

Safety Awareness Program KDW- 09 Rip/Table Saw

Introduction.

This safety Awareness procedure forms part of the Knox and District Woodworkers Inc. Safety Awareness Program, and details the safety requirements to be adopted in the operation of the equipment described below.

Definition.

The Rip/Table Saws at KDWC are electrically driven circular saws that consist of a Work Table, Fence, Blade Guard, Riving Knife and Dust Extraction and has been designed for the cutting of straight cuts of timber with the grain. These saws are fitted with appropriate guarding and this guarding is not to be removed under any circumstances, except by the authorized personnel when performing maintenance work.



Fig 1 Rough Cutting



Fig 2 Fine Precision Cutting

Safety. (General).

Prior to the operation of the Rip/Table Saw the following safety rules must be applied.

- Be aware of the emergency stop procedure. (Ref KDW-01)
- Member must ensure that the extraction outlet is open at all times when operating the equipment.
- All timber must be checked for nails, screws and other imbedded objects through the use of the clubs metal detector. **(No logs or irregular shapes to be cut on this saw).**
- Ensure the guard is properly attached and operating.
- Ensure the member is aware of other members in the immediate area.
- Ensure work area is clear of obstructions that may cause tripping or falling.



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Safety. (General) Cont'

- Ensure member is aware of dangers associated with the movement of the blade.
- The dangers of loose clothing or long hair being caught in machinery is well documented, therefore when using this machine, the member must wear the appropriate clothing. (Ref KDW-01)
- Member must ensure that the machine is turned off and the extraction outlet is closed when operations are complete.

Operation.

The Club currently has two Rip/Table Saws one (Fig 1) is designated for rough cutting and ripping heavy timber. The other saw(Fig2) is designated for fine and precision cutting.

Each saw works on the principle of a circular saw blade set below a table which fully encloses the blade and the driving mechanisms of the saw. Prior to cutting any timber on this type of saw the blade must be raised to the full height. **(No logs or irregular shapes to be cut on these saws).**

The guard must be lowered as close as is practicable to the work piece and secured in line with the blade. Check that the riving knife is attached properly and that it is in line with blade. When feeding timber through this type of saw **always use a push stick when your hands come within approximately 300mm of the blade.** When cutting, let the blade do the work, there is no need to push hard for the blade to cut, a gentle even pressure on the work-piece applied to the blade and the saw will cut through at an even speed. **(Keep hands and Fingers well away from the moving blade and always use a Push Stick).** When these saws are in operation you must assume that the whole area is a danger zone and great care must be taken when in the vicinity of these machines.

Housekeeping.

When operating any machinery or equipment ensure there are no obstacles, work or any other obstruction cluttering the work area. It is part of each member's responsibility to clean up the machine and surrounding area after use and ensure an adequate level of housekeeping is maintained throughout the workshop area ensuring the safety of themselves and all other members.

Conclusion.

The above safety requirement is intended to ensure the safety and well being of all club members, for detailed instruction on the operation of the above equipment refer to the appropriate club members. It is expected that each member will ensure that all work undertaken is carried out with consideration and due care for all.