



USER'S MANUAL SOUL 2018

EDITION 2_07/2019



Congratulations!

Thank you for choosing the Soul harness. We have done our best to present you with the highest quality product, fulfilling all safety requirements and offering maximum functionality. Please read this manual carefully before using the harness for the first time. This will help you utilize all features of the Soul, thus maximizing comfort and fun of each flight.

We wish you a lot of safe and enjoyable airtime !

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1. Safety

Paragliding is a potentially hazardous sport. When flying a paraglider you have to accept risks of injury and/or even death. Incompetent or improper use of the harness may increase those risks. In case of any doubts please ask your dealer or manufacturer.



Dudek Paragliders do not bear any responsibility for damages or injuries resulting from paragliding activities.

2. Description

The Soul was designed for cross country and competition pilots, looking for light and comfortable harness. Main point on the wishlist were improvements in ergonomics and weight reduction. Due to light, carbon seat board and footrest, as well as other materials the Soul weighs just 3,3 kg in M size. Comfortable, ventilated backrest and a new, ergonomic seat with profiled board ensure maximum comfort during the flight. Large adjustment range makes sure that every single pilot will be able to find his/her optimum. Redesigned strap scheme brings great stability and significantly reduces danger of launching with leg/chest straps not clipped in. The Soul is equipped with a 15 cm thick airfoam protector. Integrated rescue chute container is placed on the back, behind the protector. The release handle is fixed in easily accessible area on the right side of the harness. The pod shields the pilot against cold and improves aerodynamic qualities. Four-point adjustment of its length allows for stepless adjustment of the footrest too. Complete with integrated cockpit it is closed in two points only. The cockpit has an additional, detachable instrument panel, equipped with easily accessible safety knife. Locking scheme of the pod 'reminds' the pilot to clip in the chest strap as well. Under the seat plate there is a container for a ballast bag, too. The Soul features easily replaceable, ball-bearing Duroll pulleys, improving the speedsystem operation.

3. The Cockpit

The cockpit has an instrument panel (vario, GPS etc), ready to accept Velcro-finished cases. Additionally, the panel is equipped with a safety knife and can be easily detached with the instruments still fixed to it. Under the shelf there is a pocket, accessible in flight to reach an energy bar or soft drink. The cockpit is integrated with the pod and does not have any additional fasteners.



4. The Pod

The pod obviously shields the pilot against cold and improves aerodynamic qualities of the unit. There is an adjustable footrest (distance/inclination) and a two-step speedbar inside. The pod is permanently fixed to the harness and integrated with the cockpit. The pod is closed in two points only. The nose of the pod automatically fills up once in the air, then after landing you can easily squeeze that air out for packing. The length and inclination of the footrest is adjusted in points 1 and 2.



The exception is the left upper line, length of which can be adjusted in #3 after earlier adjustment of the right-side closing of the pod. The right side of the pod is closed by inserting balls #5 and #6 in the loops of the safety strap #7. Tension on this side of the cocoon can be adjusted by moving #4 ball. Left side of the pod is closed and adjusted with #8 buckle. This part of the pod is integrated with the cockpit.



If the carabiner's width has been changed, a re-adjustment of the pod closure may be necessary in points #4 and #8, as well as the length of the left upper line in #3 point.



5. Speedbar

Lines of the speedbar must be led through respective pulleys (under the seat and on the back support). Then put it through metal loops in the pod and fix a stopper, accompanied by a speedsystem clip. Connect the speedbar with a rubber band to the pod's footrest. Find the best length of the rubber so that the speedbar is easily accessible in flight. In order to adjust the whole system you have to sit in the harness while it is hanged by the paraglider's risers. At full speedbar the pulleys on the risers should touch. When necessary, adjust the lines according to your later experiences in flight.



Do not adjust the speedsystem lines while flying.



- 1 – speedsystem line
- 2 – two-step speedbar
- 3 – rubber straps connecting the speedbar with footrest

6. Rescue chute installation

Connect the release handle to the point on the side of the bag.



Connect the V-riser with the riser of the rescue chute with a locked C6 quicklink.

The V-riser should be fixed with an o-ring (see picture on the right) and the nut tightened with a wrench.



If necessary, put in the container an insert reducing its capacity.



Put the rescue chute into the container.



Lead the assist lines through the loops.

Lead the assist line through the loop of the container flap (the one closer to release handle) and gently move the zipper upwards.



Close the right part of the container by moving the zipper

Lead the assist line through the loop in the zip cover.



Put the shorter pin of the release handle through the loop.

Fix the release handle to the Velcro strap.



Gently remove the assist line.

Lead the assist line through the left loop of the container flap and gently move the zipper upwards.



Close the left part of the container by moving the zipper down.

Lead the assist line through the strap loop.



Put the longer pin of the release handle through the loop.

Put the remainder of the pin into the slit of the Velcro strap.



Gently remove the assist line.

Close the V-riser tunnel (if opened earlier).



Close the pin cover and fix the upper part of the handle (a magnet).





To avoid accidental opening of the rescue system, pins closing the container must be checked before each flight !

The rescue chute must be periodically aired and repacked, according to its manual. The Soul harness will best accommodate light rescue chutes: Globe Light 90 , Globe Light 110 or Globe Light 135 manufactured by Dudek Paragliders. It is possible to use rescue parachutes by other manufacturers too, as long as their dimensions when packed do not exceed those of the container.

Container capacity:

With a capacity-reducing insert

Max 6250 cm³

Min 5200 cm³

Max 5400 cm³

Max 5400 cm³



After each installation of a rescue chute in a container a compatibility test is necessary. In order to do that, hang the harness, equipped and packed as for flight. Seat down in the harness and assume the usual position in flight. Grab the container release handle and pull it to the side in a resolute effort, so that the parachute is completely out of the container. Still, do not throw it away, so that the bag remains closed. If the trial was successful, put the rescue back into the container.

If, however, the parachute could not be released properly, possible reasons are:

- too big a parachute in relation to container's dimensions (after a repacking the parachute is usually bigger than it originally was)
- you pull the handle not resolutely enough or in wrong direction (i.e. to the front, to the back or upwards).



Leaving the sliders in the upper position (as in the pictures below) will make it impossible to open the container and use the rescue parachute! Before the flight, make sure that the container is properly closed.



7. Harness straps adjustment



Before adjusting the straps please install rescue chute and fill the back pocket as for normal flight. Watch out for symmetry – left and right side should be adjusted the same. The first test flight should be done in easy weather conditions, with necessary corrections applied afterwards. Do not adjust the harness while flying.



- 1 - Shoulder straps
- 2 – Side straps
- 3 – Leg straps



- 4 - Chest strap
- 5 – Lines of the seat inclination
- 6 – Lines of the lumbar part

7.1 Shoulder straps

Thanks to adjustable shoulder straps (1) the Soul can accommodate pilots of almost any height. They should stay on your shoulders rather tight, with just a little play. Too short straps will make comfortable seating after launch difficult, and can limit your movement in flight. A clip on the shoulder traps makes sure they stay in place during launch and flight. Additionally, there is an alarm whistle fixed to the clip. to call for help in danger.

7.2 Side straps

They determine the seat/backrest angle. Initial adjustment should be done before the first flight, with the harness hanged from a ceiling. In order to increase comfort, the Soul features an additional adjustment in the lumbar part (6). You can increase the support of the lumbar spine by shortening the adjustment line, moving the red ball up until enough. All settings are to be verified during first flight and can be further modified at any time. Bear in mind that when the backrest is reclined too much, there is increased risk of getting twisted in case of a big deflation.

7.3 Leg straps

The leg straps are the most important safeguard against falling out of the harness. Their adjustment must allow for easy launching and proper seating in the air. Too short straps can make you uncomfortable and restrain your starting run. Too long straps can make seating into harness without using your hands impossible. In the Soul harness both leg straps (3) are joined with the chest strap, significantly reducing risk of launching without leg straps closed.

In the Soul strap system the leg straps double as lateral stabilizers of the harness. Shortening of those straps limits the side swings of the harness.

7.4 Chest strap

Chest strap controls the distance between carabiners. Increasing that distance makes the harness less stable, improving effectiveness of the weightshifting and relaying more information from the canopy. Reducing it will stabilize everything and make the paraglider less receptive to weight steering. Too narrow carabiner base can make recovery from extreme situations very hard or even impossible (in case of a spiral). If the manufacturer of the paraglider does not give any special instructions, recommended width is 42-48 cm. In turbulent air you can pull the strap in to feel more comfortable, but always remember that it is more probable to get a twist in emergency then.



In order to avoid falling out of the harness it is imperative to check before each launch if the chest and legs straps are closed. **Failure to close the straps is extremely dangerous and is a known reason of fatal accidents !**

7.5 Seat-plate lines

By adjusting the length of those lines the inclination of the seat plate is changed. It can be adjusted to match personal preferences, as long as symmetry is observed. In order to change the seat plate inclination first you have to loosen the lines, then seat comfortably in the harness with your feet on the footrest, and finally pick up the slack by moving the ball towards the carabiners.



While adjusting any of the shoulder, side and leg straps, as well as seat plate and lumbar lines please observe the symmetry. Left and right sides must be adjusted identically.

8. Pockets

The Soul has a spacious back pocket (ca. 25 litres volume) and two little side pockets. The back pocket can easily hold the paraglider's backpack, a camelback and much more. In the upper part, on both sides there are two entries for a Camelbak hose or a radio antenna. Additionally, there is a pocket under the instrument panel of the cockpit. Both side and cockpit pockets are easily accessed in flight. Under the front part of the seat plate there is a small ballast pouch (ca. 3l). Of course it can be used for anything else when needed.



9. Protector

The Soul is equipped with a 15 cm thick airfoam protector. Fixing the protector is demonstrated below.



The protector does not require special attention as long as there was no hard or water landing. Servicing in such cases is described under #17 „Cleaning and storage” and #18 „Operation and repairs”



10. Harness/paraglider connection

The Soul harness is equipped with aluminium Dudek carabiners of 20 kN strength. Use them to connect the harness to the paraglider's risers. Another thing to connect before launch are the speedsystem lines of the harness and the speedsystem of the risers. It is recommended to replace main carabiners with new ones after 300 hrs airtime.



Before launch check if the carabiners are locked and guarded against accidental opening.

11. Harness/tow connection

The only safe way of attaching the tow line is a dedicated tow release. The Soul is not equipped with additional tow release fix points, therefore it is to be mounted directly on the harness' carabiners or the canopy risers.



If the tow release is fixed to the carabiners, it must be observed that they are mounted with its locks facing back, so that the tow release is placed on the smooth part of the carabiner.

By far the better method of attaching the tow release is to clip it directly into the riser of the paraglider, using a pair of C5 quicklinks.

12. Before flight

Before each flight a thorough check of the harness is required. For your own safety make sure that:

- the harness is not damaged in any way
- rescue chute container is correctly closed and locked with pins
- rescue chute release handle is correctly set up and has the right shape (quite often it happens to be malformed in transport, so it's important to check if it's not flattened or hard to grab)
- leg and chest straps are closed
- shoulder and side straps remain correctly adjusted
- all pockets are closed with their zips covered
- main carabiners are closed and locked, without any damage
- the speedbar is clipped to the paraglider.

13. Using rescue chute

The rescue chute should be used in case of emergency, when it's not possible to recover the paraglider from a hazardous flight state in any other way. Throwing the chute while in a fast spin is risky. If there is still some altitude to spare, first you should try to slow down or stop the spin altogether.

To use the chute grab the release handle, with fast and resolute move rip it from its velcro and throw it together with the canopy bag as far as possible, to the outside of the spiral (if present). After opening deflate your paraglider with its rear risers. Prepare for landing in a parachute style, keeping your legs together, with slightly bent knees.

14. Landing

While on final approach, get your legs out of the pod and assume upright position. Touchdown when still sitting is unacceptable and very dangerous, as even despite the protector there is high risk of spine injury. Land always on your feet, with a few steps to bleed off the speed if necessary. Protector is not a landing aid and was not designed as such.

15. Water landing

Water landing is potentially very dangerous, with imminent risk of drowning. If it is unavoidable, prepare yourself by releasing all the buckles and straps beforehand. In the last moment get out of the harness to avoid getting tangled in suspension lines or other gear. The harness does not sink, so you can later grab it and use as a lifebuoy.



Water landing while still in harness is extremely dangerous. As the protector does not sink and will always float, it will force your head under water, rendering breathing very hard or impossible. There is very high risk of getting tangled in lines and drowning.

16. Tandem flying

Soul harness was not designed - and remains unsuitable - for tandem operations.

17. Cleaning and storage

All materials for the harness were carefully selected, keeping their quality and durability in mind. With help of your care they will keep your harness in good condition for a long time. The harness is best cleaned with a wet sponge, possibly a bit of soap. Do not use neither detergents nor solvents. If there is a lot of mud, first use the brush before wet cleaning.

In case of completely soaked harness (e.g. after water landing) dry it in a well aired place, away from direct sun operation.

Soaked back protector must be taken out of the harness and dried with its zip opened. If this will not be enough, remove the airfoam and dry it separately.

Soaked rescue chute has to be always completely removed from the harness, dried and packed again by a licensed person.

Harness can be stored in a backpack, but if you want to give it best service – keep it de-rigged in a well-ventilated place, away of sunlight. If the harness is not going to be used for a longer time, it is advised to get it out of the backpack. Unfortunately some discoloration of individual harness parts is unavoidable over time and this is yet another reason for not exposing it to the sun more than necessary.

Before packing the harness remove the stiffener from the upper area of the back pocket. Open the cockpit and put the instrument panel inside.



18. Operation and repairs

Periodic control of the harness condition will keep it in safe operation for a long time. After each hard landing check the back protector, as the seams or zip quite often get ripped on absorbing impact and damaged protector will be ineffective. If you notice any damage to its cover, send it back to the producer for a repair or buy a new one.

Correspondingly, after each use of rescue chute thoroughly check entire harness for damages, paying particular attention to the straps and seams.

Aluminium carabiners should be replaced each 5 years or 300 hours airtime. Scratched or damaged carabiners are not serviceable anymore and have to be replaced at once.

Using damaged harness is out of the question. In case of any doubts please contact your dealer or manufacturer and/or send it to an authorised workshop for closer inspection.



The Soul harness has an airworthiness certificate for 10 years since the date of production.

The AF-15/2018 protector is allowed to remain in operation within 10 years from the date of production.

Environmental care

Paragliding is an outdoor sport. We believe that our clients share our environmental awareness. Exercising paragliding you can easily contribute to environment preservation by following some simple rules. Make sure you are not harming nature in places where we can fly. Keep to marked paths, do not make excessive noise, do not leave any garbage and respect fragile balance of the nature.

Recycling of used gear

Harness is made out of synthetic materials, which need to be properly disposed of when worn out. If you are not able to dispose of the paraglider properly, DUDEK Paragliders will do that for you. Just send your harness to the address given at the end of the manual, accompanied by a short note.

19. Technical data

Size	Suspension height (cm)	Seat width* (cm)	Seat depth (cm)	Back support height (cm)	Max. pilot weight (kg)	Harness weight ** (kg)
S	43	24 / 31	43	60	100	3,33
M	44	26 / 33	45	63	100	3,42
L	45	27 / 34	47	66	100	3,49
XL	46	27 / 35	50	69	100	3,53

* Seat plate width front/back, ** Weight including the protector, carabiners and speedbar.

Delivery package:

- 1 Harness with integrated cocoon
- 1 Carbon seat plate and foot plate
- 1 Cockpit (integrated into cocoon)
- 1 Rescue deployment handle
- 1 V-strap (two-piece)
- 2 Carabiners Dudek 20 kN



Since Dudek Paragliders products are subject to constant improvements, minor differences are possible between the manual and actual product. Dudek Paragliders withholds its rights to introduce such changes without individual notice.



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