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Manual for Rodkicker 50





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1 Introduction

Congratulations on the purchase of your new Rodkicker 50. This manual covers the installation and operating instructions for the Rodkicker 50.

Please read the entire manual before assembly/usage and keep the manual available for future reference. The latest version is available at www.seldenmast.com.

Related installation manuals and user guides:

To derive the maximum benefit and enjoyment from your Rodkicker, we recommend that you study this manual carefully before attempting to assemble and operate the product. This is to avoid damage to your boat as well as to avoid personal injury. Seldén cannot be held responsible for any problems, damages or personal injuries arising from an improperly installed product.

Seldén limited warranty applies to this product. For full details please see our general conditions of sale.

The guarantee is only valid if the Rodkicker 50 is installed and operated in accordance with this manual.

If the Rodkicker is repaired by anyone not authorized by Seldén Mast AB, the guarantee ceases to be valid.

Seldén Mast AB reserves the right to alter the content of the manual and design of the product without prior warning.

For latest update check www.seldenmast.se or contact Seldén for your own issue.

Safety Precautions

Carefully pay attention to, and follow the instructions with the following symbols:



ATTENTION

This symbol indicates a critical moment in the assembly or technical advice.



WARNING

This symbol indicates a potentially hazardous situation. If not avoided, this could result in serious personal injury or damage to property.

2 Rodkicker 50

A Rodkicker facilitates sail handling when reefing, preventing the boom from dropping into the cockpit or onto the coach roof. When fitted with gas springs, it lifts the boom when the kicking strap is released. Excellent for trimming the main in light air. The Rodkicker 50 also quadruples the purchase of your kicking strap. If a 2:1 purchase control line is connected to the line of the Rodkicker, 8:1 purchase is achieved. This means that 125 kg pulling force is required to compress the 10kN (1000 kg) force of the gas springs.

When sailing, a Rodkicker with gas springs replaces the use of a topping lift which simplifies reefing and dousing of the mainsail. However, a tensioned topping lift is useful to prevent the boom from swinging from one side to the other when motoring, but this precaution is can also be obtained by attaching lines athwartships or just by securing the boom end to the backstay.



2.1 Technical specification

Parts and nomenclature

In the schematics below, the names of all the parts of the Rodkicker can be viewed.



Dimensions and technical data

Dimensions as per schematics to the right.

Max in service tension load	50kN
Total gas spring force	10kN
HMPE line thickness	Ø10
HMPE line length	9500 mm
Line purchase ratio	4:1
Max RM30, Masthead rig	270kNm
Max RM30, Fractional rig	200kNm



3 Installation

Installation of a of a Seldén Rodkicker must be carried out by a competent installer who has read and understood this installation manual, the purpose and function of the Rodkicker, has checked the required loads needed for the boat It's installed on as well as installing requirements prior to installation.

Seldén Mast AB does not take responsibility for incorrect installation of the Rodkicker or any damage that's caused due to the mast, boom or boat in general due to improper planning of the installation.

3.1 Shortening the Rodkicker

The Rodkicker can be shortened up to maximum 500 mm, follow the steps below to shorten your Rodkicker.





3.2 Assembling the HMPE-line

After the line has been assembled, there's plenty of options and customization available on how to tail-route the Rodkicker. Check tail-routing chapter for some examples on how this step can be done after the line is assembled and the Rodkicker is installed on the boat.



3.3 Step by step installation on boat



6.	During step 4, the slider will move. Mark its new position.
7.	Keep pulling the tackle until rodkicker is max compressed. Again measure the visible length of the lower extrusion to verify that the full stroke of the spring has been used. The length should now be 300 mm shorter than originally measured.
8.	Release the rodkicker tackle back to the marked position. Tighten kicker fitting screws hard in boom to provisionally lock the kicker fitting postion on the boom.
9.	Release the boom topping lift while checking that the kicker fitting is not sliding in the boom. Use kicker to lift and lower the boom to the outer ends of operation. Check boom angle and clearance to the sprayhood, wind screen, lifelines etc.
10.	If any adjustment is required, use topping lift to unload the kicker before releasing the kicker fitting screws. Repeat 7-8 until desired kicker fitting position is achieved.
11.	Release the kicker tackle and lift the boom by the toppinglift/halyard until the clevis pin in the upper fork can be removed and lay the rodkicker on the deck. Drill holes in boom for the kicker fitting permanently secure it in position. Drill very carefully to avoid any damage on lines or cables Fit the screws with Loctite.
12.	Fit the rodkicker.

3.4 Examples of tail-routing options

See pictures below of examples of tail-routing options that can be used with the Rodkicker.



Example 7, Total purchase 8:1



4 Operation

4.1 Normal operation

The rodkicker helps to support the boom both when sailing and in harbor. The lifting force should be enough to prevent the boom from dropping, also when the sail is lowered. A too stiff spring makes the boom hard to operate why the spring load is limited. In some situations (typically motoring in seaway with lowered / furled mailsail) it is recommended to use a lifting line "topping lift" at the outer boom end in combination with a tightened main sheed to stabilize the boom further. The rodkicker also works as any other kicker/vang to prevent the boom from lifting when easing the main sheet at downwind sailing. Service and maintenance

5 Service and maintenance

5.1 Cleaning

It's recommended to clean the Rodkicker with freshwater at regular intervals. If detergents are used for cleaning it is important to rinse all traces off with fresh water afterwards. Most detergents contain elements that can corrode aluminium. Silicone free wax of parrafin oil can be used to protect the surfaces

5.2 Applying grease

It's recommended to lubricate the clevis pins on both upper and lower fork of the Rodkicker at regular intervals to reduce wear and avoid creaking sounds. We recommend using Omega 95 grease as lubricant. Apply on the contact surface of the shafts, just a small amount across all the contact surfaces will suffice.

5.3 Removal

Release the kicker control line. Lift the boom outboard end with a topping lift or halyard just to the point where the clevis pins in the boom- and mast brackets are unloaded. Remove clevis pins. Take care to not scratch the deck.

5.4 Storing

To prevent the gas cylinder piston packing drying out, the cylinder must be used, parked, and stored with the top end (Thicker aluminium extrusion) higher than it's lower lower end (thinner extrusion).

6 Replacing the gas springs

In case of damaged gas springs and replacement is needed, follow the steps below.





7 Spare parts and accessories

Description	Item No.	Illustration
HMPE strop with spliced ends	613-054-50	
Gas spring 5kN, Stroke 300mm	308-073	
Kicker toggle H118 W20	528-187	

8 Warranty

Seldén Mast AB guarantees Rodkicker 50 for 2 years. The guarantee covers faults arising from defective design, materials or workmanship.

The guarantee is only valid if the product is assembled, operated and maintained in accordance with this manual and is not subjected to loads in excess of those indicated in the brochure and on the Seldén website.

Complete shipment and warranty conditions are to be found on Seldéns website www.seldenmast.com. See Resources/Partners information/General information/General conditions of sale (595-546-E).

If the system is repaired or modified by anyone other than Seldén Mast AB or one of our authorized dealers, the guarantee ceases to be valid.

Seldén Mast AB reserves the right to alter the content and design without prior warning.

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