

USFR GUIDF



USING THE POLES

The pole is a telescopic device that extends and contracts. The top metal collar holds all the attachments. Below are the basic steps for use:

- 1. Extend top yellow section by 60cm and slide on the yellow clamping float. This should be slid down blue end first with the locking collar towards the top of the pole
- 2. Tighten the float collar until the float remains firmly in place
- 3. Choose the applicable attachment for the rescue. This slides over the top collar and the double sprung buttons should be pushed in and allowed to spring out of the location holes on each attachment collar
- 4. Extend pole by lifting the lever towards the top of the pole and pulling out the section, this will stop when fully extended. Then, arch the lever downwards until it stops, the upper tube is now held.
- 5. Repeat the above process (4) until the desired length is achieved
- 6. The float will take the weight of the pole and you can swing it through the water to achieve the desired location.
- 7. Closing the pole is the reverse of the above. However, during casualty retrieval another technique is to pull the entire opened pole, hand over hand, behind your body for more speed should this be necessary.

The pictures to the left show the basic 3 step procedure for tightening and loosening the pole clamps. This procedure should be able to be done with your fingers and you should only need to use a spanner if the plastic nut becomes jammed. Do not use a spanner to tighten the nut - it will over-tighten and cause the lever to snap on pressure





PLEASE NOTE: This is a negative thread, to tighten you need to turn anti-clockwise







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STORING THE POLE

It is advised to keep the product in the Pole Bag together with the attachments bag. All items are waterproof, but dry storage will prolong the life of the pole.

GENERAL CARE & MAINTENANCE

This should be carried out periodically depending on the frequency of usage

- A. Remove from bag and ensure the internal safety line is free from tangles or knotting and it can be easily extended out, ready for opening the telescopic pole. Ensure the line is tightly knotted on the handle and a sharp tug will show it is secured to the internal top collar correctly. If it is looking damaged or weakened, replace before further use.
- B. Check the clamping strength of each and every clamp. The telescopic tubes should slide easily when the lever is raised and when the lever is turned downwards easily the tubes should be held tight. You should not be able to twist the held section in the holding clamp by hand. If it can twist then adjust the clamp as shown below.
- C. The tube surfaces must be clean and free from grit, sand, dirt or any chemical agent. If so, then clean as described below.
- D. The top collar on top of the pole is essential to the correct function and operation of the pole. Check the double spring motion of the sprung buttons. Ensure this is in place correctly. This outer surface also needs to be clean and free and any dirt or foreign bodies.
- E. Check that all metal attachments are undamaged and fit the top collar without issue. Check the flotation collar is contaminant free and clean ensuring the webbing is in good order.
- F. Actually open up the pole fully and lift 1 metre from the ground to check the integrity of the tubes
- G. Adjust the clamps for ease of use, so that they grip the next section firmly but not over-tight. This should be done with the section above extended, in each case. The nut is a reverse thread, so turn anticlockwise to tighten. If the clamp is not gripping the pole, then it needs adjusting. No amount of forcing the lever down harder will make it grip, this will simply break the lever or the lever-stop underneath. The clamp is tight enough when, grasping the sections above and below the clamp, it is difficult to twist the sections but not necessarily impossible. When collapsing the pole, it should always be telescoped in a controlled way not allowed to slam down, one clamp onto the next! This can cause the clamps to dislodge. Whilst they are firmly glued in position, they are not meant for this sort of misuse. Also this is how hands or fingers get trapped. If they become detached, the surface and residual glue should be sanded smooth and re-glued using Araldite Rapid (available on the high street).