



Title	Chain Saw (petrol) and Slabbing Safety Procedure
Procedure	Chain Saw (petrol) and Slabbing Safety Procedure 001
Date Approved	05/2017
Next Review	05/2018 or when a new machine or attachment is purchased or being used in the workshop for the first time by a member.
Distribution	All members
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Other relevant documents	Induction to machines procedure, Machines Safety Procedure, Workshop Attendance procedure, Chain Saw (petrol) Safety Procedure.
Document History	
Version	Notes
001	Second Issue no changes made.



## SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURES

# Chainsaw (petrol) and Slabber Operation

**DO NOT** use this machine unless you have been instructed in its safe use and operation and then been approved and registered in the club as authorised to use it.



Safety glasses must be worn at all times in work areas.



Long and loose hair must be contained.



Appropriate footwear with substantial uppers must be worn.



Close fitting/protective clothing and leg protection must be worn.



Hearing protection must be worn for this operation.



Gloves must not be worn when using this machine.

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS - Chainsaw

1. Ensure the machine is clean to facilitate detection of loose, worn or defective parts and other safety hazards.
2. Inspect fuel lines, tank and area around carburettor for fuel leaks. Do not operate unit if leaks are found.
3. Prepare the correct fuel / oil mixture recommended for the machine.
4. Top up dedicated bar oil reservoir with the recommended oil prior to and whenever refilling fuel reservoir.
5. Check the effectiveness of chain brakes and operating controls.
6. Ensure safety guards and other safety devices are fitted, secure and functioning.
7. Check condition of anti-vibration mountings of the handles
8. Ensure the chain is sharp and correctly tensioned prior to and during operation.
9. Faulty equipment must not be used. Report suspect machinery immediately

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS - Slabber

10. Ensure the log is on flat ground or a flat surface with sufficient safe working area around the log to be slabbed.
11. Check slabber is assembled as per manufacturers' manual with no unnecessary loose fittings.
12. Prepare and secure the guide rail onto the log to be cut ensuring it extends beyond both ends of the log to allow sufficient support and travel for the chain saw mill assembly.



13. Set the mill cutting depth and check that rail securing pins or clamps are not in the path of the chain blade.

### **OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS**

1. Have a minimum of two (2) persons in attendance at all times.
2. Keep spectators well away from the work area.
3. When starting the chainsaw: (a) ensure no obstructions are present particularly near the tip of the guide bar, (b) ensure that the decompression mechanism is activated to prevent kickback when attempting to start the saw.
4. Start the cut with the saw chain rotating at full speed before contact with the wood, rotating the saw for a smooth entry into the wood.
5. Keep a firm grip on the mill with both hands and feed the saw into the log allowing the chain to do the work. Do not force the cut.
6. Maintain a proper balance and secure footing when operating the chainsaw slabbing system.
7. Be aware of the guide bar nose at all times when the saw chain is in motion.
8. Pay full attention to the operation and be alert for movement of the material being cut.
9. Use wedges in the cut behind the mill and be alert to situations that may cause material to pinch the top of the saw chain.
10. Stop the chain saw after clearing the cut and apply the hand brake when saw is at rest.
11. Reset the cutting depth of the mill.
12. Avoid accumulation of debris.
13. Repeat steps 1 to 12 for each cut.
14. Allow a hot chainsaw to cool before refilling the fuel tank.
15. Check sharpness and tension again.

### **HOUSEKEEPING**

1. Remove any foreign material from motor and guards.
2. Check and clean the air filter periodically during and after use.
3. Leave the machine in a safe, clean & tidy state.
4. Clean up the work area.
5. Ensure any slabs to be stored are suitably end sealed and are evenly spaced in the stack with spacer sticks at regular intervals to minimise distortion and cracking of the slabs during storage.