

## Mercury Engine Starting Procedures for the RS Cat Launches

Compiled from the Mercury Marine Outboard Engine Operation Manuals.

- 1) Once the fuel line is connected to the engine, fully unscrew the fuel tank vent screw in the filler cap.
- 2) Squeeze the fuel line primer bulb several times until it feels firm.
- 3) Loop the end of the engine kill cord line over the cut-out switch situated below the ignition key and push the switch up to the 'on' position.
- 4) Set the gear lever/throttle into the upright, neutral position.
- 5) Insert the ignition key and turn it clockwise to the start position to start the engine and at the same time push in on the key to choke the engine whilst the starter motor turns the engine over.
- 6) If the engine fails to start after 10 seconds, wait 30 seconds and try again.
- 7) If the engine starts, but it sounds as if it is going to stall, push the ignition key in again to choke the engine until it runs smoothly.
- 8) For colder weather starting, use the manual throttle lever located above the ignition key to open the throttle slightly for initial starting and once started, slowly advance the throttle lever to increase the engine speed until the engine is warmed up.
- 9) If the engine fails to start after 5 attempts, pump the throttle twice by moving the throttle lever to the fully open position 2 times and return it back to the slightly open position and retry starting the engine.
- 10) If the engine is 'flooded', try advancing the throttle lever whilst continuing to turn the engine over.
- 11) When the engine has started, the low oil pressure warning light (the small red light located on the engine to the left of the fuel line inlet) and the alarm buzzer located within the gear lever/throttle unit will activate to test that they are working correctly and they should automatically turn off after 5 to 10 seconds. If they do not stop after 10 seconds, turn the engine off immediately and report the fault to [launches@maidenheadrc.org.uk](mailto:launches@maidenheadrc.org.uk) and use another launch. Check that water is coming out of the water pump tell-tale vent towards the rear of the engine but if it is not, then again turn the engine off immediately and report the fault to [launches@maidenheadrc.org.uk](mailto:launches@maidenheadrc.org.uk) and use another launch.
- 12) Before setting off on your outing, allow the engine to warm up at idling speed for at least 5 minutes.

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