

# SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

Task/Equipment Description: Lawn Mower - Petrol



#### Potential Hazards and Risks:

- Impact with moving machine, and projectiles from cutting
- Ergonomics, vibration, and manual handling
- Noise
- Slips, trips, and falls
- Fire and explosion
- Dust and petrol fumes
- Heat stress and harmful UV
- Climate conditions

DO NOT use this equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation.

## **Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

>	Gloves	Hearing Protection	Head Protection	Eye Protection	Eye (UV) Protection	Safety Footwear	FaceVisor / Welding	Half Face Mask (P2)	Breathing Appartus	Hi-Vis Apparel	Full Body Clothing	Harness
PPE			(FY	6	8							

Other PPE (describe):

# ALWAYS

Be alert and maintain awareness of your surroundings when operating lawn mower

Know how to stop the mower and disengage the controls quickly in and emergency

Ensure moving parts have come to a complete stop before performing any maintenance or cleaning

Ensure motor is stopped and allowed to cool before refuelling

### **NEVER**

Never refuel the ride on mower near sources of ignition

Never leave the mower running unattended

Never operate on slippery, or unstable sloping surfaces

Never cut near fences, wires, posts, rocks etc to prevent kick out and cutter head damage

Never operate while children or pets are near

This document does not replace training; it is provided as a guide to the safe use of this type of equipment. Refer to the manufacturer's manual or training documents for further information. This is a non-specific document and must be assessed against your particular brand of equipment and the working environment. Where necessary a Task Specific Risk Assessment should be undertaken.

#### Safe Operating Procedure:

- 1. Pre-Operation Safety Checks:
  - Conduct a pre-start check of the machine before each use
  - Always wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment for the task
  - Check blades for damages, cracks, and sharpness
  - Inspect fuel lines, tank, and area around carburettor for fuel leaks. Do not operate unit if leaks are found
  - Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional
  - Select the correct cutting height for the terrain refer to manufacturer's specification
  - Operator to inspect work area to ensure that work surface is even and stable and that it is free of rocks and other debris

# 2. Operation – Safety Procedure:

- · Disengage all blade and drive controls before starting
- Start engine carefully with feet well away from blades
- Utilise sound manual handling techniques, do not overreach, and ensure proper footing and balance
- Maintain a straight wrist position avoid using your wrist in a bent, extended or twisting position for extended periods
- Keep hands, feet and loose clothing away from all moving parts
- Do not overreach and ensure proper footing and balance
- Only move lawn mower in the operator's field of vision
- If the machine starts to vibrate abnormally stop the motor and return to Diamond Hire

## 3. Post-Operation – Housekeeping:

- Ensure moving parts have completely stopped
- · Remove any foreign material from engine, cutting tool and guards
- · Use extra care when loading or unloading the machine into a trailer or truck
- Ensure the machine is appropriately secured in a vehicle