

# Steady Eddy™ Kid's Trainer Combo Water Skis Package

#02396-L

## Operator's Manual



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## ***Water Skiing Safety Guide***

**Before you get in the water:** Skiing instruction is recommended before use. Instruction will teach general safety guidelines and proper skiing techniques, which may reduce your risk of injury.

- 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 behind one, it is important to wear a properly fitted life vest (personal flotation device / PFD) approved by your country's agency, USCG Type III, ISO, etc.
- Inspect all equipment prior to each use and check bindings, fins, and tow rope. 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 or ski 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.
- ALWAYS make sure the engine shutoff lanyard is connected to the driver.

**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 of a watercraft or be dragged directly behind the watercraft, as this is where the CO is exhausted.
- 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.
- For more information about the dangers of CO, go to the United States Coast Guard website: [www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org).

**Tow Ropes:** Tow ropes come in different lengths and strengths for different activities. Make sure that the rope you are using is suited for skiing 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 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.
- 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 a safe place before retrieving the rope.

- Tow ropes should be neatly stowed in the boat when not in use.

**Preparing to ski:** Always have a person other than the driver as an observer to watch the skier.

- Be sure the driver is aware of the experience and ability level of the skier.
- The driver, observer, and skier should discuss hand signals before skiing. 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 signals READY and there is no boat traffic ahead or nearby, take off in a straight line.
- Adjust boat speed appropriate to the skier's age, weight and ability as well as to the signals given by the skier.

**Skiing:** The watercraft and skier should always maintain a sufficient distance from obstacles so a skier falling or coasting 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 as this activity 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, the greater your risk of injury.
- Never make sharp turns that may cause a slingshot effect on the skier's speed.
- Skier should be towed at a speed appropriate for their ability level.

**Fallen skier:** Falling and injuries may occur while skiing.

- The watercraft driver should circle the fallen skier slowly to return the tow rope handle to the skier in the water or pick up the fallen skier.
- Always put the watercraft engine in neutral gear when near a fallen skier.
- Always keep the fallen skier in view and on the driver's side of the watercraft.
- For optimal safety, display a red or orange skier-down flag to alert other vessels that a skier has fallen.

**The warnings and practices in this Water Sports Safety Code represent common risks encountered by users. This code does not cover all instances of risk or danger so be sure to use common sense and good judgment at all times.**

For additional boating safety information and best practices, as well as tips for towing water sports, see the *Towed Water Sports Boating Handbook*. Visit [wsia.net/handbook](http://wsia.net/handbook) to learn more.





Use of this product and participation in water sports involves **INHERENT RISKS** of **SERIOUS INJURY** or **DEATH**. User **ASSUMES ALL RISK** of injury or death.

To reduce risks:

- **ALWAYS** wear a properly fitted USCG type III / Level 70N, ISO/CE or other agency approved Life Jacket or Personal Flotation Device (PFD).
- **NEVER** operate watercraft, ski or ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- **ALWAYS** use correct size trainers and bindings. Wet bindings and feet with water only.
- Bindings should be properly fitted for a snug, not tight, fit.
- **ANY FALL** may result in injury. Even when properly fitted and performing as designed, your feet may or may not come out of mounted bindings. Releasable bindings may or may not release.
- **ALWAYS** ski in control, at appropriate speeds for the conditions and within your limits. The faster you ski, the greater your risk of injury. Start slow.
- **ONLY** use on water with both a qualified driver and a capable observer.
- **NEVER** attach or tie tow rope to watercraft while towing children's trainers. **ALWAYS** have the capable observer hold tow rope handle within the hull of the watercraft.
- **IMMEDIATELY** release handle and rope when child falls.
- **AVOID** breathing engine exhaust. Move to fresh air if you smell engine exhaust to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. **NEVER** shorten the trainer rope to bring child closer to the watercraft. **KEEP AWAY** from watercraft transom or boarding platform when engine is running.
- Land starts, dock starts, or use of man-made features (including rails, sliders, ramps, jumps, kickers or other features) increase risk of injury.
- **NEVER** ski near swimmers, shallow water, other watercraft, or obstacles.
- **ALWAYS** read User's Manual before use. **NEVER** remove warning labels.



To prevent the risk of **SERIOUS INJURY** or **DEATH**, follow these guidelines and the Water Sports Responsibility Code.

## **WARNING**

**ANY FALL** may result in injury. Even when properly fitted and performing as designed, your feet may or may not come out of mounted bindings. Releasable bindings may or may not release.

**Skis and Bindings:** Always check the compatibility of your equipment by consulting your User's Manual, Installation Instructions or other materials and/or contact a trained technician.

- ALWAYS inspect skis, fins and bindings for loose screws, wear, cracks, delamination or tearing.
- ALWAYS check bindings and fins are fastened securely to the ski.
- DO NOT use worn or damaged equipment.

**Fitting Your Skis and Bindings:** Bindings must not be used by anyone for whom they were not properly fitted.

- Wet bindings and feet with water only.
- Bindings should be properly fitted for a snug, not tight, fit.

## How to Attach a Trainer Rope to Trainer Water Skis with a Stabilizer Bar

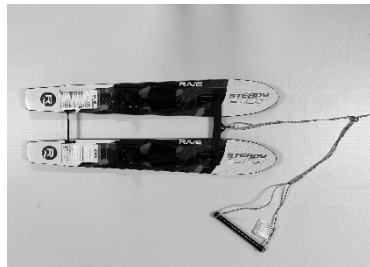
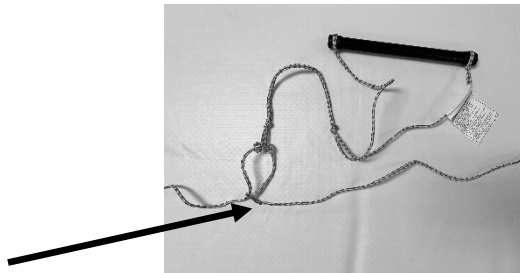
**Step One:** Attach the stabilizer bar to the skis with screws provided.



**Step Two:** Snap the black plastic hook attached to the skier end of the rope into the hole in the crossbar, with the hook facing away from the skier.



**Step Three:** Adjust the height of the child's handle rope to the child's height by sliding the toggle up or down on the rope.



**Step Four:** When the child is in the water and is ready to begin skiing, the opposite handle should be held by an adult observer in the back center of the watercraft. **Do not attempt to attach the rope to the watercraft with the handle.** This adult observer will be able to monitor the skier's progress and release the handle when the skier falls. Beginner skiers may forget to let go of the rope and will get dragged in the water, so this dual handle system allows for a smoother learning transition.

**NOTE: DO NOT ATTACH SKI LINE TO TOW BOAT**



Child holds one handle end  
while adult on boat holds  
opposite handle end

# Learning to water ski with the Aqua Buddy™ Trainer



The Aqua Buddy water ski/wakeboard trainer (sold separately on [ravesports.com](http://ravesports.com); item #02368) allows a beginner skier/boarder to start ABOVE THE WATER, eliminating the difficult learning curve and physical exertion associated with deep water starts. It may also be used by experienced skiers who struggle physically or emotionally with deep water starts.

The Aqua Buddy also eliminates the danger and difficult timing associated with dock starts. The Aqua Buddy travels WITH the skier until the appropriate time when the skier stands and is skiing on their own.

The Aqua Buddy can be used with most all types & sizes of water skis, trainer skis and wakeboards.



## To ski:

1. It is best to put on the water skis first before getting onto the Aqua Buddy. Make sure the bindings are properly adjusted for the level of skier/rider.
2. Young children can be set onto the Aqua Buddy by an adult. Bigger skiers can shift their body from the rear swim platform of the boat/watercraft (if so equipped) onto the seat of the Aqua Buddy. Otherwise, from the water, simply pull up onto the seat using the handles provided.
3. Hand the ski rope handle to the skier.
4. Slowly remove any slack in the rope and be sure that the boat, rope and skier are in a straight line and facing the same direction. Do NOT attempt to start with the boat facing a different direction than the skier.
5. Rider should keep skis straight, shoulder width apart with both ski tips out of the water.
6. Make sure the ski rope is between the skis, knees are slightly bent, and the rider is relaxed. Encouragement and communication from the boat driver is helpful.

7. Once the skier signals to the boat driver that he/she is ready, the boat driver should begin pulling slowly for a few feet to get the Aqua Buddy and the skier moving and then accelerate quickly. The skier should stand up rather quickly after the boat accelerates.

*Note: The skier will feel the pressure under his/her skis once the boat is underway. Stand up as soon as the boat is traveling fast enough to support the weight of the skier on their skis (usually within a few feet of pulling).*

Once standing, the skis will plane out very quickly and the skier will be skiing!!

8. The Aqua Buddy will simply float on its own as soon as the skier takes his/her weight off the seat. Retrieve the Aqua Buddy as soon as possible following the completion of the ski run.

**TIPS:**

- It is better to accelerate quickly and have the skier stand up sooner rather than attempt to drag the Aqua Buddy and skier too far. Dragging too far will often result in the skis veering off to one side, creating frustration and fatigue in the beginner skier. For skiers with more coordination or leg strength, this will be less of an issue.
- It is best to drag only a short distance then accelerate quickly while the skis are straight and properly aligned. Adjust take off speed and timing of when the skier stands if the skier fails to stand up and ski on the first attempt.



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January 2025