

# SEA EAGLE.com<sup>®</sup>



## Travel Canoe

TC16

Instruction & Owner's Manual

**Sea Eagle Boats Inc.**  
19 N. Columbia Street, Suite 1  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777  
1-800-748-8066

August 2017



## **Congratulations on purchasing a Sea Eagle!**

With over 45 years of experience in designing, selling and using these quality inflatables, we're confident that you are going to love your Sea Eagle and we're ready to proudly stand behind them.

### **Sea Eagle Warranty**

All Sea Eagle products come standard with a 3 year warranty against manufacturing defects. The warranty begins the date that your product is delivered. Sea Eagle must inspect equipment in order to determine if there is a defect. In the event that an item must be shipped back to us, Sea Eagle will only reimburse the standard return shipping charge through FedEx, UPS, or U.S.P.S. at published shipping rates. Fees charged by retail shipping outlets, like The UPS Store, will not be reimbursed and you are responsible for handling and packing charges.

Sea Eagle will refuse delivery on packages without a valid return authorization number and will not be responsible for shipping or handling charges. To obtain a return authorization number, please contact Sea Eagle directly, unless you purchased from an authorized dealer/reseller in which case contact them for more information.

***Warranty does not cover damage from use, neglect, or abuse such as but not limited to abrasions, punctures and tears.***

If you receive a damaged item, please call the shipping carrier to report the issue. Do not return damaged merchandise until it has been inspected by the carrier. Sea Eagle will be notified by the carrier when they have completed their inspection and if necessary, Sea Eagle will arrange for the repair or replacement of damaged merchandise.

See complete warranty details at [SeaEagle.com/Warranty](http://SeaEagle.com/Warranty).

### **Decals, Stickers & Registration**

Always contact your state boating authorities for information on boating registration and regulations. Most states require you to register your boat if you are using a motor. ***\*The Sea Eagle TC16 is not rated for use with a motor.***

Upon registration it may be required to provide the Manufacturer's Statement of Origin. Purchases made through an authorized dealer or reseller may require for you to contact them directly in order to obtain this. You may be charged your own state sales tax if you were not charged sales tax at the time of purchase.

Registered boats generally require for the registration number to be applied to the boat. We do not recommend the use of decals or stickers as they tend to crack and peel over time with the repeated inflation and deflation of your Sea Eagle. Instead we suggest applying these numbers to a small piece of hard plastic or marine plywood and hanging it from your boat like a license plate if permitted by your state. Another method is to apply the numbers to the hull using either PVC based paint or permanent marker.

### **Contact Us**

Unlike many other companies today we pride ourselves on answering the phone and helping you with any concerns, questions or special ordering needs that you may have! Feel free to give us a call at **1-800-748-8066** and we will be happy to talk with you! Our business hours are Monday to Friday from 9AM to 5PM, EST.

**Sea Eagle Boats Inc.**  
19 N. Columbia Street, Suite 1  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777  
1-800-748-8066  
[Staff@SeaEagle.com](mailto:Staff@SeaEagle.com)

## Safety

In a manual of this type it is impossible to give adequate space to the topic of water safety. For further information on boating safety, visit [USCGBoating.org](http://USCGBoating.org) or enroll in a water safety course given by a local provider.

As a safety reminder, each Sea Eagle has a safety summary we call Boating Safety Basics printed on it. Please follow these suggestions and use good boating safety practices. In addition to the basics, we suggest you have a reasonable swimming ability and know that it is safer to go boating with a buddy. If you go alone, tell someone your float plan as described below. When possible, plan your trip so you go upwind on the way out and downwind on the way back. Remember, boating is inherently dangerous, appropriate training and experience is required especially in white water.

### Boating Safety Tips

- Always wear a USCG approved PFD (life vest) at all times while on the water.
- Be aware of your local boating rules and regulations and abide by them accordingly.
- Check inflation levels each time before you go out and inflate your boat for a full 24 hours before undertaking long trips.
- DO NOT allow children to use your Sea Eagle unsupervised.
- DO NOT consume alcohol while boating or operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- DO NOT drag your Sea Eagle over pavement or gravel if it can be avoided.
- DO NOT exceed the certified maximum capacities of this boat under any circumstance.
- DO NOT go boating alone.
- DO NOT use compressors, CO<sub>2</sub> or compressed air for inflation, only use Sea Eagle recommended pumps.
- DO NOT use your Sea Eagle Boat as a personal flotation device as they are not rated for that use.
- DO NOT sleep inside of your Sea Eagle while on the water.
- Bring a fully charged cell phone or other emergency contact device in a waterproof bag.
- Always tell someone of your boating plans.

### Safety Equipment & Important Safety Items

Water conditions will determine the type of safety equipment needed. At a minimum have a PFD (personal flotation device) and a whistle for each passenger. PFDs are required by law in most places. White water requires special equipment such as helmets, etc.

**Drinking Water & Snacks:** Canoeing is a physical activity that can deplete your reserves. Have enough water and snacks to prevent dehydration and loss of stamina. Bring enough water for all passengers. Know the warning signs of dehydration and heat sickness such as dizziness and shaking.

**Extra Clothes/Layers:** Avoid deadly hypothermia. Water conducts heat faster than air, so go prepared with weather proof clothing especially if the water is cold. Use a “dry bag” to store extra clothing inside so they’re not damp when needed. Wear a wetsuit or drysuit when warranted.

**First Aid-Kit:** Contents of the kit may vary depending on your preferences but be sure to include items that match the hazards you are likely to encounter. A waterproof container is recommended.

**Manual Pump/Repair Kit:** Although our boats are both durable and rugged, it may be possible that you need to make a repair while on the water in which case you’ll need the repair kit and a manual pump to re-inflate the boat. If this is your first repair, you may also want to bring this instruction manual with you.

**Sun/Rain Protection:** A hat can protect both your face and head from the rain or sun. Sunscreen will help prevent serious damage to your skin from the sun and the sun’s reflection from the water. Reapply sunscreen as needed.

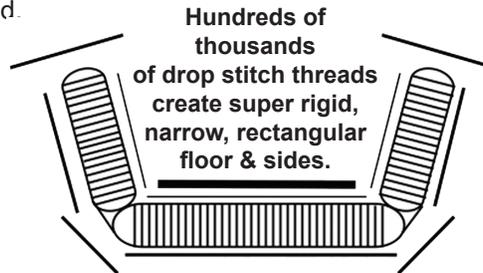
**Whistle:** Having a whistle readily available to you in case of emergency is a great way to attract the attention of others if assistance is needed.

**Float Plan:** Similar to a pilot’s Flight Plan, consider having a Float Plan ([www.floatplancentral.org](http://www.floatplancentral.org)). Always tell someone where you are going to be boating and what time you plan to return. Keep a cell phone in a waterproof container that will float if it falls in the water.

# OPERATING YOUR SEA EAGLE

## The World's 1st All Drop Stitch Inflatable Canoe!

The patented (U.S. Patent 9,452,809) Sea Eagle Travel Canoe is the world's first inflatable canoe made entirely with Drop Stitch Technology. Constructed of 3" Drop Stitch material for the floor and 4" Drop Stitch material for the side walls. Drop Stitch material has thousands of high tensile strength threads connecting the top and bottom fabric layers, creating thousands of I-beam supports. This enables the Travel Canoe to keep the board-like shape of the floor and sides so that when it is inflated to 10 psi it is very rigid.



Due to its straight line design, the entire length of the boat is in the water. This is important because the maximum speed of a boat is related to its length at the waterline. The longer a boat is at the waterline the greater the theoretical hull speed.

### Operating Your Sea Eagle

There are a few basic things to consider when setting up and using your Sea Eagle Canoe.

**BEFORE & DURING USE:** Avoid damage. Do not drag your Sea Eagle over abrasive surfaces like asphalt parking lots, gravel or concrete boat ramps, whether the boat is in its bag or inflated. Carry or wheel your Sea Eagle from the car to the setup point, and then to the water when assembled.

Rocks and sticks usually will not damage a Sea Eagle but, be alert for partially hidden or submerged hazards like metal signs, shopping carts and other debris especially during periods of low water. Be careful of docks which may have exposed nails or screws.

**BALANCE:** When getting in & out of the canoe, stay low and place your feet along the center line until you can sit.

Take a minute while close to shore to find your balance. Feel the balance of the boat as you begin to gently paddle. Paddle in unison, the rear paddler should match strokes with the front paddler. If the boat begins to roll back and forth, move your eyes to the horizon while holding the paddle out in front you until things settle down. Looking down and side to side will increase the rolling action.

To avoid being capsized by large boat wake, paddle directly into the oncoming waves. Avoid being swept into low branches or fallen trees and do not hold onto low branches over moving water because both can capsize the boat. Make sure all the items you bring like bags, coolers, and water bottles are secured so they won't float away if you capsize.

**YAW:** Yaw is the side to side motion produced by paddling causing the boat to zig-zag. To minimize, install the skeg into its base on the bottom of the boat. The skeg will improve tracking and is ideal for use in flat water areas like bays, lakes and rivers. In narrow areas like streams, you may need to remove the skeg to make the tight turns required. Remove skeg to cross shallow sections, too.

**DRAINS:** Drains are a convenient way to empty accumulated rainwater or water that has splashed into the boat. Open the drains while on shore. They are not intended for use while on the water. Leaving the drains open while paddling will allow water to partially fill the boat which will make it heavy and sluggish to maneuver.

**PADDLING:** For the most effective paddling, sit up straight and hold the paddle out in front of you with hands out wide enough that the forearms are perpendicular to the shaft (like a push-up position). Most of the power should come from your torso. Your arms contribute, but too much reliance on your arms will cause you to tire quickly. For good balance, especially in heavy seas, keep your head up and eyes focused on the horizon. Start paddling gently and smoothly. As the canoe picks up speed it will maintain a truer heading. If you dig in hard at first you will create more yaw. Course corrections can be made by easing up or bearing down on one side or the other. Gentle turns can be made by sweeping water behind the boat. Sharp turns can be made by using the paddle as a brake on one side. Braking will allow you to maneuver sharp bends in a stream, for example, but kills forward speed.



**Recessed Air Valves**  
The TC-16 has three chambers each with a valve. Shown here is the cap, body and base. The base is inside the chamber. Remove the cap to access the valve stem.



Insert the gauge in the opening and carefully turn it to lock in place. Take care not to break the gauge or the locking tabs.



Press and turn the stem counterclockwise so it can pop UP. When the stem is up, the valve is closed and will hold air. To let air escape for deflation, press and turn the stem clockwise until locked open.



While holding the gauge, insert the hose and turn to lock. Check the hose end that goes in the valves, it should have hooks to lock it in the valve opening.



**Hand Pump**  
This T-handle pump can easily reach the working pressure (10 psi) for the TC16. The pump comes with a mesh bag, manometer (pressure gauge) and a hose with recessed valve adapter.

\*If you do not have the electric pump, skip to page 6 for the section on **ASSEMBLY & INFLATION**.



Look for the word INFLATE with an arrow on top of the handle.



**BTP Turbo & BP12 Electric Pumps (OPTIONAL)**  
These electric pumps come with a nylon shoulder carry bag, 12V DC power cord, hose and adapters.



**WARNINGS:** Keep out of the reach of children. Don't leave running unattended. Do not use inflator for more than 20 minutes continuously as this can cause overheating and damage.



**WARNING:** Always connect the **red clip to the positive pole** and the **black clip to the negative pole**. Cross connecting wires could damage both the pump and the boat.



**BP12**  
The carry bag has compartments for the pump & hose. Protect the inflator from sand by keeping it in the bag provided, if sand gets in the inflator it could get jammed.



Included are a cluster of adapters, with raised numbers on each arm of the cluster. The adapter marked #1 is the only adapter needed.



Connect the quick connector at the end of the power cord to the quick connector attached to the pump.



Firmly push adapter #1 it into the grey tube in the end of the hose. Make sure that the adapter is fully seated on the tube by pushing it until the end of the tube pushes past the raised ring in the adapter.



To connect the pump to a 12V battery, use the alligator clips. Connect the **red clip to the positive pole** and the **black clip to the negative pole**.



If using the Recessed Valve Adapter, push adapter onto the grey tube. The cross bar on the inside of the adapter should be touching the tube to ensure a secure fit.



Connect the other end of the hose to the inflation port at the top of the pump, located near the ON and OFF buttons.



Press the ON button to begin inflation. **The pump automatically stops once the pressure is met. Do not turn off pump.**



Adjust the pressure dial to read 10 PSI - the operating pressure of the TC16. PSI is marked in yellow on the dial.



**WARNING:** Air compressors that are designed for other uses like tire inflation (usually over 30 psi) can easily over-inflate and cause harm to your Sea Eagle that uses a much lower pressure. For this reason, we recommend using only Sea Eagle electric pumps.

## Travel Canoe | ASSEMBLY



**ATTENTION:** Never turn the dial when the pump is running. This will immediately cause the instrument to break.



Locate an area large enough to unfold the TC16 avoiding hazards that could damage the canoe or injure you.



Insert the adapter into the valve. Make sure the valve stem is in the UP/CLOSED position before inflation.



Insert the hooked adapter into the valve and turn to the right until fully seated.



Pump to a working pressure of 7 to 10 psi. Increase pressure depending on weight of passengers and gear or water temperature. Do not exceed 10 psi.



Insert the end of one side strap into the back slot of the buckle attached to the seat and loop the strap through the front slot.



**Water Drains**

Check that caps are tight before use. Drains should be closed while boat is on the water. Drain water while on shore. To keep open, tuck caps under floor.



Clip strap to the angled d-ring on the side of the canoe. Tighten strap as needed. Repeat on other side.



**Inflatable Seats**

Include 2 side straps and one bottom strap to secure the seat in place.



Loop the long bottom strap through the horizontal d-ring.



Inflate seats to 3 psi or until comfortable. Set into place.



Pull through and loop through d-ring on opposite side. Tighten strap to secure seat.

## Travel Canoe | DEFLATION & FOLDING

**Solo**



**Tandem**



**Triple**



### Canoe Paddles

The paddles are an adjustable 2-part paddle with “bent” blades. The bent blade gives maximum surface area throughout the stroke.



Depress the button to adjust the height of the T-handle.

**Pro Tip:** To find the correct length, sit on the seat, put the paddle blade on the floor and adjust the paddle until it comes to about the top of your head.



### Removable Skeg

Turn the boat on its side and slide the skeg into the base. It only slides in facing one way. Slide the locking tab into its groove until it clicks into place. If the skeg does not slide in, do not force it. Refer to an easy fix on page 10.



**CAUTION!** Air comes out with force.

To deflate, push the valve stem down and turn it a quarter turn to the right. The stem will stay in the down position allowing air to escape.



Turn the canoe on its side and open the valves. As the boat deflates, push the floor between the sides.



Make the first fold just after the skeg base. Continue folding toward the valves, pushing the air out as you go.



Fold the boat all the way to the end to push all the air out. Then unfold one fold. Fold bow back and place stern folds on top of bow. Use the seat straps to secure the folded canoe.



### Carry Bag

Use the straps to secure the side flaps first. Repeat with the front and rear flaps. The canoe can be folded using different folding points depending on the dimensions of the storage area.



Fold the two long sides over and secure with attached straps. Then fold the remaining two sides and secure.

**Storage Tips:** “The best way to store a Sea Eagle is folded up in it’s bag”. - Cecil Hoge, Jr., Sea Eagle President

- Check for water in the chambers. Water will leak out of open valves when it is rolled up.
- Water left inside can cause a lot of mold. Dry thoroughly to prevent mold.
- Rodent-proof the storage area. Mice, squirrels and other small rodents can do a lot of damage.
- Avoid excess heat. Do not store in direct sunlight, in an attic or a metal shed.
- In temperatures below freezing, do not drop, strike or unroll until it is brought to room temperature.
- It can be stored inflated. If hung, support it along its length.
- After storage, inspect for loose items, damage and leaks.

## Travel Canoe | CLEANING & PROTECTING

Dry after each use to avoid mold. **While washing or rinsing: close the valves and twist the caps on so water cannot not enter the chambers.** Sea Eagles can be cleaned very effectively with general purpose cleaning products and a scrub brush.

Water collects under the sides of the floor of the Travel Canoe. To drain, elevate the front so water runs down and collects in stern. Turn boat over and lift the back so water spills out the back. **Caution!** The canoe will want to flip upright. Towel dry the lowest areas.

### Protection from the Sun and Heat

Avoid leaving the canoe in direct sunlight when ashore. Temperatures on a beach, dock, davit, etc., can get very high which could affect the vinyl or glue. Excessive exposure to sun and heat can cause your Sea Eagle to become sticky or cause the glue to fail.

## Travel Canoe | STORAGE

If you’re planning to leave your Sea Eagle outside, keep it raised off the ground and covered so it is not exposed to sunlight, rain, leaves, berries, bird droppings, etc.

Sea Eagles that are left on the water or turned upright will need to be emptied from time to time. Open the floor drains rather than trying to lift a boat full of water.

## Travel Canoe | TROUBLE SHOOTING

If your Sea Eagle has lost pressure, it does not necessarily mean it is leaking. If it is inflated during the heat of the day and the temperature drops during the night it will be softer in the morning. If launching in very cold water, the air inside may contract and cause a loss of pressure. Add more air to restore to full pressure. If temperature is not a factor and your boat is losing air pressure, it’s time to look for a leak.

### Step #1. LOOK

Visually inspect the boat close up and if necessary, flip it over and closely check the outside. Any large leaks when your boat loses a considerable amount of air should be clearly visible.

### Step #2. LISTEN

If you have a rough idea of where your leak is but can’t see it, you may want to try listening for it as you may be able to hear the air escaping and pinpoint the leak.

### Step #3. TIGHTEN

Check the tightness of the one-way recessed valves as well and if necessary, tighten them with the valve wrench included in the repair kit canister.

### Step #4. SOAPY WATER TEST

You’ll need a bucket and liquid dish washing soap. Fill the bucket with clear water, and add a good squirt of soap (couple of tablespoons) to the water. Inflate the leaking chamber to full pressure. Spread lots of soapy water on the leaking chamber with a hand towel or large sponge. Don’t assume the leak is coming from the valve or seams. The leak may produce bubbles, make hissing or sputtering noises, or spray water. Spray bottles are not effective at locating many leaks.

## Travel Canoe | REPAIRS

Even though Sea Eagles are very rugged and tough, you may still experience the occasional puncture through use of your boat. Fortunately most repairs are fairly easy and only take a few minutes. For extensive repairs, please contact us directly to provide you with further assistance. The best way to do this is to e-mail us a digital photo of the area in question along with your hull identification number to [staff@seaeagle.com](mailto:staff@seaeagle.com).

You can also call us directly at **1-800-748-8066 ex. 314** and ask to speak with Technical Support for further assistance or a quote for having your boat mailed to our facilities for our professional repair services.

Sea Eagle repair fees start at \$75.00 and does not include return shipping charges. Please note that Sea Eagle does not service any other brand other than our own. All items sent to our repair facilities must have prior authorization in the form of a Return Authorization Number.



### Repair Kit

All Sea Eagles come standard with a repair kit which includes PVC patches and PVC glue. Repair kits also include a recessed valve adapter and a valve wrench.

### PVC Based Glue

To patch your Sea Eagle, use an adhesive for PVC boats. Plumber's cement, epoxy, Flex Seal and Gorilla Glue will not work. If you are out of glue, try West Marine or a swimming pool supply store.



### Pinholes

Deflate your boat and thoroughly clean and dry the area that is to be repaired. For small punctures less than 1/8" apply a small drop of glue and allow 24 hours to cure.



For immediate use allow 30 minutes to dry and then inflate the compartment with the repair only 3/4 full and if necessary make a more permanent repair later.



### Patching

The most common repairs are a puncture or small cut. A penny size patch is sufficient for repairs of this type.



Trace the outline of a penny on the patch material and cut using scissors. Trace the outline of the penny on the boat. Coat the patch and boat with the repair kit glue.

## Travel Canoe | OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES



If you have access to electricity, heat the glue with a hair dryer then apply the patch. This method produces the best results. Mate the patch to the boat and smooth down until the patch adheres. Do not inflate, allow at least 24 hours to cure before inflating.

### Patching Tips:

- The the chamber must be deflated or the air will force a path through the glue.
- Keep the patch size to a minimum, the bigger the patch, the harder it is to seal. The most common repair failures occur because the patch is too big.
- For repairs larger than a puncture, overlap the damage area by about 1/2" on each side.
- Do not apply the patch while the glue is wet.
- Covering a leaking patch with another patch rarely fixes the problem. To remove a patch, heat it with a hair dryer and peel it off.
- Never use a heat gun on your boat.
- Clamps and weights are not needed.

For a demonstration of good patching technique, please view the **How to Repair** video on the instruction page of our web site. There is a link at the bottom of every page at SeaEagle.com or type "instructions" into the search box.

### Warped Skeg or Skeg Base

If the skeg base is bent from storage or use, heat it up with a hair dryer and bend it back into shape. It will hold it's shape after it cools. If not folded properly, the base can get warped in storage. Never hammer the skeg into a warped base as it will break the skeg.

### Leaking Water Drains

If you suspect the drains are leaking they can be tested by pouring some water in the boat and checking under the boat for water dripping from the drains. Flush any sand or debris from the threads. Check where the caps screw into the floor that the O-rings are smooth and without dents. If you see a dent in an O-ring, heat it up with a hair dryer, and the dent will ease out and return to its original shape. This also works if the base is bent or misshapen.



Sea Eagle offers a large array of accessories for your Travel Canoe.



### Personal Flotation Devices (OPTIONAL)

U.S.C.G. approved. Life jackets, paddling vest, PFD Belts available in various sizes.

### Life Jacket Whistle (OPTIONAL)

Bright orange whistle can clip onto your life jacket or used with the included lanyard to hang around your neck or wrist. Whistle has no parts or balls that can jam or corrode.



### See-me Safety Light (OPTIONAL)

Coast Guard approved LED personal safety light emits a 360° light visible up to 3.4 miles. It also attaches to a PFD!





### **EZ Cart Small (OPTIONAL)**

Transport your canoe from your car to the water and back with ease. Quickly assembles & disassembles.



### **303 Protectant (OPTIONAL)**

Extends the life of your Sea Eagle. Simply spray on every 30-45 days to improve resistance to UV, chemical & other types of harmful exposure.

## **Contact Us**

Unlike many other companies today we pride ourselves on answering the phone and helping you with any concerns, questions or special ordering needs that you may have! Feel free to give us a call at **1-800-748-8066** and we will be happy to talk with you! Our business hours are Monday to Friday from 9AM to 5PM, EST.

### **Sea Eagle Boats Inc.**

19 N. Columbia Street, Suite 1  
Port Jefferson NY 11777

1-800-748-8066

*staff@seaeagle.com*