

Health and Safety General Club Policy

A wood turning lathe can be a dangerous piece of equipment in unskilled hands. With attention to the following basic guidelines and careful, methodical and tidy workshop practice, the incidence of accidents can be drastically reduced. If in doubt about the safety of any procedure, please seek experienced or better still qualified advice. Above all **ENJOY your wood turning.**

WORK PLACE

Guard against electric shock and look for damage to electrical equipment and cables. Always try to position trailing electrical cables such that they do not pose a trip hazard.

Stay alert at all times and be aware of your surrounding and the activities of others, use your common sense.

Ensure lathe screen is in place for demonstrations and when Non club members can be in close proximity to the lathe.

Ensure your working area is kept as clean and safe as is reasonable practical

LATHE

Safe efficient use of a wood turning lathe requires study and knowledge of procedures for using this tool. Read and thoroughly understand any warning labels on the lathe.

Check the operating manual for proper speed recommendations. Use slower speeds for larger diameter rough or of out of balance pieces of wood if in doubt **ASK**

Make certain that the belt guard or cover is in place and secure. Check that all clamping devices such as tool rest or tailstock are tight also that the chuck is secure if appropriate.

Rotate your work piece by hand to ensure it clears the tool rest and the bed before starting the lathe. Be sure that the work piece turns freely and is firmly mounted. It is always safer to turn the lathe **OFF** before adjusting the tool rest.

Exercise extra caution when using stock with cracks, splits, checks, bark, irregular shapes or protuberances

Hold turning tools securely on the tool rest and hold the tool in a controlled but comfortable manner. Always use a slower speed when starting until the work piece is balanced.

When running the lathe in reverse, ensure that the chuck of faceplate is secure with a locking machine screw.

When using a faceplate and when turning between centres, be certain the work piece is secure.

Always REMOVE the tool rest before sanding or polishing.

Keep turning tool sharp and clean for better and safer performance. Always wear eye protection when sharpening tools.

ALWAYS remove chuck keys and adjusting bars or spanners after use, before turning the lathe on.

NEVER leave the lathe running unattended, after switching the lathe off do not leave until it comes to a complete stop.

PERSONAL PROTECTION and PPE

Always wear safety goggles of safety glasses that include side protection and/or a full face shield when needed. Wood dust can be harmful so use a dust mask or helmet and have proper ventilation.

Tie back long hair; do not wear gloves, loose clothing, jewellery or any dangling objects that may catch in the rotating parts of equipment

Wear suitable enclosed footwear when operating the lathe.

Know your capabilities and limits, an experienced wood turner may be capable of techniques and procedures not recommended for beginners.

LIGHTING

Ensure adequate lighting is in place to enable safe working, if not STOP WORK and ask for more lights.

All of the above in accordance with current AWGB H&S Policy

I have read and understood the Club Health and Safety Policy

Name _____ Sign _____ Date _____

