



SAFETY RULES:

- ___ Always wear a USCG approved life jacket**
- ___ Do not come between boat and any object, rocks or shore**
- ___ Protect Yourself from sun. Clothing/hats provide best protection**
You will burn easily.
- ___ Avoid use of sunscreen sprays as they can damage reefs**
- ___ Avoid rough water, Stay away from surf, rocks, cliffs, shallow or exposed reefs**
- ___ Keep clothing or small items away from motor screens**
- ___ Pay close attention to motor run time**
- ___ In case of power loss STAY WITH THE BOAT**
- ___ Use your legs for additional propulsion**
- ___ Follow all state/federal boating regulations**
- ___ Do not Approach or Chase Marine Or Wildlife**
- ___ Not for use with more than one rider**
- ___ Do not remove flags if posted**
- ___ Do not go by yourself. Have a snorkel buddy**
- ___ Do not operate under the influence of alcohol or drugs**
- ___ Do not use near gas powered watercraft**

- ___ Stay away from shallow shoals, rocks, rough shoreline and cliffs**
- ___ Stay off beach unless instructed by Snorkel Buddy associate**
- ___ Do Not attempt to launch without Snorkel Buddy Associate**
- ___ Do not stand or sit on pontoons, boogie-board, or frame**
- ___ Using fins can increase battery time and can assist in navigating**
- ___ Pay close attention to power usage**

- ___ Do not tow Snorkel Buddy behind motorized watercraft**
- ___ Do Not Open Water Tight Hatches**
- ___ If you plan of diving you are required to use the Diver Down flag**
- ___ Do not let your body come between the boat and the shoreline Or any other obstruction**
- ___ Maximum capacity 300 lbs. (ask about double boogie boards)**

___ EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: Snorkel Buddy (SB) was designed with safety being the most important aspect of our design and your experience:

1. Its features include two self-enclosed, independent electrical propulsion systems. If one pontoon loses power the other pontoon should still function perfectly. Each motor and propeller are covered with a stainless-steel metal screen that will prevent fingers or toes from getting injured **HOWEVER**, keep your loose clothing and little hands away from the screen area and you'll be safe. If you experience a loss of power from one of the pontoons use the other pontoon to bring you in. You can use your legs and feet to guide or steer the boat.
2. Each Snorkel Buddy (SB) is equipped with a specially designed, custom-made 'boogie board'. It will provide significantly buoyancy and is more stable than traditional boogie boards and will not break. The pontoons and the boogie board will keep you afloat!!
3. A 20 ft. ankle leash is attached to one of the pontoons and your ankle. **DO NOT REMOVE IT. STAY WITH YOUR SB.** Underwater currents, top water currents and wind can all be going in different directions causing the boat to go one way and **YOU** the other. These currents can be strong and change without notice causing challenges for even the strongest swimmers. Never remove the leash unless you are approaching shore, cliffs or shallow reefs with exposed rocks and coral, and stay with the SB within the confines of the leash. Do not attempt to swim to back to shore without the SB.
4. Each Snorkel Buddy is equipped with an air-horn which should be used as a distress signal. Use 3 short blasts, 3 long blasts and then repeat until you know that someone is coming.
5. Also provided are 2 safety flares, 3 light sticks, a whistle, and a throw rope. Hold onto the rope coming from the bag and then throw the bag. This can be used to assist in rescuing someone or throw the rope toward a rescue vessel. You'll find these items in the dry bag provided.

Cell Phones: Reception can vary so cell phones are not a reliable emergency device...however they often have GPS features that assist in Emergency Responders locating you and having one is better than not. If you have a water-proof pouch use it. Some phones claim they are water-proof. We have proven those claims are often misleading.

HOW TO USE A SNORKEL BUDDY

A Snorkel Buddy is a battery powered, solar charged catamaran style, single person vessel. It has 2 pontoons made from HDPE poly-ethylene. Each pontoon (or hull) has an electric motor encased within and controlled by 3 speed buttons located on the handle of the pontoon. The pontoons are connected by a stainless steel frame to which a specially designed boogie board is attached. **The rider lays down or kneels on the board and uses the handle on each pontoon to control the direction and speed of the Snorkel Buddy.** The 3 buttons on each handle are green, blue, and yellow. Green is for slow, Blue for faster, and Yellow for reverse. Using both green or both blue buttons at the same time steers the SB straight and forward. Any other combination of buttons will cause the SB to turn. To spin the boat around simply use one yellow button and the blue button on the other pontoon. Use this technique to maneuver quickly or in tight situations. Water current, waves & wind will also cause the Snorkel Buddy to turn somewhat. Just use the buttons to move you back on your desired direction.

GREEN + GREEN = FORWARD SLOW
 BLUE + BLUE = FORWARD FASTER
 YELLOW + YELLOW = STOP OR REVERSE
 YELLOW + BLUE = SPIN
 Any BLUE OR GREEN by itself will TURN



If you let go of the buttons the SB will stop. The motor(s) will only be on if you are holding the buttons down. If you let go of the buttons, leave the SB, or fall off, the SB will stop. It will not run-away without you...and you will not leave it as long as your ankle tether (or leash) is attached.

The speed of your SB will slow down as batteries become weaker. If you are expecting to travel some distance or keep the SB for an extended period of time, (more than 90 minutes) ask about attaching our solar panels if not already on the boat. They can significantly extend your adventure. There is no extra charge for the solar panels.

Our Snorkel Buddies have been used by local law enforcement and US Coast Guard personnel and meet or exceed safety equipment, design, and operational requirements. In the event of rescue response is required the SB is a bright color of red and rides high in the water. This makes it much easier to see than a lone swimmer. We have been told by many officials, they believe that using a SB could significantly decrease swimming, snorkeling or diving fatalities in Hawaii.

WARNING: Your Snorkel Buddy weights over 400 pounds, is very buoyant, and moves easily in the water. Waves in Hawaii are very powerful...even little ones. A wave or swell can move you and the SB 20-40 feet in a second or two. IF YOU ARE BETWEEN THE SB AND ANY STRUCTURE you will most likely be injured. You could be dragged through rocks and coral or

squished between your SB and any structure. Stay away from shore, cliffs, exposed rocks or reefs, waves, other boats, buoys etc.

REEF PROTECTION:

There are two types of protection to consider; 1) How to protect yourself from the reef environment and 2) How you can protect the reef from human interference and damage.

- 1) The ocean and reefs are living eco-systems and can and will protect itself if possible. While snorkeling/diving you can encounter Sea Urchins, Jelly Fish (sea jellies), Cone Shells, Eels, Poisonous Fish, Rays, Aggressive Fish, Sharks, Coral and Rocks. Most common injuries come from cuts and scratches from coral & rocks. They can emit a toxin that acts as a blood anti-coagulant. This causes even the smallest scratches to continue bleeding. They also may have bacteria that will cause your wounds to become infected. **DON'T TOUCH!** Now I sound like your mother. Stay away from any wave or swell that could move you onto the rocks and shoreline. Sea Urchins are also very painful. They are beautiful and colorful but each quill has a tiny barb that can pierce through even a suit and into your skin. The quill will break and keep the barb under your skin. It can easily become infected. Walking or standing on the reef can be very dangerous to you and the reef.
Sharks are seen occasionally. If you encounter them act disinterested and calmly leave their area. Do not provoke them or attempt to stay near them.

The Snorkel Buddy is a boat or vessel just like a canoe or kayak or out-rigger. Be aware of what the waves and swells are doing. They can move you and the SB 15-20 feet in a couple of seconds. They can easily carry you onto rocks, reefs, cliffs, and beach. Stay away from breakers/surf and rocks. If you do encounter unexpected waves and swells keep SB facing into the waves/surf. You can also point the SB away from the surf if you can safely head toward a beach...NOT rocks. Do not let your body come between the shoreline (beach, rocks, cliffs) and the boat. It weighs 400lb and can injure you with a little push from a wave. Going into the surf sideways can also damage or destroy SB and possibly injure you in the process. SB's are \$7,500 to replace (you are responsible \$\$) **BUT you are irreplaceable.** Keep your safety first always.

- 2) Our reefs are alive just like the fish and mammals and other creatures. The ocean takes good care of them but we need to take good care of the ocean as well. Here is a list of DO NOTS:
 - a. Do Not feed anything to anything.
 - b. Do Not attempt to be best friends with sea life.
 - c. Do Not touch them (including coral, rocks, shells).
 - d. Do Not sit or stand on the reef and avoid touching.
 - e. Do Not chase or harass or attempt to swim with the dolphins, the fish, turtles, or mammals. (State and Federal Offense)

- f. Do Not remove anything from the ocean except for trash (feel free to bring back all the trash you can carry).
- g. DO Take fins if you have them even if you don't plan to snorkel.
- h. DO Limit or Eliminate your sunscreen* Rash guard type shirts/shorts work great
- i. DO TAKE all the pictures you want with a waterproof camera
- j. GoPro's do not float by themselves. Protect your gear. I found out the hard way.

*Sunscreen is believed to be harmful to the reefs. Sprays are believed to be the worst. Use lotion if you must. An alternative to sunscreen is clothing such as polyester rash guard apparel, wet suits, and hats. IF YOU DON'T COVER UP you will burn even on a cloudy day and possibly ruin the rest of your vacation in Hawaii. The most common skin color for tourists is hot pink.

SCUBA DIVING: Snorkel Buddies do not provide or service any kind of scuba equipment and is not authorized to give any advice or training related to scuba diving. Divers who have completed a nationally recognized scuba education program such as PADI or NAUI and can present their certification card are welcome to load their equipment on the Snorkel Buddy frame and use Snorkel Buddy for transportation and as a dive platform within 1 mile of shoreline. You may be required to bring an EPIRB **Emergency Position Indicator Radio Beacon**. If you do not have an EPIRB you can rent one from us for \$15 while using a Snorkel Buddy as your diving platform. Anyone caught transporting scuba tanks or scuba diving while using a Snorkel Buddy without prior written authorization will be fined \$500 per person and forfeit any and all deposits.

SKIN DIVING & FISHING: You are welcome to use a Snorkel Buddy for 'Skin or Free Diving'. You will need to bring your own equipment. You can use Snorkel Buddy for spear fishing where allowed. You are required to have any required permits and know the regulations for where you intend to fish. Ask about our 'kama'aina' discount if applicable.