1.5 Maximum Speed

- Never operate your HOOT®ETV™ at excessive speeds.
- Always wear a DOT approved helmet.
- A dangerous loss of control can occur at speeds that are too fast for the terrain, the visibility conditions, or your experience.

1.6 Dangerous Maneuvers

- Never attempt wheelies, jumps, or other stunts.
- Never carry passengers.
- The HOOT®ETV™ is not designed for racing or to be used in any competitive manner.
- Using tires or tire pressures other than recommended can cause unsafe riding conditions.

1.7 Fire / Explosion Hazard

- Incorrect storage or transportation of the HOOT®ETV™ may cause gasoline to leak from the fuel tank, creating a fire hazard that could result in severe injury or death.
- Only transport the HOOT®ETV™ in its normal, level, upright position.

⚠ **Use extreme care not to spill gasoline into the interior of the HOOT®ETV™ when refueling.**

⚠ **Turn off ignition before refueling.**

⚠ **Always use a funnel, and carefully clean up any spilled fuel before attempting to start vehicle.**

1.8 Chain Tension

- Excessively loose chains could cause personal injury or damage to the HOOT®ETV™.
- Check chains before operating. (Refer to Section 5 of this manual for chain info)

1.9 Water Use Cautions

- Always ensure drain plug is in place before entering water. Always keep drain plug in place.
- Although the HOOT®ETV™ is an amphibious vehicle, **it is not intended for, or safe to use in flowing or rough water.**
- Always use a US Coast Guard Approved life jacket during water operations.
- Always check the interior of the body for water following its use on water. Remove the rear-mounted drain plug to drain water from the body.
- Be sure to **replace drain plug** after draining water from the body.

- Wet brakes may provide reduced stopping ability. Test brakes after leaving water. It may be necessary to apply them several times to dry out the pads.
- The HOOT®ETV™ will float if it breaks through thin ice. However, this should be viewed as a safety feature in the event of misguided travel should the rider unknowingly venture onto a frozen waterway. This should **never** be viewed as method of intentional travel. Travel over ice can be extremely dangerous and should be avoided when using the Hoot® ETV™ as a means of transportation.

1.10 Operation Over Logs

- Logs can become jammed between adjacent tires resulting in severe damage to wheels, axles, chains and structure.

⚠ BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN CROSSING LOGS

1.11 Rough Terrain

- Be careful not to operate over sharp or pointed objects. Such objects can puncture tires or damage the fiberglass body.

1.12 Maintenance

- For the safety of all who may operate the HOOT®ETV™, it is recommended that regular maintenance and safety inspection be arranged with a HOOT®ETV™ dealer. It is recommended that all service be performed by an authorized HOOT®ETV™ dealer.

1.13 Maximum Inclines

- Do not attempt to cross or travel over any object that would:

1. Cause the HOOT®ETV™ to exceed 25 degrees of slope when going up or down over an object;

2. Cause the HOOT®ETV™ to exceed 15 degrees of slope when going sideways across an object.

- ❑ Never carry passengers

2 SPECIFICATIONS AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

2.1 Engine

The HOOT®ETV™ uses an electric start Kohler Command Pro 15 Hp, 426 cc industrial 4-stroke engine. This engine features a spin-on oil filter, internal balance shafts, overhead valves and electronic ignition. The industrial durability rating of this engine is excellent. For other engine data, see the enclosed factory engine manual.

2.2 Drive Train

The HOOT®ETV™ employs a patented, automatic, Torque-Grip® drive system, which eliminates the need for a conventional transmission. This simple drive mechanism provides automatic and progressive tensioning for the dual drive belts and automatic and progressive drive friction for the reverse wheels. It also provides self-clutching for the drive belts and for the reverse wheels when the brakes are applied. Clutch assist rods are used to improve steering feel, to reduce required braking and to improve operation in water.

2.3 HOOT®ETV™ Weight

The weight of the HOOT®ETV™ is approximately 725 lbs. (329 Kg.), depending on wheels, tires and options.

2.4 Maximum Speed

The maximum land speed is 25 MPH / 40KPH

2.5 Cooling System

An electric fan provides cool, filtered air to the interior of the body. This helps control the temperature build-up of various under-hood components during hot weather. This moving air is also used to help cool the engine. The fan is always running when the ignition switch is turned on. The fan motor can drain the battery if the key switch is left in the 'on' position when the engine is not running.

2.6 Body Construction

The body is constructed of durable, reinforced fiberglass materials.

Features include:

- High strength
- Low weight
- Easy permanent repairs

2.7 Underbody Clearance

Clearance is 6.5 inches to 7 inches depending on tire size, tire air pressures and HOOT®ETV™ load.

2.8 HOOT®ETV™ Dimensions

Overall Length	92 inches (233.7 cm.)
Overall Height	52 inches (132 cm.)
Overall Width	49 inches (124.5 cm)

2.9 Fuel Tank

- The fuel tank is made of molded polyethylene and has an anti-leak, vented cap.
- Size: 4 US gallons / 15.14 liters

2.10 Seat Spring Adjustment

The hex lock nut just above the seat spring may be turned clockwise to increase the spring compression and counterclockwise to reduce the spring compression. Adjustments can be made to meet rider preference.

2.11 Tire Pressures

Depending on load and trail conditions, the following tire pressures are recommended.

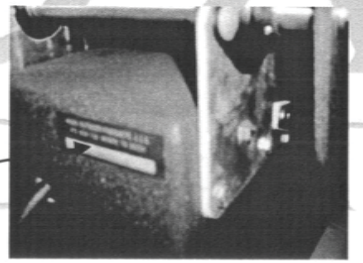
Tire Pressure:	2.0 to 4.0 P.S.I. (owner preference)

Lower pressures provide a smoother ride. An accurate low-pressure tire gauge is required.

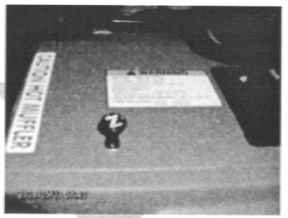
Modifications to this machine including tires and tire pressure may void the warranty.

2.12 Serial Number

The HOOT®ETV™ serial number is a tamper proof decal attached to the front side of the center seat support column.



3 LOCATION AND USE OF CONTROLS



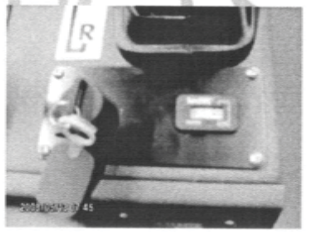
3.0.1 Choke

The Choke is located to the left of the handlebars on top of the arch.

- For full choke, pull knob upward until it stops.
- Choke is off when fully down.

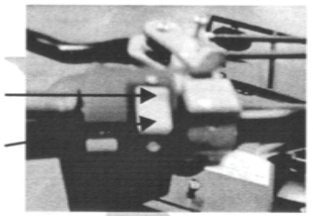
3.0.2 Key Switch / Hour Meter

- The Key Switch & Hour Meter are on the top of the arch next to the shift lever.
- To turn on the Key Switch, insert the key into the switch and rotate clockwise.
- To turn off the Key Switch rotate the key counter clockwise.



3.0.3 Light Switch / Start Button

Located on the left handle bar.



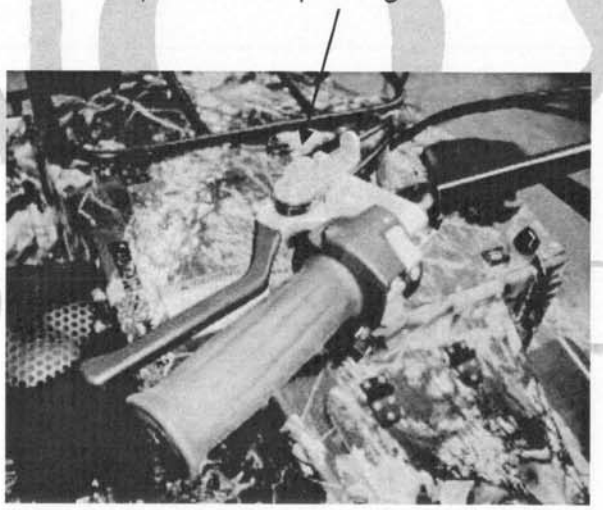
- **Lights**: To turn lights off, press down on the front of the rocker switch.
  To turn lights on, press down on the back of the rocker switch.
- **Start Button**: To start engine push start button.

3.0.4 Master Fuse

- The master fuse is located on the wiring harness above the engine, enclosed in a yellow rubber boot.
- Use a 30 amp fuse and always carry a spare for back up.
- Reference fuse# BUSS AGC 30A 32V

3.1 Brake Levers

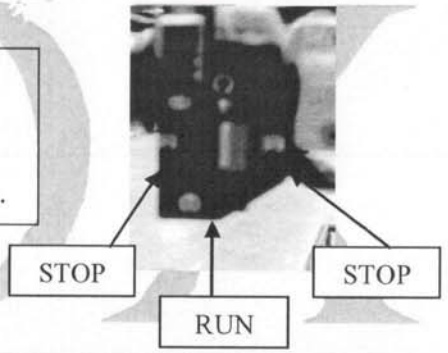
- There are two brake levers, one on each side of the handlebars. These levers can be operated separately or together. Each lever stops all six wheels. **When maximum stopping ability is needed, use both levers together.**
- The left brake lever can be locked in the "on" position for parking.



3.2 Emergency Stop Switch

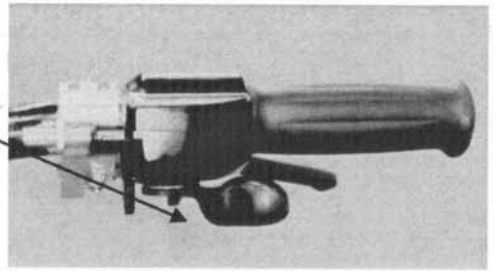
This three-position switch is located near the left brake lever. The middle position allows the engine to run. The other two positions stop the engine.

NOTE: When the switch is in either of the two off positions, the starter will engage, but the engine will not start. When the stop switch is activated the engine will stop; however the key switch must be turned to the off position to terminate the electric current.



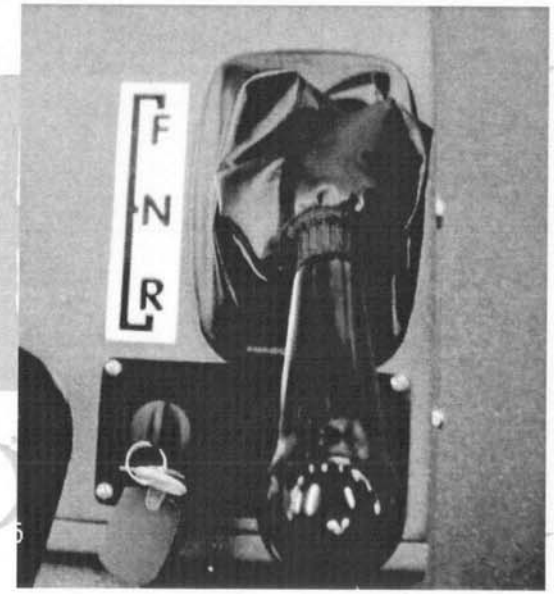
3.3 Throttle Control

- A thumb throttle control is located on the right side of the handlebars.
- Pressing the thumb throttle speeds up the engine.



3.4 SHIFT LEVER

- To move the lever, tilt the shift handle to the left and move it to desired position then reposition to the right. See Figure 1 on page 20.
- **NOTE: HOOT®ETV™ will only start when shift lever is in Neutral position.**
- The shift lever has three positions:
  - Forward (lever in forward, right position)
  - Neutral (lever in middle right position) Neutral safety will not engage until the shift lever is in the far right position.
  - Reverse (lever in back, right position)



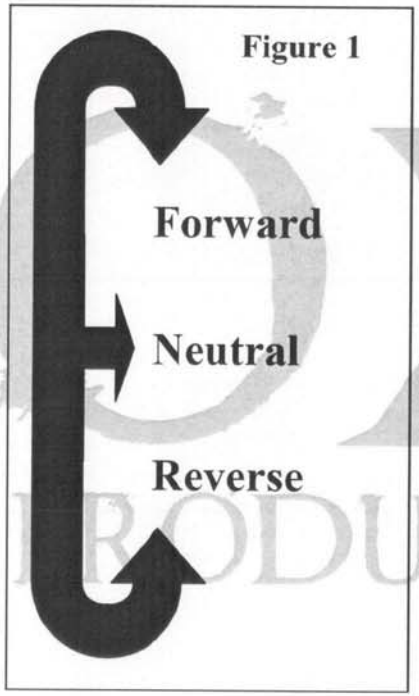


Figure 1

4 HOOT®ETV™ OPERATION

When operating the HOOT®ETV™ for the first time, it is recommended that a level, open space be selected.

Always complete an ATV certified training course before operating the HOOT®ETV™ by calling 1 (800) 887 – 2887 or go to www.atvsafety.org.

Never carry passengers.

Never allow anyone under the age of 18 to operate this HOOT®ETV™

Always wear a DOT approved helmet.

4.1 Starting Engine

1. Engage parking brake.
2. Check that the emergency stop switch is in the 'on' (middle) position.
3. Place shift lever in NEUTRAL.
4. Pull choke button. (Not necessary if the engine is warm.)
5. Insert the key into the key switch and turn key clockwise to the on position.
6. Press the start button to engage starter while applying a bit of throttle.
7. Push choke button down toward its off position as the engine warms up.
8. Release the parking brake and apply throttle to begin operation.

4.2 Stopping Engine

- Shift to neutral and set the parking brake.

- Allow engine to idle for approximately 15 seconds before turning the key counterclockwise to the 'off' position.

4.3 Operating In Forward

1. With the engine at idle, move the shift-handle from NEUTRAL to the left-up toward the front of the machine until it stops, then right and back into FORWARD. (See Figure 1 – page 20)
2. Gently apply the throttle control to begin forward movement.
3. The HOOT®ETV™ will move from rest and shift automatically.
4. To make a slight turn, gently move the handlebars in the desired direction while maintaining throttle.
5. To turn more quickly, move the handlebars more forcefully in the desired direction while slightly increasing throttle.
6. To stop, release the throttle and apply hand brakes.

4.4 Operating In Reverse

- **Reverse is for limited use only.** Abuse or excessive acceleration can result in premature wear on the reversing wheels. The reversing wheels are a wear item and can be replaced; however with proper use there should be limited exposure to failure.
- With the engine at idle, move the shift-handle to reverse by repositioning the shift lever to the left, then toward the back of the machine until it stops, then right and toward the front. (See Figure 1 – page 20)

4.5 Water Operation

- Always use a US Coast Guard Approved life jacket during water operations.
- Ensure that drain plug is in place before entering water.

CAUTION: Turning the handlebars from side-to-side or **"rocking"** while increasing acceleration is the worst case wear situation. By design, the HOOT®ETV™ offers the best traction when all six wheels are engaged. By turning the handlebars from side-to-side or "rocking" will apply the brakes to one set of tires or the other therefore reducing the amount of possible traction. This also causes impact to the reversing wheels beyond normal wear conditions that can result in reduced performance.

- Enter bodies of water slowly from a level area. **Do not attempt to operate in flowing or rough water.**
- The HOOT®ETV™ steering system operates the same in water as on land.
- You should never stand up and always use caution during water operations.
- We highly recommend taking a water safety course before participating in water operations.

4.6 Hot Weather Operation

- The cooling fan operates at all times to keep the temperature in the engine compartment acceptable.
- The fan intake air filter, which can be washed in soapy water, should be kept clean.

5 HOOT®ETV™ MAINTENANCE

These simple checks, explained by your dealer at the time of delivery and described below, are very important as they ensure the safe and dependable operation of this HOOT®ETV™.

NOTE: Because some of the components to be checked are hot during operation, they should be checked when the HOOT®ETV™ is not hot.

5.1 Tire Condition And Pressure

- Before each use, check each tire for damage and proper inflation.
- Tire pressures should be checked using a low-pressure tire gauge.

Tire Pressure:	2.0 P.S.I. to 4.0 P.S.I. (owner preference)

Modifications to this machine including tires and tire pressure may void the warranty.

5.2 Engine Oil Level

- Before each use, pull the dipstick and check oil level on the dipstick. **ENSURE THE DIPSTICK IS FULLY SEATED BACK INTO THE TUBE!**

5.3 Fuel Level

The fuel level can be viewed through the opaque rear surface of the fuel tank.

⚠ Use extreme care not to spill gasoline into the interior of the HOOT®ETV™ when refueling.

⚠ Turn off ignition before refueling.

⚠ Always use a funnel and carefully clean up any spilled fuel before attempting to start the HOOT®ETV™.

5.4 Primary Chain Adjustment

- Before each use, check the two primary chains. **Vehicle must be in 'forward'**. They should have a 1/2" deflection when cold. Adjust tension when deflection becomes in excess of 1".
- Over-tight chains are nosier, can wear faster and cause excessive bearings loads.
- When these chains wear or stretch to the limit of their adjusters, they should be replaced.

Step One: Loosen the two nuts on the outside of the main Swingarm.

Step Two: Tighten top nut by turning clockwise until chain tension is at the correct 1/2" deflection.

Step Three: Re- tighten the two nuts on the outside of the main Swingarm to 40 Ft-lbs torque.

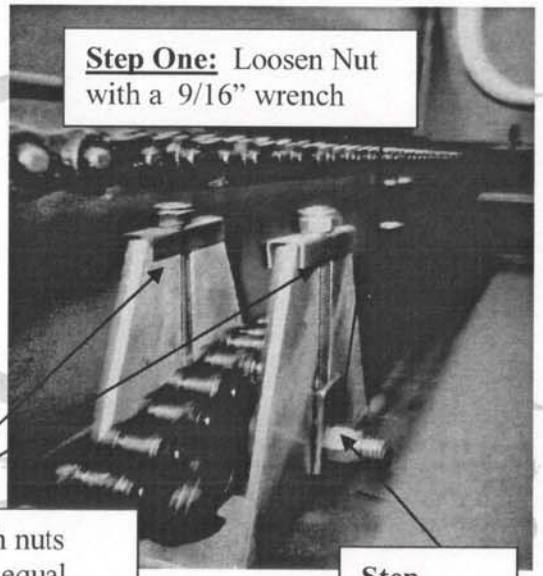
Primary Drive Chain

5.5 Axle Chain Adjustment

It is best to check all chains before each use to ensure proper tension. Adjust tension when deflection becomes in excess of 1".

To correct excessive chain slack:

- Remove Footboard.
- Using a mechanical lift, raise the side of the machine that is being adjusted.
- Follow steps one through three in illustration for both the left and right side of the machine. There are two tensioning devices on each side of the machine.



5.6 Chain Lubrication

- Correctly lubricating drive chains will extend their life, improve their efficiency and help them operate more quietly.
- Inspect the chains before each use. When the chains begin to appear dry, apply a small amount of good quality chain lube.
- Recommend A&I Products part number 1T1475.

5.7 Brake Caliper Arm Adjustments

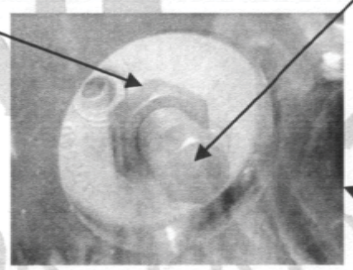
It is highly recommended that an authorized service technician perform these procedures.

To adjust:

- Park on level surface.

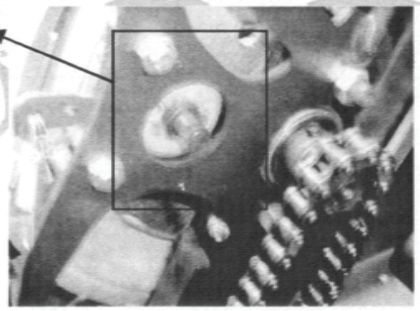
- Disengage parking brake (block wheels from rolling) and loosen brake cable adjusters.
- See illustration steps one through three.
- **Note:** A brake caliper which is adjusted too tightly can gradually bind when it gets hot. Over tightening can cause severe damage to the brake components.

Step One: Loosen 11/16" nut on face of caliper to ensure it does not bottom out on the caliper while the adjustment bolt is being tightened.



Step Two: Tighten bolt with a 7/16" wrench until snug and then turn counterclockwise ½ turn.

Step Three: Retighten 11/16" nut on face of caliper while holding bolt in place with 7/16" wrench and readjust brake cables.



5.8 Forward Clutch Adjustment

Service Interval – 10 Hours

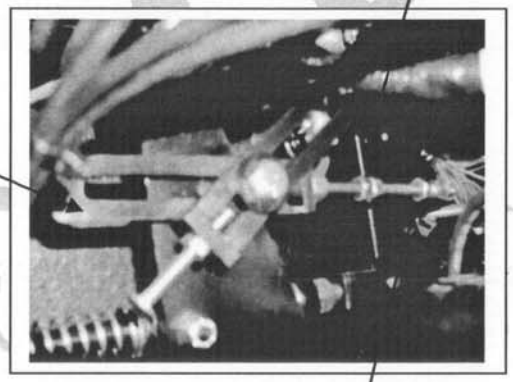
With the engine stopped:

- To check clutch slack, **place the shift lever in forward**.

It should be possible to gently move both the left and right forward clutch back and forth with approximately ¼" total travel.

If not, loosen jamnut and then rotate the adjuster to obtain the correct clearance and retighten jamnut.

The forward clutch pushes forward on the swingarm when steering to release power from the belt, allowing that side of the machine to stop and turn.



5.9 Reverse Clutch Adjustment

Service Interval 10 Hours

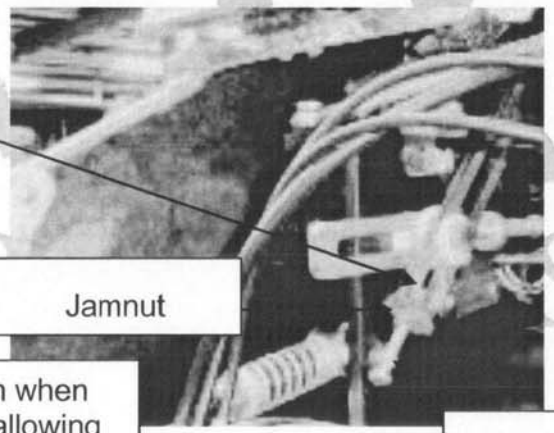
With the engine stopped:

- To check clutch slack, **place the shift lever in reverse**.

It should be possible to gently move both left and right reverse clutch back and forth with approximately ¼" total travel.

If not, loosen jamnut, turn bolt to make adjustment and tighten jamnut.

The reverse clutch pulls backward on the swingarm when steering to release power from the reverse wheel, allowing that side of the machine to stop and turn.



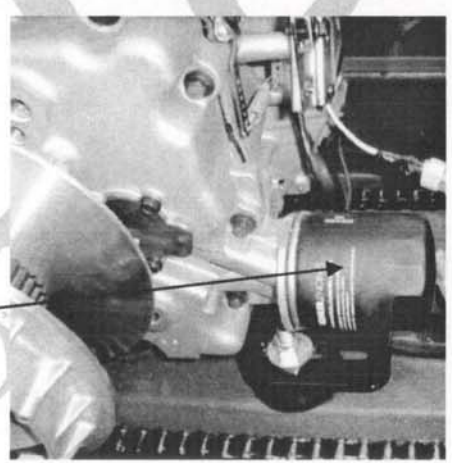
5.10 Engine Service

The engine is to be serviced at intervals indicated in the factory supplied engine manual.

5.11 Change Engine Oil

To drain engine oil and change the oil filter:

1. Place a siphon pump into the oil fill tube to remove the oil. The engine has Castrol GTX 5W-30 from factory.
2. Remove the engine cover.
3. Remove the spin-on oil filter by placing paper towels or a sheet of aluminum foil under the filter to catch any leaking oil.
4. Install a new oil filter.
5. Refill engine with oil as specified in the engine manual.

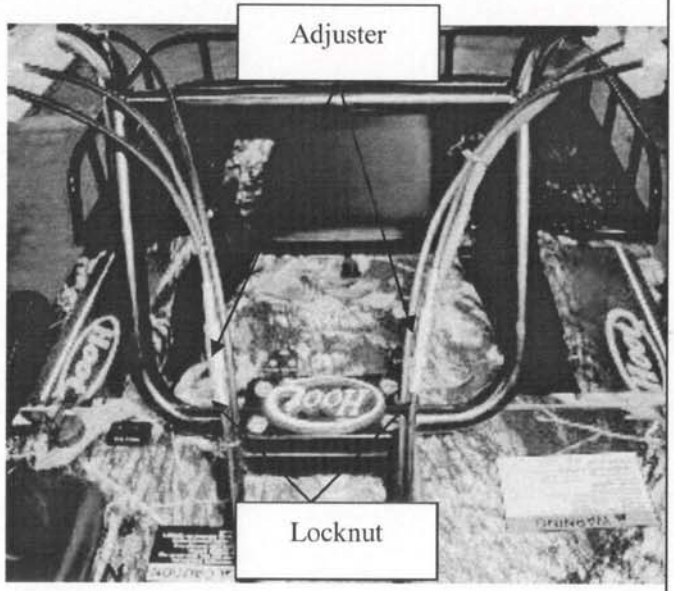


5.12 Adjusting Handbrake Cables

To adjust handbrake cables :

- Each brake cable has an adjuster.
- To remove slack, loosen its adjuster locknut and turn the adjuster counterclockwise. Following adjustment, tighten the locknut.

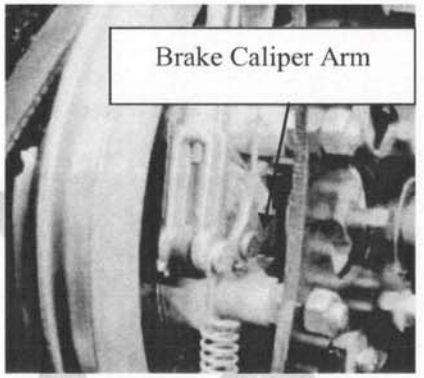
Note: The handbrake handle should engage at approximately one-half handle travel. Do not over-tighten the brake cables since this could interfere with the operation of the steering cables. The less slack there is in the cable system, the quicker the brakes will grab.

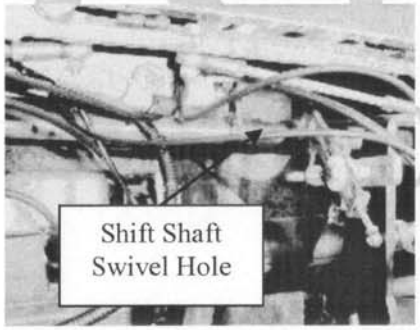


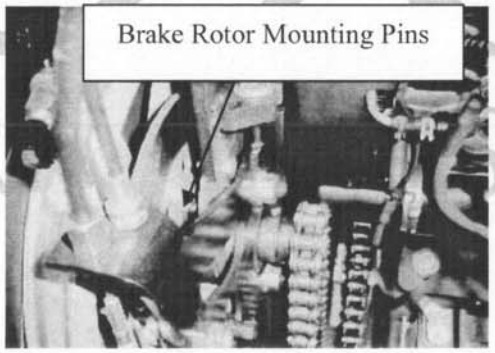
5.13 Lubricating Requirements

After every 10 hours of operation

1. Use a small amount of spray to lubricate the inner end of the brake caliper arm.
2. Apply a small amount of spray to lubricate the shift shaft swivels and the three brake rotor mounting pins as shown per side.
   Do not spray the brake pad surface area or the rotor.

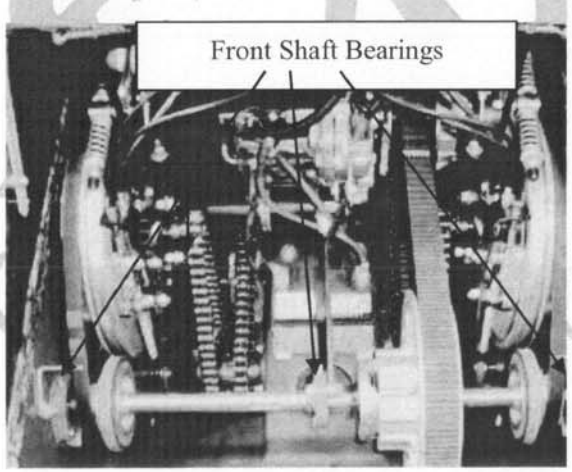


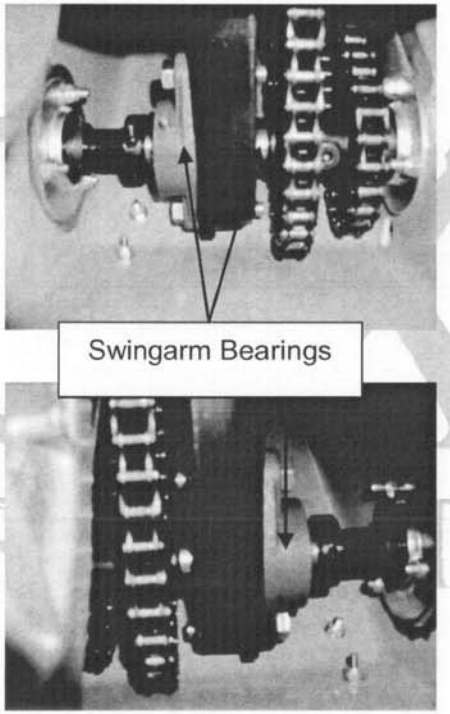




After every 25 hours of operation

1. Grease the 3 front shaft bearings.
2. Grease the 4 swingarm bearings (2 per side).





5.14 Fasteners

As a precaution, all other bolts, nuts and setscrews should be checked for tightness every 10 hours.

6 WARRANTY

i. The engine is covered by the standard two-year Kohler warranty as described in the Kohler owner's manual.

ii. Tires are covered by the standard tire manufacturer's warranty. Any powertrain components / mechanical items affected by changing the tire size and tread pattern will result in voiding the warranty.

iii. Other mechanical components are covered for a period of one year on parts and labor unless subjected to accidental damage or abuse.

iv. Periodic lubrication, engine maintenance, and adjustments to belts, chains, cables and linkages as outlined in this owner's manual are the responsibility of the owner.

v. The fiberglass body is covered for a period of one year against structural failure. This excludes abuse.

vi. Modifications to this machine are not recommended and may void the warranty.

Knox Outdoor Products L.L.C.

170 Mark I Drive

Henry, TN

USA 38231

Phone: (731) 243 – 4668

Fax: (731) 243 – 4667

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