

**Read This Manual First Before Using This Product!! This Manual Contains Important Product and Safety Information**

# ***Gladiator***<sup>®</sup> by Overton's

## **INFLATABLES OWNERS MANUAL**

### **PRODUCT INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS**

Watersports can be safe and fun for all levels of enthusiasts. The User's Manual is presented to enhance your enjoyment of the sport. It is intended to alert you to some of the potentially dangerous conditions that can arise in all watersports.

**To reduce your risk of injury or death, follow these guidelines and the Watersports Safety Code.**

- Carefully read this manual and follow the instructions.
- Teach anyone using your tube how to attach it to the rope, how to ride it, and how to maintain it.
- If the tube is designed for more than one person, take extra precaution to avoid collisions.
- Use of the tube in wavy, rough, or choppy water may cause violent tube action and increase the risk of injury.
- Sharp turns by the Watercraft driver may cause a slingshot effect to the tube, causing the tube to travel at a much higher speed than the Watercraft. The Watercraft driver should reduce the speed of the Watercraft during these sharp turns to reduce the slingshot effect.
- Never attempt jumps or dangerous tricks with your tube. If more than one tube is being towed, avoid collisions with other tubes.
- Know your own limits. Stop when you are tired. Act responsibly. Be in good physical condition and be cautious in your use of this or any other towable tube.
- Remove the tow rope from the product when not in use, do not leave the rope in the water where it could be damaged or caught by any part of the boat. Store them properly.

**If you have questions about this or any Gladiator product or about the instructions in this manual, please contact us.**

**Write to:  
Overton's (800) 334-6541**

**Call us at:  
(800) 334-6541**

## TOWABLE WARNING

# ▲ WARNING

### WATERSPORTS INVOLVE RISKS OF SEVERE INJURY OR DEATH.

Follow all instructions and safety information below and in owner's manual to reduce risks:

**DRIVER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFETY.** Tube cannot be controlled by rider! Signal boat driver to stop or slow down if you are not comfortable!

- **ALWAYS WEAR A PROPERLY FITTED LIFE JACKET (PFD)** approved by your country's agency, USCG Type III, ISO, etc.
- **NEVER EXCEED 20 MPH (32 km/h)** for adults, 15 mph (24 km/h) for children.
- Never exceed skill level of the riders and use experienced boat driver.
- Never tow in shallow water or near shore, docks, pilings, swimmers, watercraft or other obstacles.
- Never tow more than one tube at a time, or use tube as a personal flotation device.
- **ALWAYS ENSURE TOW ROPE IS CLEAR OF ALL BODY PARTS** prior to and during use.
- Never place any body part through handles, under cover, bladder, towing harness or tie rider to tube.
- Always have a person other than the driver as an observer of rider(s).
- Never operate watercraft or ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- **NEVER MAKE SHARP TURNS** which may cause the tube to rapidly accelerate.
- Never allow riders' bodies to collide. Towing at slower speeds, in calm water, and cautious driving will reduce injuries.

Copyright © 15.1 WSIA

Maximum Number of riders	Maximum Weight in Tube	Tensile Strength of tow rope	Length of tow rope
1	170 lbs (77 kg)	1500 lb (680 kg)	50'-65'
2	340 lbs (154 kg)	2375 lb (1077 kg)	50'-65'
3	510 lbs (231 kg)	3350 lb (1520 kg)	50'-65'
4	680 lbs (308 kg)	4100 lbs (1860 kg)	50'-65'
5	900 lbs (408 kg)	6000 lbs (2722 kg)	50'-65'
6	1020 lbs (463 kg)	6000 lbs (2722 kg)	50'-65'



SCAN FOR  
VIDEO

## NON-TOWABLE WARNING



## WARNING

Use of this product and participation in the sport involves inherent risks of injury or death.

- This product should never be used by children except under adult supervision.

- This is **NOT** a personal flotation device.

- **DO NOT TOW THIS PRODUCT.**

- Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type III (PFD) Life Jacket.

- **WARNING:** This product is to be used **ONLY ON WATER. DO NOT USE IN SHALLOW WATER.** Use only at a safe distance from shore, docks, pilings, rocks, boats, ect.

- **DO NOT USE OR DRAG ACROSS ANY LAND SURFACE** including driveways, yards, gravel, boat launch sites, beaches, or shore line area.

- **DO NOT USE THIS PRODUCT IN SWIMMING POOLS.**

- Do not exceed the manufacturers recommended number of people for your particular tube.

- **WARNING:** Users of this product **MUST USE CAUTION** and **COMMON SENSE** at all times.

- Read Operator's Manual before use.

- **WARNING: DIVING OR JUMPING** into water from this product is **NOT RECOMMENDED** due to the possibility of injury or death occurring from such activities and unforeseen underwater hazards such as tree stumps, rocks, and other such dangerous hidden debris found in all lakes, rivers and waterways.

**FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE ABOVE WARNINGS AND SAFETY RULES INCREASE THE POSSIBILITIES OF AN ACCIDENT WHICH COULD CAUSE INJURY OR DEATH.**



## WARNING

This water sports product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm.

## WATERSPORTS SAFETY CODE

**Before you get in the water:** Skiing or riding instruction is recommended before use. Instruction will teach general safety guidelines and proper skiing or riding techniques, which may reduce your risk of injury. For more information on skiing or riding schools, contact your dealer, Association, or local ski club.

- Know the federal, state and local laws that apply to your area.
- If you are not familiar with a waterway, ask someone who is, to tell you about any hidden dangers or things to avoid.
- Whether you plan to be in a watercraft, or skiing/riding behind one it is important you are wearing a properly fitted life jacket (PFD) approved by your country's agency, USCG Type III, ISO, etc.
- Inspect all equipment prior to each use, check bindings, fins, tube, attachment, tow rope and flotation device. Do not use if damaged.

**Watercraft Safety:** A knowledgeable and responsible driver is the most important safety device on any watercraft.

- Never operate a watercraft, ski or ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Only use water ballast and people for additional weight.
- Never exceed the passenger or weight limitations of the watercraft.
- Never allow passengers to hang outside the watercraft or towed device or sit on the gunwales or anywhere outside of the normal seating area.
- Never allow water to overflow the bow or gunwales of the watercraft.
- Uneven weight distribution or additional weight may affect the handling of the watercraft.

**Carbon Monoxide:** The exhaust from the engine on a watercraft contains Carbon Monoxide (CO) which is a colorless, odorless and poisonous gas. Excessive exposure to CO can cause severe injury or death. Follow this advice to avoid injury.

- Never "Platform Drag" by holding onto the boarding platform or be dragged directly behind the watercraft. This is where CO will be.
- Do not sit on the watercraft transom or boarding platform while the engine is running.
- Make sure the engine is properly tuned and running well. An improperly tuned engine produces excessive exhaust and CO.
- If you smell engine exhaust do not stay in that position.
- Go to the United States Coast Guard's website: [www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org) for more information on how to help protect yourself and others from the dangers of CO.

**Tow Ropes:** Tow ropes come in different lengths and strengths for different activities. Make sure any rope you are using is suited for skiing or riding and that it is in good condition.

- Never use a rope that is frayed, knotted, unraveling or discolored from use or being left in the sun. If a rope breaks while in use it can recoil at the skier/rider being towed or into the watercraft where it might strike passengers. Replace tow ropes with any sign of damage.
- Never use a tow rope with elastic or bungee material to pull skiers or riders.
- Rope should be attached to the watercraft in an approved fashion with hardware designed for towing. Refer to your Boat User's manual for instructions on proper tow rope attachment for each watersports activity.
- Always keep people and tow ropes away from the propeller, even when idling.
- If a tow rope should become entangled in a propeller, shut off engine, remove the key and put it in your pocket before retrieving the rope.
- Tow ropes should be neatly stowed in the boat when not in use.

**Preparing to ski or ride:** Always have a person other than the driver as an observer to look out for the skier/rider.

- Be sure the driver is aware of the experience and ability level of the skier/rider.
- The driver, observer and skier/ rider need to agree on hand signals before skiing or riding. Signals should include READY, STOP, SPEED UP, and SLOW DOWN.
- Start the engine only after making sure that no one in the water is near the propeller.
- Turn the engine off when people are getting into or out of the watercraft, or in the water near the watercraft.
- Always make sure the tow rope is not wrapped around anyone's hands, arms, legs, or other parts of the body.
- Start the watercraft and move slowly to remove slack until the tow rope is tight.
- When the skier/rider signals READY and there is no traffic ahead, take off in a straight line. Adjust the speed according to the signals given by the skier/rider.

**Skiing or Riding:** The watercraft and skier/rider should always maintain a sufficient distance from obstacles so a skier/rider falling or coasting and/or watercraft will not encounter any obstacle.

- Do not use in shallow water or near shore, docks, pilings, swimmers, other watercraft, or any other obstacles.
- Use only on water.
- Never attempt land or dock starts. This will increase your risk of injury or death.
- Always wear a properly fitted life jacket (PFD) approved by your country's agency, USCG Type III, ISO, etc.
- The faster you ski or ride, the greater your risk of injury.
- Never make sharp turns that may cause a slingshot effect on the tube's speed.
- Skier/Rider should be towed at an appropriate speed for their ability level.

**Fallen skier or rider:** Falling and injuries are common in skiing or riding.

- Circle a fallen skier/rider slowly to return the tow rope handle or pick up the fallen skier/rider.
- Put the watercraft in neutral when near a fallen skier/rider.
- Always keep the fallen skier/rider in view and on the driver's side of the watercraft.
- Display a red or orange skier-down flag to alert other vessels that a skier/rider is down.

**The Warnings and practices in the Watersports Safety Code represent common risks encountered by users. The code does not cover all instances of risk or danger. Please use common sense and good judgment.**

## WATERSPORTS RESPONSIBILITY CODE

**Be aware that there are risks in boating and Watersports that good judgment and personal awareness can help reduce. To increase your enjoyment of Watersports, follow the ten elements of the Code.**

In Watersports it is your responsibility to:

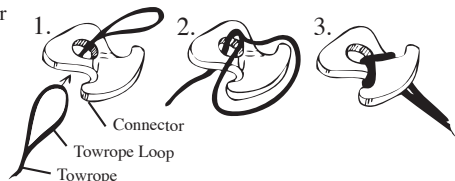
- ALWAYS familiarize yourself with applicable laws, waterways, and inherent risks
- ALWAYS have a capable observer in addition to driver, and agreed on hand signals
- ALWAYS wear a properly fitted life jacket approved by your country's agency
- ALWAYS read user's manual and inspect equipment before use
- ALWAYS ski and ride under control, at proper speeds, and within your limits
- ALWAYS turn ignition off when anyone is near watercraft power drive unit
- ALWAYS stay clear of engine exhaust to avoid Carbon Monoxide poisoning
- NEVER "Platform Drag" or touch swim platform while the engine is running
- NEVER ski or ride near swimmers, shallow water, other boats, or obstacles
- NEVER operate watercraft, ski, or ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs

### QUICK CONNECT

1. Insert towrope loop into bottom of hole located in center of connector.
2. Pull loop through top of hole and loop around prongs on the front of connector.
3. Pull rope from bottom of connector to set loop over connector



### ROPE CONNECT



### **Connection of Rope to the Towable**

A towable tube comes with either a “Quick Connect” hook fitting or a nylon webbing loop at the towing end of the tube. Refer to your tube owner’s manual for proper installation of the rope to the towing system. Before every ride, check the connection to assure that it is secure, and that no components show signs of wear or other damage.

### **Proper Inflation Level**

To get the best ride and the longest product life, your tube must be properly inflated. A properly inflated tube will feel very “firm” to the touch as the bladder expands to its proper level. If your tube is fully covered, inflate until the cover is wrinkle free. The actual pressure inside the tube is not that high, around 2 PSI. It’s important that your tube is not under inflated. Under-inflation causes added stress on all components and is a leading cause of failure. Low pressure causes the tube to set lower in the water, increasing drag and adding strain to the rope harness assembly and cover. In addition, the cover helps support the bladder inside – if the bladder is not filled properly it can shift inside the cover and potentially fail. Every time you use your tube, check the inflation level. You may need to add or remove air depending on the temperature – as the tube heats the air expands, as it cools the air contracts.

### **How to Inflate Your Tube**

Overton’s recommends using an Overton’s Branded pump designed for tube inflation. Our tube inflator pumps high-volumes of air at lower pressures which is ideal for tube inflation, and come with a variety of end- fittings that match up with whatever valve size is on your tube. They can be battery operated, or for faster inflation plug-in style that plug into your boat’s cigarette lighter.

### **Deflation**

The most straightforward method for deflating your tube is to open all of the valves and apply light pressure to the tube. Some of our valves have one-way gaskets designed to keep air from leaking out, if yours has one of those it helps to insert a straw or some other non-puncturing object into the valve to keep the gasket open to assist deflation. Also, if your pump is reversible, it can be attached to the valve to suck the air out of the tube which will allow the tube to be transported in its smallest form after deflation.

### **Maintenance of Your Tube**

Dry your tube and store it DEFLATED, in a cool, dry area. Storage in a very cold area could result in cracking of the vinyl tubes.

### **Repairs**

Your tube is made of very durable materials; but you may get an occasional puncture. A repair kit is included with your Gladiator tube just follow the instructions on the repair kit.

### **Care**

After use, clean debris from your tube by wiping it off or spraying it with fresh water. This is especially important if it has been used in salt water, or in an area where there has been exposure to oil or gasoline.

Never use harsh detergents to clean the tube. If you need more than water, use dish washing detergent or a similarly mild cleansing agent. Do not leave your tube in the sun for extended periods of time. Excessive sun exposure can cause fading of colors as well as degradation of the tube materials. In addition, excessive heat can cause the air inside the tube to expand & over-inflate it. If you plan to leave the tube inflated for an extended length of time, let some of the air out of the tube, or put it in the shade.

### **Repairs**

Your tube is made of very durable materials; but you may get an occasional puncture. A repair kit is included with your Gladiator tube just follow the instructions on the repair kit.

