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BCA Tracker S

BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon and Probe Instruction Manual

Model: Tracker S Avalanche Beacon, SnowBigDeal 260cm Avalanche Probe

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon and SnowBigDeal 260cm Avalanche Probe kit is designed for avalanche rescue. The Tracker S beacon provides essential performance and ease of use with an instantaneous real-time display, focusing on core functionality for avalanche safety. The included SnowBigDeal 260cm Avalanche Probe is used to pinpoint buried individuals under snow.



Image 1: BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon and SnowBigDeal Avalanche Probe kit. This image displays the complete kit,

including the black and blue Tracker S beacon, the red and black segmented avalanche probe, and its black carrying bag.

2. SETUP AND PREPARATION

2.1 BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon

1. **Battery Installation:** The Tracker S beacon requires three AAA batteries (included). Open the battery compartment, insert the batteries according to the polarity indicators, and securely close the compartment.
2. **Harness Attachment:** Attach the provided carrying harness to the beacon. The harness is designed to hold the beacon securely against your body, ensuring it remains protected and accessible.



Image 2: BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon with carrying harness. This image shows the black Tracker S beacon connected to its black chest harness, ready for wear.

2.2 SnowBigDeal 260cm Avalanche Probe

1. **Assembly:** The probe consists of multiple segments. To assemble, pull the segments apart and connect them until they lock into place, forming a rigid pole. To disassemble, release the locking mechanism and fold the segments.
2. **Storage:** Store the disassembled probe in its provided carrying bag for protection and easy transport.



Image 3: SnowBigDeal 260cm Avalanche Probe. This image displays the red and black segmented avalanche probe, fully extended, with depth markings visible, and its black carrying bag.

2.3 Pre-Trip Check

Before each backcountry trip, perform a thorough gear check. Ensure both the beacon and probe are functioning correctly and that beacon batteries are at an adequate level. Practice using both items regularly to maintain proficiency.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon Operation

The Tracker S beacon operates in two primary modes: Transmit (TR) and Search (SE).

- **Power On/Off:** Use the designated switch on the beacon to power it on or off. Upon powering on, the beacon will display battery life before entering transmit mode.
- **Transmit Mode (TR):** This is the default mode for all users while traveling in the backcountry. In this mode, the beacon continuously emits a signal, allowing it to be located by other beacons in the event of a burial. Ensure the beacon is in transmit mode and worn securely under outer layers.
- **Search Mode (SE):** In an avalanche rescue scenario, switch the beacon to search mode. The display will show directional arrows and a distance reading to guide you towards the buried transceiver. Follow the arrows and decreasing distance numbers to narrow down the search area.

- **Multiple Burials:** The Tracker S provides an instantaneous real-time display, which assists in identifying multiple burial scenarios. Refer to advanced avalanche safety training for detailed multiple burial search techniques.

3.2 SnowBigDeal 260cm Avalanche Probe Usage

Once the beacon has narrowed the search area, the probe is used for precise pinpointing of the buried individual.

- **Probing Technique:** Assemble the probe. Begin probing in a systematic pattern around the beacon's indicated burial location. Probe perpendicularly to the snow surface.
- **Identifying a Strike:** A distinct change in resistance indicates a strike. Once a strike is made, leave the probe in place to mark the location for excavation.
- **Depth Markings:** The probe features depth markings in centimeters, which can be useful for assessing snow depth or burial depth.

4. MAINTENANCE

4.1 BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon

- **Battery Replacement:** Replace batteries when the low battery indicator appears or before extended trips. Always carry spare batteries.
- **Cleaning:** Wipe the beacon clean with a damp cloth. Avoid harsh chemicals.
- **Storage:** Store the beacon in a cool, dry place when not in use. Remove batteries during long periods of storage to prevent leakage.

4.2 SnowBigDeal 260cm Avalanche Probe

- **Cleaning:** After use, especially in wet conditions, clean and dry the probe segments to prevent corrosion.
- **Storage:** Store the probe in its carrying bag to protect it from damage.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Beacon Not Powering On:** Check battery installation and ensure batteries are fresh.
- **Inaccurate Readings:** Ensure no other electronic devices (e.g., mobile phones, cameras) are too close to the beacon, as they can interfere with its signal. Perform a group check with other beacons to verify functionality.
- **Probe Assembly Issues:** Ensure all segments are clean and free of debris that might prevent proper locking.

If issues persist, consult the manufacturer's official support resources or a certified avalanche safety professional.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand Name	BCA
Model	Tracker S Avalanche Beacon

Probe Length	260 cm
Beacon Batteries	3 AAA batteries (included)
Beacon Material	Plastic
Probe Material	Aluminum
Item Weight	0.98 Kilograms (total package)
Color	Black, Orange (Beacon), Red, Black (Probe)
Manufacturer	Backcountry Access

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding your BCA Tracker S Avalanche Beacon and SnowBigDeal Avalanche Probe, please refer to the documentation provided with your purchase or visit the official BCA and SnowBigDeal websites. Warranty terms typically cover manufacturing defects.

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance beyond this manual, or to inquire about service and repairs, contact the respective manufacturers directly:

- **BCA (Backcountry Access):** Visit their official website for contact information and support resources.
- **SnowBigDeal:** Visit their official website for contact information and support resources.