# OPERATOR'S INSTRUCTION MANUAL

# Ariens Fairway®

#### SERIAL NUMBER

MODEL 912970 - 000001 MODEL 912971 - 000001 MODEL 912972 - 000001

AND UP

#### 📤 SAFETY MESSAGE 🛦

The product for which you have requested information or replacement parts is not a current product. The replacement models incorporate product designs, safety features, safety instructions or warnings which represent the latest "State Of The Art" developments. For your safety and those around you please contact your nearest Ariens/Gravely Dealer for a demonstration of the current product safety provisions and features.



#### WARRANTY

Ariens Company hereby warrants to the original retail purchaser all new products of its own manufacture to be free from defects in material and workmanship, for a period of one year except when used commercially or for rental purposes in which case the warranty period shall be for 45 days from date of original purchase, subject to the following exceptions:

- Engine parts and service must be handled by the respective engine manufacturer.
- A 90 day warranty will be extended on belts, tires, throttle controls, friction discs, or any other items subject to normal wear:
- 3. No warranty is extended to any equipment which has been misused, neglected or damaged by accident. Ariens Company shall not be responsible for damage in transit or handling by any common carrier, and under no circumstances, within or without the warranty period, will the Company be liable for damages for loss of use, or damages resulting from delay, or any consequential damages.

It is the consumer's responsibility for: (1) Normal maintenance as greasing, gear case lubrication, minor adjustments, etc. (2) Transportation of any Ariens product to and from the place the warranty work is performed.

Ariens warranty WILL NOT APPLY to any products repaired or altered by anyone other than an Authorized Service Distributor or Authorized Service Dealer.

Any transportation charges incurred on any equipment claimed defective, which shall include time and expense of the distributor or dealer for pickup, and/or return of the equipment, shall be borne by the purchaser.

Ariens Company reserves the right to incorporate any changes in design into its products without obligation to make such changes on units previously manufactured.

#### DISCLAIMER OF FURTHER WARRANTY

There are no warranties, expressed or implied, oral or written, in fact or by operation of law, nor shall there be a warranty or merchantability, on any of the company's products except as otherwise expressly stated above. In no event shall the company be liable for any indirect, special or consequential damages such as loss of anticipated profits or other economic loss in connection

anticipated profits or other economic loss in connection with or arising out of the existence, furnishing, functioning, or the ultimate consumer's use of any products supplied by the company.



#### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Improper use of riding lawn mowers, garden tractors and attachments on the part of the operator can result in injury. To reduce this possibility, give complete and undivided attention to the job at hand.

This mower conforms to the requirements of USA Standard B71,1-1968,

#### TRAINING

- 1. Never allow children to operate the machine.
- 2. Learn how to stop quickly.
- 3. Instruct children to stay away from the mower while it is in operation.

#### **PREPARATION**

- 1. Before starting, clear area of debris.
- 2. Set mower at highest cutting height when mowing on rough ground or in tall weeds.
- 3. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.
- 4. Do not operate mower in wet grass.
- 5. Do not operate mower with guards removed.
- 6. Wear substantial shoes and long pants while using mower.
- 7. Fill gas tank outdoors, but never while engine is running. Avoid spilling.

#### **OPERATION**

 Give complete and undivided attention to the job at hand.

#### 2. Do not operate mower in the vicinity of other persons.

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3. Stop the motor or engine whenever you leave the mower operating position.

4. Operate the engine at the slowest speed that will cut satisfactorily.

- 5. Stand clear of the front of self-propelled mowers.
- 6. Use caution when operating the mower on uneven terrain. Maintain good footing.
- 7. Do not let others ride with you on riding mowers.
- 8. Check for breakage and repair any damage after striking foreign object.

#### MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

- 1. Follow maintenance instructions given by manufacturer.
- 2. Have a competent serviceman inspect the mower each year.
- 3. Disconnect the spark plug wire before making any adjustment or repair.
- 4. Keep engine or motor free of grass or debris buildup.
- 5. Store gasoline in an approved metal container in a cool, dry place.
- 6. A well-maintained mower operated correctly will produce best mowing results.

#### SECTION I ASSEMBLY-

#### 1. HANDLE BARS

Position the handle bar assembly on the steering block and secure with a 3/8 x 2-1/2-inch cap screw and locknut. The handle bar should be free to move up and down.

#### 2. SEAT

Place the seat in position on the seat bracket. On Models 912970 and 912971, place the 1/2 x 1-1/4-inch carriage bolt through the seat and bracket. Place the seat support washer (2-1/2 x 3-inches) on the carriage bolt and secure with the 1/2-inch lockwasher and nut. On Model 912972, place seat on seat bracket and secure with cap screw (1/2-13 x 1-1/4) and lockwasher. Sit on the seat and adjust it to a comfortable position with both feet on the footrest. Tighten in position.

#### 3. BATTERY (Electric Starting Models Only)

Electric starting Fairways are supplied with a dry charged battery. Follow the battery instruc-

tions on page 6 for charging battery. Battery acid is not supplied with this unit. Purchase locally.

#### 4 TIRES

The Fairway is shipped with tires over-inflated. Before operating, reduce tire pressure to 12 to 15 psi.

#### - CAUTION

#### 5. ENGINE

Do not start engine with battery leads disconnected or dry charged battery. See engine manual.

Fill the gas tank and the engine crankcase according to the instructions in the engine manual supplied with the Fairway.

Read operator's manual for engine and mower before operating. Fill out prewarranty registration card and mail to Ariens Company. Warranty will only be registered under the model and serial number stamped into the frame of the unit. Do not give engine model and serial number.

#### SECTION II LUBRICATION

#### 1. ENGINE

Before starting the engine, check the oil in the crankcase. See the manufacturer's instruction book and the engine nameplate for engine lubrication instructions. The use of MS classification SAE-30

#### - CAUTION -

When filling or draining the engine oil, exercise care to keep oil from running under engine and dripping on the drive plate, belts, etc., under the frame. Keep grease off the drive disc and belts.

oil is recommended for use in the engine crank-case.

#### 2. TRACTOR

- a. A drop of oil applied to the shift lever pivot, mower clutch lever, steering column, and other pivot points will result in smoother operation of these parts. The chain is to be greased periodically.
- b. Grease the bell crank, sliding fork, pinion and sprocket, sliding hub, and the L. H. axle every 25 hours of operation or sooner under extreme conditions through the zerk fittings shown in Figure 1.

#### - CAUTION -

After greasing unit, wipe up any excessive grease. This is to prevent grease from reaching the friction disc and drive disc which will cause slippage.

c. Front wheels must be greased at least once each season through zerk fittings on the wheel hubs.

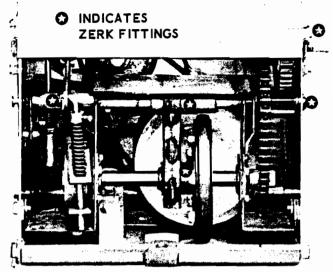


Figure 1

### SECTION III OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

#### 1. STARTING ENGINE

a. Before starting engine, place shift lever (figure 2) in neutral position. Place mower clutch (figure 2) in the OUT position.

b. To start a cold engine, place the throttle control in CHOKE position. When engine starts, move throttle to SLOW position. Choking a warm engine may cause flooding. Always try to start a warm engine without using the choke.

- c. Recoil Models. Start the engine by pulling on starter handle. Stop the engine by placing throttle control in STOP position.
- d. Electric Start Models. Start the engine by turning the key switch to START position. When engine starts, switch to RUN position. To stop engine, turn key to OFF position. DO NOT PULL RECOIL STARTER WITH BATTERY CONNECTIONS OFF. SEE ENGINE MANUAL.

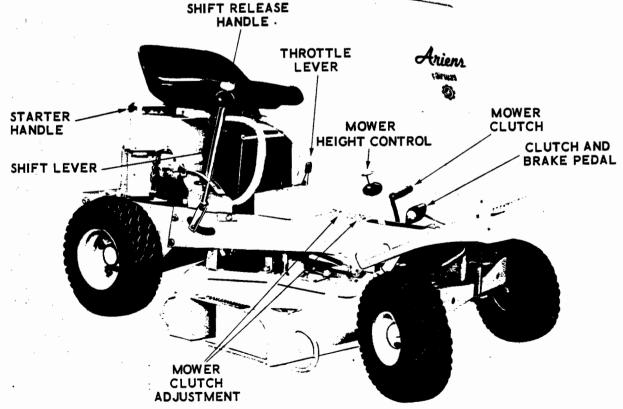


Figure 2

#### 2. CHANGING SPEEDS (See figure 2)

- a. A combination automotive type clutch and brake pedal serves to disengage the clutch so that the shift lever may be positioned in any one of the four forward speeds and reverse.
- b. To operate, depress clutch pedal, depress the shift release handle and move lever to desired speed. Release clutch slowly and tractor will move forward.
- c. Once the tractor is in motion it is possible, without using the clutch, to shift to a higher speed range and back down again. However, the clutch must be used when moving shift lever into neutral or reverse.
- d. Always remove the foot from the clutch pedal after it is engaged. Riding clutch unnecessarily will wear it out prematurely.
- e. Depressing the shift release handle and moving lever backward from neutral engages reverse.
- f. Forward speeds, at governed engine speed, are 1.5, 2.5, 3, and 4 miles per hour; reverse speed is 2 miles per hour.

#### 3. BRAKES

Depressing the clutch pedal beyond shifting range engages the brake.

#### 4. MOWER CLUTCH

a. A separate clutch is provided for starting and

stopping the mower. The mower clutch pedal (figure 2) is located on the left side of the main frame.

- b. To start mower, move clutch pedal forward. To stop, move the clutch pedal to the rear as indicated on decal above pedal.
- c. As a safety precaution, a blade brake attached to the mower pan, engages a brake drum on the mower sheave to stop the mower when the clutch is disengaged.

#### 5. MOWER HEIGHT CONTROL

- a. Height of mower blade may be varied from 1-1/2 to 3-1/4-inches by moving the height control arm (figure 2).
- b. To raise the mower blade, depress height control plunger on the height control knob, push the arm forward until the mower reaches the desired height and allow the control plunger to spring up and lock the arm in position.
- c. To lower the mower blade, depress the height control plunger, pull back the control arm and allow it to lock into position.

#### - NOTE -

It may be necessary to push the height control arm forward slightly to relieve pressure on the height control plunger before plunger can be depressed easily.

## SECTION IV SERVICE AND ADJUSTMENTS

#### 1. GENERAL

Ariens dealers will provide any service which may be required to keep the Fairway operating at peak efficiency. The Fairway is equipped with the finest quality engine obtainable. However, should servicing be required, it can be obtained from an Ariens dealer or authorized engine manufacturer's service station. Consult an Ariens dealer for details.

#### - CAUTION -

When making repairs or adjustments requiring access to the bottom of the tractor, be sure to remove the battery and drain the gas tank before tipping tractor on end.

#### 2. ENGINE

Refer to engine instruction book and nameplate on engine for maintenance instructions. If repairs or service are needed for engine, see your nearest authorized engine service station.

#### 3. MOWER BELT REPLACEMENT

To remove the mower belt, follow this procedure:

- a. Place the mower clutch pedal in the rear or OUT position. Place the mower height control in the lowest cutting position.
- b. Use a block to prop the rear of the mower deck away from the tractor frame.
- c. Rotate the blade spindle by hand and roll belt off mower sheave and between belt finger and sheave. Belt finger will spring away from sheave to permit belt to pass.
- d. Remove the belt finger (Figure 3) by removing cap screw and nut from side of frame. With shift lever in fourth speed, remove cap screw on opposite end of the belt finger. With shift lever in reverse position, remove belt finger. With shift lever in reverse, remove mower belt from engine sheave by rolling belt over sheave while rotating blade.

To replace the belt, position the belt first on the engine sheave, then on the mower sheave. Replace

the engine belt finger. Be sure belt finger clears belt by about 1/8-inch all around. Readjust the mower clutch as described in paragraph 9 if required.

#### 4. FRICTION DISC REPLACEMENT (See figure 3)

- a. After considerable usage, it may be necessary to replace the friction disc. In order to remove the friction disc, it is necessary to remove the brake drum and pull the hex shaft from the carrier bracket and friction disc hub.
- b. To remove the friction disc, proceed as follows:
- (1) Place the shift lever in the NEUTRAL position.
- (2) Remove the two cap screws securing the carrier bracket to the frame. Remove the five whizlock screws holding the friction disc to the hub. Remove the cap screw and lockwashers holding the ball joint to the sliding fork. Pull the ball joint from the fork.
- (3) Remove the cotter pin and disconnect the brake rod from the clutch brake bellcrank. Pull the brake rod from the brake band and remove the two springs, set collar and brake band washer.
- (4) The lower end of the carrier bracket is now free to swing forward out of the frame. Swing the bracket out and tie or prop it up. Hold the hex shaft with a wrench and remove the 1/2-inch locknut holding the brake drum. Pull the brake drum from the shaft. Remove the key.
- (5) Disconnect the link on the roller chain and remove the chain.
- (6) Remove the four locknuts holding the bearing flanges on the sprocket end of the hex shaft. Pull the carrier bracket forward and pull the hex shaft from the sprocket end. It will come free of the bearing on the brake drum end and pull out of the friction disc hub. The bearing on the sprocket end will pull out of the carrier. Pull out only as far as required to remove the friction disc and hub.
  - c. Install the new friction disc as follows:
- (1) Place a new friction disc on the hub (do not bolt in place) and slide the hub into place in the fork. Slide the hex shaft through the hub and into place in the bearing on the brake drum end.
- (2) Replace the bearing flanges on the sprocket end of the shaft and secure with the four locknuts. Replace the roller chain and link.
- (3) Place the key in the shaft and replace the brake drum. Secure with the 1/2-inch locknut.
- (4) Tip carrier in position and secure on each side with cap screw through frame and into carrier.
  - (5) Reconnect the ball joint to the sliding fork.

- (6) Replace the brake washer, two springs, set collar and brake rod. Secure with a cotter pin.
- (7) Reposition the friction disc on the hub and replace the five whizlock screws.

#### 5. DRIVE BELT REPLACEMENT

To remove the drive belt, follow this procedure:

- a. Remove the mower belt as described in paragraph 3 above.
- b. With screwdriver and bar, pry idler pulley against drive disc and slide belt around idler pulley.
- c. Belt is now loose. Place throttle in STOP position. Rotate engine pulley by pulling slowly on rope starter. With light pressure on the belt, roll belt from drive disc.
- d. Machine should be shifted to NEUTRAL position. Use 5/8" open end wrench to rotate hex shaft and friction wheel while pulling pelt upward between drive disc and friction wheel.

#### - NOTE

REPLACE WITH SPECIAL BELT FROM ARIENS DEALER. DO NOT ROLL THE BELT. Rolling the belt against edge of sheave may break cords in the belt and result in shortened belt life.

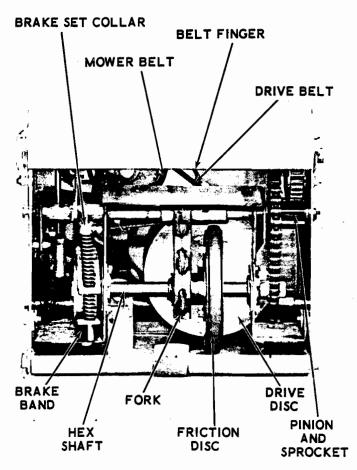


Figure 3

To replace the drive belt, follow this procedure:

- a. Shift to NEUTRAL position and put belt in from top of frame. Use 5/8" open end wrench. Rotate friction wheel to force belt between drive disc and wheel.
- b. Shift to REVERSE position and put belt around back groove of engine pulley.
- c. Shift to NEUTRAL position and rotate the belt around drive disc.
- d. With screwdriver and bar, move idler pulley toward drive disc while moving belt into position outside of the idler pulley.
- e. Replace mower belt and belt finger as described in paragraph 3.

#### 6. BRAKE ADJUSTMENT

- a. Be sure shift lever is in NEUTRAL position.
- b. Adjust set collar (figure 3) against spring until brake band just clears brake drum.
- c. A slight brake drag does no harm. Test against excessive brake drag by turning both wheels by hand simultaneously.

#### 7. SHIFTING

- If, after continued use, the machine should shift harder than usual, follow these precautions:
- a. Place a few drops of oil on the shift lever and tube.
- b. Clean the hex shaft on which the friction disc hub slides and grease hub.

#### 8. MOWER BLADE BRAKE ADJUSTMENT (Figure 4)

The blade brake release (figure 4) is located on the left side of the frame and is secured by a 5/16-inch whizlock screw. The blade brake release must be positioned properly in the slot provided so that the brake will stop the blade when the mower clutch is released. Adjust the blade brake release as follows:



MOWER BLADE BRAKE ADJUSTMENT

Figure 4

- a. Place the mower clutch pedal in the rear or OUT position. Place mower in the highest cutting position.
- b. Loosen the whizlock screw holding the blade brake release and slide the release backward to a point where the brake release chain just touches the top of the mower pan. Tighten whizlock screw.

c. Engage mower pedal and check to see that blade brake releases as belt begins to tighten.

#### 9. MOWER CLUTCH ADJUSTMENT (Figure 2)

The mower clutch is adjusted by sliding the mower clutch bracket in a pair of slotted holes in the frame. Adjust as follows:

- a. If the mower belt is loose and slips when the clutch is engaged, loosen the two whizlock screws and slide the clutch bracket to the REAR. Retighten the whizlock screws and try clutch.
- b. If the mower belt is too tight, the clutch will not lock in the engaged position. In this event, loosen the two whizlock screws holding the clutch bracket and move the bracket FORWARD. Retighten the screws and try the clutch. (Belt will tighten by same amount as bracket is moved.)

Repeat above procedures until clutch locks forward in the engaged position and belt does not slip.

#### 10. SEAT ADJUSTMENT

The seat is designed to move forward or back to suit the rider. Adjust the seat by loosening the hardware holding the seat, and sliding the seat in the slot on the seat bracket. Retighten the hardware.

It is recommended that the seat be adjusted to a comfortable position with the rider's feet ON THE FOOTREST. Riding with the feet on the mower pan does not allow the mower to float and will result in uneven cutting.

#### 11. BATTERY (Electric Starting Models Only)

- a. General. Battery connection should be tight at all times, especially when charging batteries. Loose cables will cause arcing and pitting of the connections and eventual failure. If necessary, remove battery cable and use a wire brush to remove corrosion around battery terminals. Wash the terminals with a solution consisting of one part baking soda to four parts water. Do not allow cleaning solution to run into battery cells. After connecting the cables and making sure they are tight, coat the terminals with petroleum jelly, Check the liquid level of each cell by removing the cap. Water should be level with top of circular split ledge inside filler tube. Use clean distilled water when possible to fill battery. When absolutely necessary, clean drinkable water may be used. Keep the liquid at the proper level during winter or freezing weather. Also keep the battery fully charged to prevent freezing. When adding water to battery during freezing weather, be sure the engine is running and continues to run until water and electrolyte have had a chance to mix thoroughly. This should be at least an hour.
- b. Activation. Prior to service, store battery and electrolyte indoors at temperature of 60° F. to 110° F. Always add the electrolyte to the battery before installing on equipment or remove battery from equipment to activate.

Handle the acid with caution and avoid spilling. It will damage clothing and other materials on contact. Wearing of safety glasses to avoid eye damage is advised when filling the battery.

#### NOTE -

Refer to the antidote label on the top of the acid container for instructions and procedures if acid comes in contact with the body or is taken internally.

- (1) Refer to instructions on acid package. Lift corner tab on acid package. Pull back to dotted line and pull out corner of acid bag. Cut off corner of bag per instructions on acid package.
- (2) Fill each cell until acid level reaches triangle in vent well. After all cells are filled, recheck levels and add electrolyte as required. Do not overfill as excess electrolyte will flood cell when battery is charged.
  - (3) Replace vent caps before charging battery.

- (4) After filling battery, charge at 10 amps until the electrolyte temperature is 80° F. or higher and the specific gravity is 1.250 or higher. Lower charging rates may be used to obtain this temperature and specific gravity but will require more time. After charging battery at this rate, rinse off with water to remove acid overflow. Battery is now ready for service.
- c. For maximum performance, batteries should be kept at or near full charge. Maintain the liquid level above the plates at all times.

#### 12. STORAGE

- a. For winter storage, always drain all gasoline from gas tank and all oil from engine base.
- b. In areas of high humidity or salt air, grease or oil moving or exposed parts to prevent rust.
- c. Remove battery and store where it will not freeze. Check water level. Refill and charge fully. See paragraph 11.

For more detailed instructions on engine storage, see engine instruction book.

## OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT by Ariens



ROCKET VI TILLER, Two Speeds forward - Two Speeds Reverse



FAIRWAY LAWN MOWERS, 5 & 6 H.P. Engines, Recoil and Electric Start Models



**JET TILLERS** 3, 4 & 5 H. P. Models



MANORWAY TRACTOR Recoil and Electric Start Models



**EMPEROR LAWN** MOWERS, Recoil and **Electric Start Models** 26" and 30" Mowers



ARIENS ARROW SNOWMOBILES, 6 Models Recoil & Electric 297 to 436 c. c. Engines



**SNO-THRO** 4, 5 & 7 H. P. Models



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Form No. FOI-70 Printed in U.S.A.