

REMOVAL AND INSERTION OF L.H. AIRSPONSONS

Greetings Kayak Owner,

The sponsons are a permanent part of your folding kayak hull. The only times that you would remove them are to fix a leak, remove twists or overlapping. The main differences between the Long Haul sponsons and Klepper sponsons are that the Long Haul hull has the sponsons attached at the ends of the sponson sacks with Velcro, this helps to eliminate the problem of overlapping. The Long Haul sponsons are manufactured with Urethane material which is a much higher quality material than the vinyl that Klepper uses.

To remove air-sponsons:

When removing the sponsons simply pull them from their sacks thru the openings in the sacks, nearest the inflation valve. You may find it necessary to give a quick tug on the sponson to release it from the Velcro on the ends.

If you have a leak:

It is often necessary to inflate the sponson and submerge the sponson under water to locate the leak/s. Most holes can be fixed by simply applying a few drops of cement over the hole. This should be done with the sponson deflated. Use Urethane cement for Long Haul sponsons and vinyl cement for Klepper sponsons.

To insert your sponson back into the sleeves you will need to:

When inserting the sponsons back into the sacks first inflate the sponson, then open the valve and fold the ends of the sponsons over towards the inflation valve. This assures that the sponson is free of twists and completely deflated. Unfold the stern portion (short end) of the sponson and lay the sponson flat on the sponson sack. This is accomplished with the frame removed from the skin. Place the stern end of the sponson at the opening of the sack nearest the inflation valve hole. Fold approximately six inches of sponson over the end of a broom handle and push the sponson into the sack toward the stern. There is another sack opening approximately twelve inches from the ends of the sacks. Push the sponson thru the sacks until the sponson comes out of this opening. At this point it is easiest to crawl inside the hull and stuff the sponson into the short section of the sack. If you have a L.H. hull with hatches you can simply push the sponson into the end sack sections thru the hatches.

Repeat this procedure for the forward sponson section. Next, push the sponson to the first sack opening grab the end of the sponson and pull the sponson thru until the valve lines up with the hole in the sack, then pull the inflation valve thru the hole. Continue pushing the sponson thru the sack.

It is best to keep the sponson flat in the sack to help eliminate twists in the sponson.

If you feel you have more questions, please contact us.

Thank you,

The Long Haul Folding Kayaks Staff

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