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## FISHING ROD & REEL MAINTENANCE TIPS

**Fishing Reels:** At the end of the days fishing most people give the reel a squirt with the hose, although better that doing nothing, high pressure water can force water, dirt and salt inside the reel.

We recommend removing the reel from the rod, set the drag to full and using warm water and a brush lightly wetting the reel and cleaning any salt, dirt, scales or bait from the reel, shake any excess water from the reel, dry and wiping with a cloth lightly coated in oil, release the drag, put your thumb on the spool and turn the handle releasing the drag plates, a couple of drops of oil on the handle knob shaft and level wind assembly and it's good to go for your next trip. Do not spray penetrating oils directly onto reels as this will break down the grease and lubricant inside the reel.

Reel handles with rubberized handle knobs should only be washed in water and dried as some spray oils break down the bonding of the rubber coating to the handle.

Do not store your reel inside any air tight bag or container as reels will sweat, store them in a cloth bag

If your reels has been immersed in salt water for any length of time it pays to get them fully serviced to avoid failure or breakdown on subsequent fishing trips

If your line has been under tension fighting big fish [mono only] it's a good idea to run plenty of line out and respool it without too much tension as mono has a memory and will try to go back to its original length causing spool distortion or at worst a blown spool, and when this happens it will also damage 1 or both side plates, this does not apply to braid.

Remember to pump and wind the rod and don't use the reel as a winch.

**Fishing Rods:** Cleaning rods is simple, a bucket of soapy water and brush the grips, guides, and reel seat, wipe dry or leave outside in the sun until dry and then wipe the guides with an oily cloth, it's also a good time to check the guides for cracks or chipping or for chrome coated guides any peeling or flaking, for roller guides remember to put a drop of oil on the rollers.

When loading reels with braid tie nylon on to the spool, load about 15 meters of nylon on your reel under tension, then tie the braid to the nylon and spool your reel or if the spool has a pin protruding tie the braid to the pin as braid has a tendency to slip on spool arbors.

When tying your main line to a swivel or trace thread a bead onto the main line above the knot, if you inadvertently wind the swivel into the tip ring this will act as a shock absorber avoiding breaking the ceramic tip guide.

Wishing you all tight lines and bent rods.

**Paul & Sylvia Thomas**