

5. HOW TO OPERATE YOUR BOAT

5.5 THE HELM

The helm is located in the vertical face beneath the rear bench. Moving the arm to the left steers the boat to the left, moving the arm to the right steers the boat to the right.



TROUBLESHOOTING

VIBRATIONS

If the handle vibrates in a strange way. Verify that weeds, or any other substance, are not lodged on the propeller shaft, the motor or propellers. You can check for obstructions on any of the components of the propulsion system. If obstructions are present, remove them carefully. If the problem persists, contact the dealer nearest you.

REDUCED MANOEUVRABILITY

The helm offers a strong, unexpected resistance. Verify that the motor, propeller or propeller shaft are not obstructed by weeds, rocks or sand. Never force the helm; this could result in damage to the steering or one of the components of the propulsion system.

NO MANOEUVRABILITY

The helm turns very easily and the boat fails to respond. Verify that the steering or one of its components is not severed, damaged or missing. This operation can be undertaken by raising the hatch, located on the back deck and the motor control panel (photo above), located at the stern of the boat.

5.6 BATTERY GAGE (E-Meter)

The Fantail 217 is equipped with a battery power level indicator located on the top consol of the helm. The indicator is automatically activated when the ignition key is inserted in the starter. You will then be able to read the battery power level at any time while your boat is in use.

HOW TO READ YOUR E-METER

Take a close look at the diagram below. It shows how the e-meter "reads" the energy reserve of your batteries.



MINIMUM BATTERY CHARGE

You should never sail at more than 20% of charge. When the battery indicator LED alternately flash in RED, it indicates that the batteries are at less than 20% of charge. You are about to run out of power. Sailing at lower than 20% of charge could seriously damage your batteries.