**GUIDELINES - STIHL WEEDEATER**

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| **Make:** | Stihl x 2 incl Grass Cutting Blades + Stihl AP300 S Battery x 4 |
| **Model:** | FSA 90 |
| **Serial No:** | 445050368, 445079041 |
| **Purchased:** | 2022 |
| **Supplier:** | Stihl Shop Glen Eden 09-8185144 |
| **Location:** | Motuihe Tractor workshop |
| **Used for:** | Weed clearing on track sides, around signage |
| **Who can operate:** | Motuihe volunteers approved by Ops Group or Trustee |
| **Training undertaken by:** | Motuihe Operations Group or Trustee |
| **Fuel Used:** | Electric |
| **Recharging:** | Recharge after each use |
| **Who recharges:** | Approved volunteer |
| **Serviced by:** | Stihl Shop Glen Eden |

**Important Note: The approved operator must allow time at the end of each day to complete the cleaning/maintenance process and store the equipment correctly as per the Manual**

**Safety**:

 **Weedeater**:

* Close fitting safety glasses to be worn
* Face protection required
* Wear long trousers from resistant material
* Wear robust safety boots with high grip soles, open footwear not acceptable
* If using metal cutting attachment – wear steel-toed safety boots
* Wear work gloves from resistant material
* Observe safety notices on kickback & take necessary precautions
* Observe safety notices on flying debris & take necessary precautions
* Maintain safe distance
* Use trimmer only for purposes for which they designed and as described in manual
* User is rested, good physical condition & mental health, is able to recognize and assess risks involved, of legal age, has received instructions, is approved, not under the influence of alcohol, medication or drugs
* Long hair tied back if applicable
* Whipped up dust can damage respiratory passages & cause allergic reactions
* Do not allow bystanders within 15 metres of work area
* Do not leave brushcutter unattended
* Ensure children cannot play with brushcutter or battery
* Electrical components of the brushcutter can produce sparks – Do not work in a highly flammable or explosive environment or in very dry conditions on Motuihe Island

**Battery:**

* Keep battery clean and dry – if battery is dirty or wet – clean battery and allow to dry
* Ensure battery is not damaged - do not use if damaged
* Do not charge a damaged battery
* Ensure battery is working and has not been modified
* Protect battery from heat & fire
* Use & store battery at temperatures between -10oC +50oC
* Do not immerse battery in fluids
* Observe battery’s permissible temperature range
* Use only approved batteries with Stihl FSA90
* Use batteries as described in manual
* Always remove battery during work breaks, transport, storage, maintenance or repairs
* Do not leave battery unattended
* Keep battery away from metallic objects
* Do not expose battery to high pressure or microwave
* Protect battery from chemicals and salts
* Do not insert objects into the apertures in the battery
* Do not modify battery
* Never connect battery terminals to metallic objects and cause a short circuit
* Do not open the battery
* Replace worn or damaged signs
* Fluid may leak from a damaged battery. If the fluid contacts the skin or eyes, this may cause irritation
* Avoid contact with the fluid
	+ In the event of contact with the skin, wash affected areas with plenty of soap and water
	+ In the event of contact with the eyes, rinse the eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and seek medical attention
* If battery emits an unusual odour or smoke – do not use the battery and keep it away from flammable materials
* If battery catches fire – try to extinguish the battery using a fire extinguisher or water

**Brushcutter:**

* Ensure brushcutter is not damaged – do not use if damaged
* Ensure brushcutter is clean
* Ensure controls function properly and have not been modified – do not use if controls do not function correctly
* Ensure combination of cutting attachment and deflector recommended in manual is mounted properly
* Genuine Stihl accessories are only fitted and attached correctly
* Brushcutter not to be modified
* Never insert objects in the opening of the brushcutter
* Replace worn or damaged labels
* Ensure deflector is not damaged if in use or to be used
* Ensure line limiter blade is correctly installed

**Maintenance:**

 **Brushcutter:**

* Ensure brushcutter cleaned after each use
* Remove battery after each use – store battery separately – (refer Storage instructions)
* Aggressive cleaning agents, a water jet or pointed objects can damage the weedeater/brushcutter – **Clean brushcutter/weedeater cleaned as per manual**
* Do not attempt to service or repair the weedeater, deflector, cutting attachment or battery
* If the trimmer, deflector, cutting attachment or battery require servicing or repairs, contact STIHL servicing dealer for assistance
* **Maintain the cutting attachment as described in the manual**
* Sharpening & Balance Metal cutting attachment – contact STIHL servicing dealer for assistance

**Battery:**

* Follow instructions in the manual regarding cleaning the battery after use

**How to Operate Equipment**: (for authorised volunteers only)

For full instructions on battery inserting/charging, weedeater/brushcutter use – refer to the manual **before** use.

**General:**

* Work calmly and in a considered manner
* If light and visibility are poor – do not use the weedeater
* Operate the weedeater alone
* Keep cutting attachment close to the ground
* Watch out for obstacles
* Work standing on the ground and keep your balance
* If tired, take a break
* Do not touch cutting attachment
* If cutting attachment is blocked by an object: Switch off the brushcutter and remove the battery. Only then should you remove the object.
* If the behaviour of the weedeater changes during operation or feels unusual, it may no longer be in a safe condition. Stop working, remove battery and consult a STIHL dealer
* Vibrations may occur during trimmer operation:
	+ Wear gloves
	+ Take breaks
	+ If signs of a circulatory disturbance occur – consult a doctor
* If cutting attachment makes contact with a foreign object during operation, the object or parts of it may be thrown at high speed. Remove foreign objects from the working area
* If rotating cutting attachment makes contact with a hard object, sparks may occur and the cutting attachment may be damaged. Spark can cause fires in a flammable environment
	+ Do not use in a flammable environment, i.e. dry grass/foliage conditions on Motuihe
	+ Make sure the cutting attachment is in a safe condition
* Cutting attachment continues to rotate for a short period after you release the trigger – Wait until the cutting attachment comes to a complete stop
* In an emergency, the user may start to panic and forget to take off the carrying system. This may result in serious injury to the user – Practice taking off the carrying system
* Kickout can be caused for the following reasons:
	+ The shaded area or the black area of the rotating metal cutting attachment comes into contact with a solid object and is suddenly braked
	+ The rotating metal cutting attachment gets pinched in the cut
	+ The risk of kickout is greatest in the black area
	+ These situations can abruptly decelerate or stop rotation of the cutting attachment and cause the cutting attachment to be thrown to the right or in the direction of the user (black arrow). The user can lose control of the weedeater. This can result in serious or fatal injuries.
	+ Hold the trimmer firmly with both hands
	+ Use the working techniques described in the manual
	+ Do not use the black area for cutting
	+ Use a combination of cutting attachment, deflector and carrying system recommended in the manual
	+ Cut with motor running at full speed

**Transport:**

* Weedeater may turn over or shift during transport. This may result in personal injury or damage to property.
	+ Push the retaining latch into the locked position
	+ Remove the battery
	+ If a metal cutting attachment is mounted – fix the transport guard
	+ Secure weedeater with lashing straps or a net to prevent it turning over and moving
* Battery may be damaged if it is exposed to certain ambient conditions and damage to property may occur
	+ Never transport a damaged battery
	+ Store the battery in non – conductive packaging
	+ Battery may turn over or shift during transport. This may result in personal injuries and damage to property
	+ Pack the battery in packaging in such a manner it cannot move
	+ Secure the packaging so that it cannot move

**Storage:**

 **Brushcutter:**

* Move retaining latch to the ‘locked’ position
* Remove the battery
* If a metal cutting attachment is mounted – fit the transport guard
* Store the brushcutter out of reach of children

**Battery**:

* Store the battery in a clean and dry condition and out of reach of children
* Store battery in a confined space
* Store battery separately from the weedeater and charger
* Store battery in non–conductive packaging
* Store battery at temperatures between -10oC +50oC