

# DRYSUIT



  
**Ocean Rodeo**

## Congratulations on your choice of an Ocean Rodeo Drysuit

Your suit has been designed to provide you with the highest degree of mobility, temperature versatility and ruggedness. Built with the finest quality materials and over 30 years of design and production excellence, we are certain that your suit will be everything you hoped for and more.

Each Ocean Rodeo Drysuit is individually inspected and tank tested before it leaves our factory to ensure the highest quality.

From time to time your suit, including its zipper and seals, may require professional service. If, for any reason, you suspect that service is required, or your suit and/or its components do not perform as they should, then you should immediately discontinue its use and have it evaluated and/or serviced at your authorized Ocean Rodeo dealer.

A little effort goes a long way to keeping your suit in top form. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the care and maintenance and the warranty information. If you have any questions about your suit, please do not hesitate to contact your authorized Ocean Rodeo dealer to assist you.

To help you maintain your suit we have provided information on the following pages.

### Important notice

This is not an instruction manual, nor does it eliminate the necessity for obtaining professional instruction in the operation of an Ocean Rodeo Drysuit. The user is therefore advised to obtain such instructions as well as familiarizing him/herself with the information contained in this manual prior to water-borne operation of any drysuit.

### Warning

*Improper use or misuse of this drysuit could result in exposure to thermal hazards, including rapid body overheating or cooling, resulting in stroke or seizure.*

**Always wear an approved personal flotation device (PFD) when wearing a drysuit.**

## Latex neck and wrist seals

Your Ocean Rodeo Drysuit is fitted with latest technology in latex dry suit seals. New blends of latex and polyurethane have increased the life span and durability of latex seals compared to those of the past. **The latex/PU blended seals can also be easily repaired if torn! (see repairs section for details).** Over time, latex seals can dry out and crack. Avoid contact with petroleum-based products such as lotions and petroleum-based silicone lubricants as they will deteriorate latex rubber.

For lubrication, use seal saver or a food-grade vegetable-based silicone spray in a pump bottle (avoid aerosol). Baby powder, talcum powder or cornstarch are great alternatives. Avoid sharp objects (rings, earrings, and fingernails) as they may tear the latex. Extended exposure to sunlight will damage latex seals. Extreme cold may stiffen latex seals. Make sure your seals are warmed up to room temperature before attempting to stretch into them.

## Take care of your drysuit zipper

The zipper on your drysuit is very expensive, so please look after it! Drysuit zippers and fine sand are not a good combination! Wash with fresh water after every use.

Keep your zipper lubricated. Paraffin wax is ideal. Do not use oil-based lubricants or silicone spray as they can damage the zipper material. Failure to wax your dry zipper will result in premature wear.

When storing your suit be sure not to kink the zipper (see Folding a drysuit on page 7).



## Donning your drysuit

The first step is to pull the suspenders out to the sides.

*Suspenders are optional.*



Step 1

Make sure the seal in sitting flat against your ankle for the best seal and comfort.



Step 3

Now carefully slide your feet through the ankle seals. It is easiest to sit while performing this task. Do not force your foot through the opening as this may tear the seal! Push your foot partially into the seal, and then use your fingers to carefully stretch the latex ankle seals over your foot.\*



Step 2

If you have suspenders, adjust them for a comfortable fit. The suspenders should hold the suit up in the crotch (snug but not too tight). If the crotch is too low, leg mobility will be decreased.



Step 4

### **Important**

*If at any time you find the latex seals difficult to slide on, talcum powder, baby powder, hair conditioner or a mild soap can reduce the friction against your skin.*

Push hands through the latex wrist seals, using your free hand to expand the wrist seal opening.\*



Step 5

Have your partner carefully zip you up ensuring a full seal at the end of the zipper. If you have to zip up alone, hook the zipper lanyard onto a stationary hook and carefully pull the zipper closed by moving away from the hook. Be careful not to catch any undergarments in the zipper teeth, as this will cause damage and result in leaks. If the zipper does not slide smoothly, check for obstructions. Do not force the zipper closed.



Step 7

Stretch the neck seal over your head, using both hands to expand the neck opening.\*



Step 6



Step 8

After zipping up, remove some of the air in the suit by squatting down and opening the neck seal with your hand.

\* If seals are too tight, see *Fitting latex seals on page 6* for further instructions.

## Neck dam

Your Ocean Rodeo Drysuit comes fitted with a neck dam. Simply Velcro the rear closure after donning the suit. Make sure to have the neck dam opened before entering or exiting the neck seal.

## Removing your drysuit

When removing a shoulder-entry drysuit, follow the same steps as previously described in reverse.

### Helpful hint for removing ankle seals

Find a nice comfy seat, and pull suit down inside out. Slide fingers under inside ankle seal and stretch over foot. Do not stand on the leg of the suit and force your foot through the seal!

This will damage the ankle seal.

## Fitting latex seals

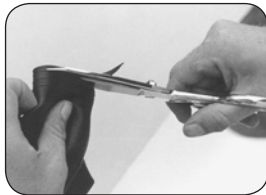
You may want to fine-tune the fit of your latex seals. If your latex seals seem too tight, they can be trimmed to create a comfortable fit. Using scissors, carefully trim one ring at a time, checking the fit as you go along. You do not have to wear your suit during this process, just slide one foot, wrist or your neck into the seals to test the fit as you go along. The seals should be snug but not tight. You may want your dealer to assist you in fitting your seals.

### Warning

*Neck seals that are too tight may restrict blood flow to the brain resulting in serious injury.*



Step 1



Step 2

**Folding a drysuit***Step 1*

With the zipper open, roll the suit starting at the ankles working forward towards the neck seal.

Loosely fold the arms together over the body of the suit. Do not stuff your suit in a bag that is too small, as the zipper may get bent.

*Step 2*

## Drysuit zipper care

Keep your zipper clean from sand and debris by spraying with clean fresh water after every use. Store your suit with the zipper in the open position. Stubborn debris lodged in the zipper can be removed with a soft tooth brush and mild hand or dish soap.

When opening or closing a zipper, avoid catching undergarment material in the zipper teeth. If the zipper slider becomes jammed, do not continue pulling. Back zipper up and clear debris or clothing. Do not force your zipper.

Keep your zipper lubricated. Paraffin wax is ideal. Do not use oil-based lubricants or silicone spray as they can damage the zipper material. Be sure not to fold the zipper back on itself when storing your suit (see Folding a drysuit). For prolonged storage, it is best to hang your suit from the legs, with the zipper in the open position. Hang it in a cool dry place, out of direct sunlight.



*Zipper care*



## Frequently asked questions

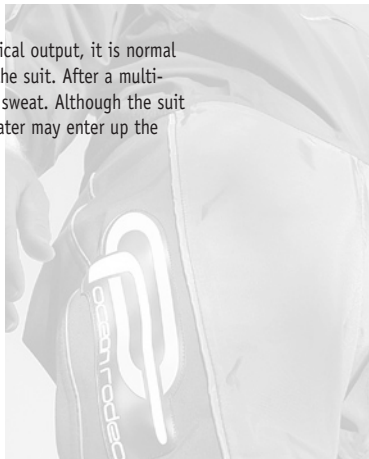
### *What do I wear under my drysuit?*

Ocean Rodeo Drysuits are incredibly versatile. Many people believe drysuits are for cold conditions only...wrong! You can use your drysuit in tropical waters right through to iceberg jumping.

How much underwear you use depends on the temperature and your activity level. Typically first time drysuit users bulk up with too much fleece inside their suit. For moderate conditions a 10 ounce fleece pant and shirt is perfect. For warmer conditions you can wear shorts and a t-shirt under the suit, for freezing (snow/blizzard) conditions throw on a second layer of fleece.

### *Will I stay completely dry?*

Depending on the conditions, and your level of physical output, it is normal to have some condensation on the inner surface of the suit. After a multi-hour session your undergarments may be damp from sweat. Although the suit has been designed to take extreme impacts, some water may enter up the seals during big wipeouts.



## Repairs — finding a leak

We advise taking your suit to your Ocean Rodeo dealer for repairs. However, there are times in the field when some basic repairs can save a day on the water.

What you need: mild soap, pop cans, water container, pump (kite pump or air mattress pump), twine, and chalk.

1. Place pop cans in wrist and ankle seals and tie snug with twine
2. Gather neck seal around hose from hand pump and tie snug with twine
3. Pump up suit until fully inflated
4. With suit inflated, pour soapy water over suspected leak. Mark areas where bubbles appear with chalk

## Repairs — fixing a hole in a drysuit

Now that you have marked the leak with chalk you can proceed to repair the hole.

What you need: dry adhesive patch (available from your Ocean Rodeo dealer), Acetone, paper towel, hot air source (a good quality hair dryer is adequate) and a pair of scissors.



*Step 1*

Cut patch to desired size and shape. Round off any points.



*Step 2*

Liberaly clean the area around the hole with the Acetone. Do same with patch.



Step 3

Promptly apply patch over hole and press firmly.



Step 4

Using a hot air source, apply heat to patch. USE EXTREME CARE to keep moving the heat around and not to focus it for any period of time. Press patch firmly.

**Caution**

*May be extremely hot.*



Step 5

Let patch cool for 15 minutes and inspect bond. Adhesive film should be bonded to both surfaces. If bond is not complete, repeat step 4.



Step 6

*Allow repair to sit for 24 hours for optimum bond and carefully inspect before using your suit.*

## Changing latex wrist or ankle seals

Obtain a latex seal kit from your Ocean Rodeo dealer.

What you need: Ocean Rodeo latex seal kit, sharp scissors, Acetone (or similar product), clean cloth, plastic container (with the same circumference as wrist or ankle opening of suit), hot air source (heat gun or hair dryer), small roller.

Turn sleeve/ankle/neck inside out and carefully cut off damaged seal (cut just below seam created when latex seal was originally sewn to the suit).



*Step 1*

With suit inside out, insert plastic container into wrist or ankle so a portion of the container is exposed past the arm end (must be a snug fit). For necks lay the neck opening over a large ball.



*Step 2*

Take the strip of dry adhesive tape and remove the paper from one side.



*Step 3*

Take your cloth, wet with Acetone, and wipe clean the suit surface around the cuff perimeter. Immediately after this, wipe the exposed adhesive on the tape strip.



*Step 4*

Now wrap tape around edge of cuff. As you make the full wrap, peel off final layer of release paper, and overlap adhesive film so there is no exposed suit material on the cuff edge.



Step 5

Wipe Acetone over the exposed adhesive film.



Step 6

Now carefully lift and stretch latex seal over plastic tub and cover /overlap the adhesive film. Have a least 1" (2.5 cm) overlap between seal and suit cuff.



Step 7

Apply heat to seal at adhesive point. **USE EXTREME CAUTION!** Keep moving the heat around and do not focus it at any one point for an extended period of time. **Don't melt a hole in your suit!**

*TIP: Exposed adhesive film will go clear around top edge of seal when sufficiently heated.*



Step 8

Using a small roller, or your thumbs, press the seal around the new connection to ensure a solid bond. **Don't burn your fingers!**



Step 9

Allow to cool for 15 minutes and inspect your bond with a good "tug". Adhesive bond should be holding to both surfaces. If bond is not secure, repeat heat process, and inspect bond again.



Step 10

## Patching Ripped Self-Repair Latex Neck or Wrist Seals



*Step 1*

You will need a Self-Adhesive Latex Patch (available from your Ocean Rodeo dealer), scissors, masking tape, acetone, roller (optional), heat gun or hot hair dryer.

Turn sleeve inside out, realign edges of rip and secure with masking tape on the inside of the seal.



*Step 2*

Carefully turn suit rightside out



*Step 3*

On the outside, clean the surrounding area using acetone.



*Step 4*

Cut latex strip to extend one inch above and below rip and remove paper backing. Clean adhesive side with acetone and position over rip.



*Step 5*



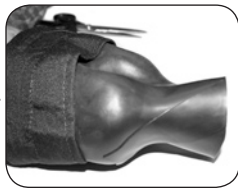
*Step 6*



*Step 7*

Heat the patch well with a heat gun or hair dryer and press firmly with your fingers or a roller.  
Caution - latex will be hot!

Wait 20 minutes and inspect thoroughly.  
Repeat Step 6 if the latex is not adhered fully.  
Let set for 24 hours to ensure the best bond.



*Step 8*

*Note - if rip is no more than ¼" simply cut away with sharp scissors. Do not cut all the way around the seal as this may make the seal too large and may cause leakage.*

## Important safety precautions

1. Always wear a life jacket (PFD)
2. If you are a first time drysuit user, test your drysuit under controlled conditions so you are familiar with its performance
3. Use the correct amount of insulation for the water temperature, air temperature and your exercise rate
4. Check your zipper and seals before each session
5. If your suit is torn or damaged during use, discontinue its use immediately. Have it repaired by a qualified individual.
6. Perform preventative maintenance and repairs on your suit regularly, or have them serviced by a qualified individual
7. Know your limitations and do not exceed them

All stock Ocean Rodeo Drysuits are covered by a one-year warranty offered to the original purchaser on workmanship, with a one-year warranty on materials. Warranty is limited to the repair or replacement of the Ocean Rodeo product at our option. This warranty does not cover damage caused by normal wear and tear, fading, misuse or negligence. This warranty is invalid if unauthorized repairs have been carried out. Suits used for professional or commercial use (rentals, instruction, etc.) are covered under warranty for 30 days. Repairs or alterations not covered by warranty will be billed to the customer.

### ***Important Notice***

Ocean Rodeo does not offer a warranty on latex drysuit seals.

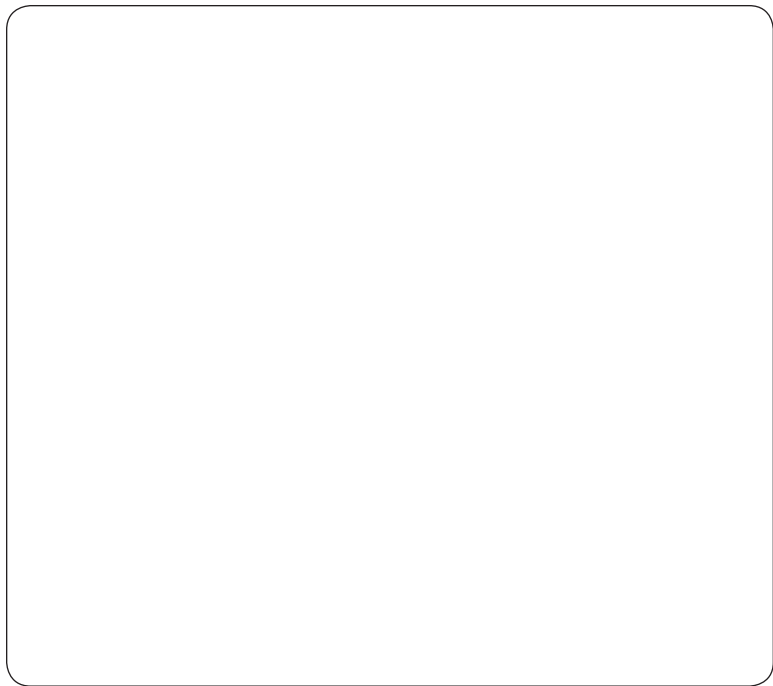
## Warranty Registration

Your warranty registration number is found on the back of this manual.

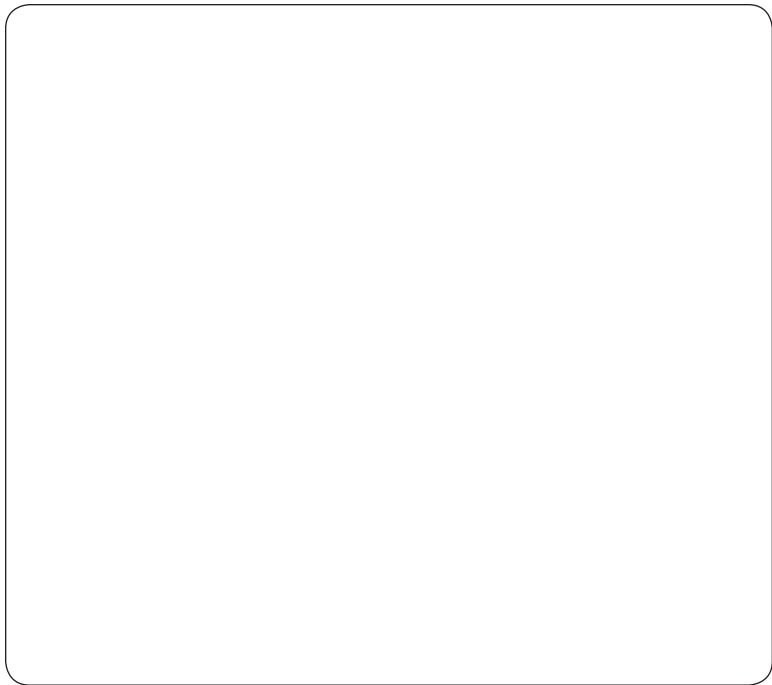
Don't forget to register your suit online at [www.oceanrodeo.com](http://www.oceanrodeo.com) or mail in your warranty card.

Warranty Registration No.	_____			
Name	_____			
Age	_____			
Sex	<input type="radio"/> Male	<input type="radio"/> Female		
Address	_____			
City	_____			
State/Province	_____			
Country	_____			
Postal Code/Zip	_____			
Email	_____			
Store Name	_____			
Date of Purchase	_____			
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	<input type="radio"/> Surfing	<input type="radio"/> Wakeboarding	<input type="radio"/> Paddlesports	
How did you hear about Ocean Rodeo?	<input type="radio"/> Dealer	<input type="radio"/> Friend	<input type="radio"/> Trade Show	
	<input type="radio"/> Internet	<input type="radio"/> Television	<input type="radio"/> Magazine Ad/Article	
What is your other favorite sport?	<input type="radio"/> Skiing	<input type="radio"/> Windsurfing	<input type="radio"/> Climbing	<input type="radio"/> Surfing
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Why did you purchase from Ocean Rodeo?	<input type="radio"/> Quality	<input type="radio"/> Fit	<input type="radio"/> Design/Style	
	<input type="radio"/> Availability	<input type="radio"/> Price	<input type="radio"/> Reputation	
Please write any other comments or questions you may have	_____			
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Notes



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