

TriFoiler Inc.

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Dear TriFoiler Customer,

To help you enjoy your TriFoiler I have 3 tips for you;

1) It is important that the stern of the boat not ride up too high. I admit that it is very difficult for a new pilot to judge how high the stern of the boat is riding since you can not see below the main hull. I would like to suggest a method to determine the height of the stern. I suggest stretching your arm over the side and reach for the water. Of course this will depend on how long your arm is, so I would also suggest that you figure out how far you need to stretch to reach the water with the stern 8 inches off the water. If you can not reach the water, then maybe you can look over the side and estimate the distance between the tip of your finger and the water. The distance should not be measured from the wave tops but from an average of the surface. You also want to be careful at what speed you measure the height of the stern. The stern will raise up when you are going faster, so you want to measure the height at a pretty good speed. I recommend about 26 mph.

If this does not work for you, then you could simply start with the stern very low and slowly raise it until the stern just comes off the water when you get up to speed. Remember that turning the knob to the right will lower the stern.

I am concerned about the ride height for several reasons. The steering will feel very unusual when the stern is too high, because you will not have enough rudder area in the water. If the rudder is too high it is possible that it could ventilate all the way down past the lowest fence and to the horizontal foil. If this happens it is possible to over stress the T foil. If the rudder does ventilate all the way down to the horizontal foil, then you will lose a lot of directional stability.

It is important to keep in mind that the boat works best at just the right height which is just off the water. The objective of the foils is not to lift the boat a specific height, but to lift the boat just off the water. If the rudder comes up too high then the leeway angle becomes too high. If the speedometer stops working because the pitot tube comes out of the water, then that is much too high.

The ride height of the main foils is important also, but it is easier to see how high they are flying. The water level should be half way between the top two fences; however, it is a little more difficult to determine the actual height because the main foil height depends on more than just speed. It may take a few passes to determine what is just right.

2) Please keep an eye on the nut and bolt that clamps the steering cable to the tiller on the rudder casting. It seems that this material has a tendency to shrink and when it shrinks the bolt clamping the cable will lose tension. Please use a 7/16" wrench and phillips head screwdriver to make sure that this bolt is tight. If it gets too loose the cable could slip out of the bolt.

3) Be careful lowering the masts. Remember YOU MUST HAVE THE PORT BOOM SUPPORTING THE PORT MAST BEFORE YOU RELEASE THE STARBOARD BACKSTAY. If you do not then both masts will fall.

I hope you are having a good time with your TriFoiler and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely;

Greg Ketterman