



# EQUALISER USER MANUAL

**Manufactured by Mobility  
Plus Wheelchairs Ltd**



Registered Medical Device Included  
Class 1: ARTG Identifier 108788

Meets Australian Standard: AS  
3695:1992

SWL 120kg

Independently Crash Tested to conform  
with ISO 7176-19:2022

Australian Made





THANK YOU!



Thank you for your purchase of a wheelchair from Mobility Plus and for placing your trust in us. In doing so, you are supporting Australian Manufacturing and an Australian Made product.

We ask that you read the following User Manual carefully and thoroughly upon receipt of your wheelchair and to please observe all instructions and warnings.

Please note, as our Equaliser is a custom-made product, the guidelines and representations within this User Manual may differ from your product. Any images or descriptions are intended to show you the designation of the most common and important components and features of an Equaliser wheelchair. Mobility Plus reserve the right to make technical modifications. For further information, please contact your Mobility Plus dealer.



## MOBILITY PLUS EQUALISER PARTS DESCRIPTION



1. Push Handle
2. Backrest
3. Armrest
4. Seat
5. Push Rim

6. Brakes
7. Footplates
8. Anti-tip
9. Front Caster

**PRE-USE SAFETY CHECK LIST**

- Check upholstery & any lap or chest belts/harnesses are free from tears or damage
- Check that tyres are not worn and are correctly inflated
- Check that brakes are functioning – when pushed into the locked position (or when attendant brakes are squeezed) they hold firm against the wheels and prevent them from turning
- Check that any anti-tip wheels are in place
- Check that calf or heel straps are in place

**SAFE USE; QUICK GUIDE**

- Before getting into the wheelchair or out of the wheelchair, apply both brakes & fold any footplates up / out of the way
  - Do not stand on footplates when getting in or out of the wheelchair
- Ensure all lap belts or chest belts are safely secured
- Once seated in the wheelchair, ensure foot plates are folded down and feet are positioned on footplates
- Check that all personal items and items of clothing are free from the wheels (front & rear)
- Do not allow more than one user at a time
- Brakes should be applied when the wheelchair is not being pushed or used
- Do not go too fast, turn too quickly or use on uneven surfaces
- Do not hang any bags or heavy items from the rear of the wheelchair
- Any attendant must keep both hands on the push handles to control the wheelchair
- Do not attempt to navigate stairs
- Take extreme caution when navigating any slopes or lips
- Do not attempt to lift the wheelchair by any removable (detachable) parts. Doing so may result in injury or damage to the wheelchair

**CAUTION**

When the wheelchair is for use by a lower limb amputee or an individual with a condition that affects the user's natural centre of gravity, the risk of tipping may increase. We recommend ensuring that any anti-tip wheels or additional safety accessories are attached to the wheelchair.

**WARRANTY:**

Mobility Plus wheelchair frames carry a limited life-time warranty (6 years). Any alterations to the wheelchair's original script must be carried out by Mobility Plus or an authorised agent for warranty to apply against workmanship and materials.

All other parts carry a 12-month warranty against workmanship and materials.

Parts not covered by warranty include: upholstery, tyres, tubes and spokes. Normal wear and tear is not covered by warranty.





## **GENERAL WARNINGS**

### **Making Changes to your Wheelchair**

No tools are required for assembly. Your wheelchair is assembled by your authorised Mobility Plus service provider. Please use extreme caution when making any adjustments or changes to a Mobility Plus wheelchair. We recommend that only authorised Mobility Service technicians make any adjustments, changes or modifications to our wheelchairs. Modifications that have been completed by an unauthorised technician may void the warranty or cause serious injury.

### **Safety & Maintenance**

It is important to keep your wheelchair in proper working condition. Always inspect and maintain your Mobility Plus wheelchair. This includes checking the frame and components regularly and referring to this user guide during and after the warranty period. We recommend an initial 6-month safety check by an authorised Mobility Plus technician and subsequent servicing every 12 months. Depending on the type of use, more regular servicing may be recommended. If you fail to inspect and maintain your wheelchair in a safe, working condition, there is a risk of sustaining a serious injury as a result.

If you notice or suspect a problem, please have the wheelchair serviced/repaired by an authorised Mobility Plus service provider before continuing to use the wheelchair. Only parts authorised by Mobility Plus should be used. Use of parts not authorised by Mobility Plus and unauthorised repairs may void your warranty.

If you are unable to contact your service provider, please contact Mobility Plus.

### **Safe Use of your Wheelchair (additional)**

In addition to carefully following the instructions outlined in this User Manual, Mobility Plus strongly recommend that users seek additional training regarding general use of a manual wheelchair in the form of wheelchair skills training. This is not a service that Mobility Plus offer however we may be able to suggest an organisation that does offer this service.



## USING YOUR WHEELCHAIR WITHIN A VEHICLE

### MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

When configured with transport loops and a headrest, the Equaliser (15kg mass) is tested to ISO 7176:2019-2022. It has been independently crash tested by means of a frontal impact test with four-point strap-type tiedown and belt-restraint system and conforms to the requirements of this standard.

#### General:

- The Equaliser wheelchair is designed to be secured facing forwards in the vehicle
- The Equaliser wheelchair has been dynamically tested in a forward-facing orientation with the ATD (test dummy) restrained by a three-point belt restraint
- Pelvic and shoulder belt restraints should be used to reduce the possibility of head and chest impacts with vehicle components. These restraints should be used together as designed.
- In order to reduce the potential of injury to vehicle occupants, wheelchair mounted trays not specifically designed for crash safety should be removed and secured separately in the vehicle or be secured to the wheelchair but positioned away from the occupant with energy-absorbing padding placed between the tray and the occupant
- When possible other auxiliary wheelchair equipment should be either secured to the wheelchair or removed from the wheelchair and secured in the vehicle during travel so that it does not break free and cause injury to vehicle occupants in the event of a collision
- Postural supports should not be relied on for occupant restraint in a moving vehicle unless they conform with the requirements specified in this document
- The wheelchair should be evaluated by a manufacturer's representative for determination whether the wheelchair is suitable for reuse after involvement in any type of vehicle collision
- Alterations or substitutions should not be made to the wheelchair securements points or to structural and frame parts or components as this can affect the crashworthiness of the wheelchair. It can also change the performance of the wheelchair in normal use. If it is considered necessary to make these kinds of alternations, please contact Mobility Plus or a Mobility Plus authorised representative.
- Care should be taken when applying the occupant restraint to position the seatbelt buckle so that the release button will not be contacted by wheelchair components during a crash (Figure 3)
- Belt restraints shall not be held away from the body by wheelchair components such as arm supports or wheels (Figure 3)

Please ensure that you adhere to the following guidelines when using your Equaliser as a seat in a motor vehicle:

- The wheelchair is to be secured using a four-point strap style securement system that meets relevant standards. The designated tie-down loops at the front and rear of the wheelchair are to be utilised for securement using the securement system. See Figure 2 for location.
  - These may be webbing straps or retractors and will attach to the wheelchair securement points via strap with tongue and buckle, a hook or karabiner
  - Mobility Plus is a supplier of this style of securement system within Victoria. Please contact Mobility Plus for more information.
- Only the designated securement points should be used to secure the wheelchair in the vehicle
- A 3 point style belt-restraint should be utilised. Any positioning belts or harnesses located on the wheelchair do not replace a seat belt.
- Where possible, it is suggested that wheelchair users transfer to the vehicle seat and use the vehicle-manufacturer-installed restraint system. The unoccupied wheelchair should be stored in a cargo area or secured in the vehicle during travel
- Your Mobility Plus Equaliser will not be supplied with designated securement points as standard however they are available as an option. Retrofitting may also be possible. These designated securement points are required for your Equaliser to comply with ISO 7176:2019-2022.
- Designated securement points are identified by stickers as per Figure 1 below.

Figure 1:



- Any adjustable parts including angle adjustable backrest or leg rests should be returned to the upright or neutral position when travelling

#### Positioning of occupant belt restraints:

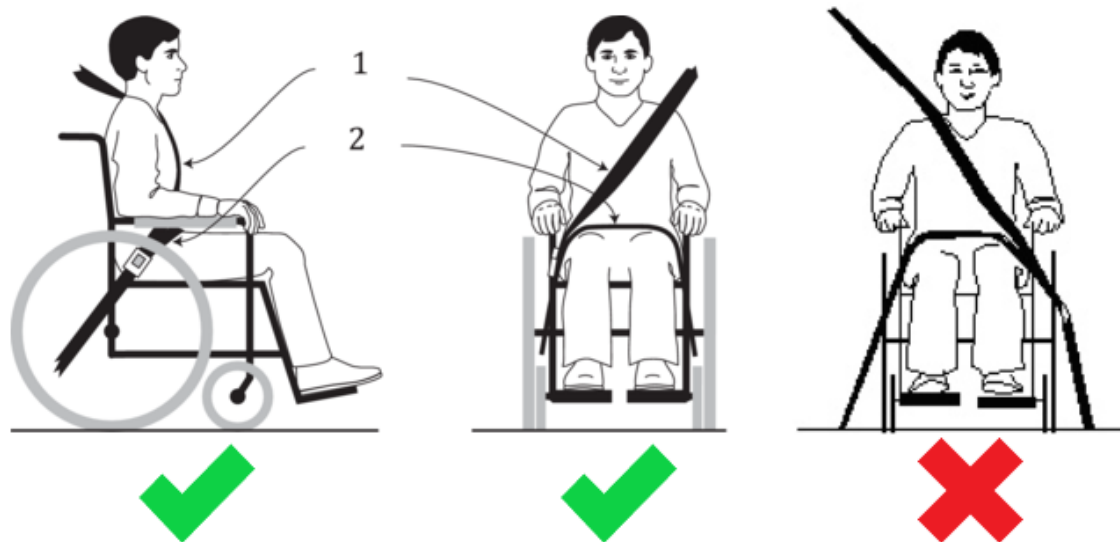
- Your Equaliser Wheelchair will not interfere with the proper use and fit of vehicle-mounted belt restraints when used correctly. It is recommended that any armrests, clothes guards and trays are removed during travel to achieve an excellent rating in terms of proper positioning and fit of the 3-point belt.
- For correct positioning of occupant belt restraints on the occupant:
  - The pelvic belt restraints should be in contact with and worn low across the front of the pelvis so that the angle of the pelvic belt restraint is within the zone of 30 to 75 degrees to the horizontal, similar to that shown in figure...
  - A steeper (greater) pelvic belt angle between 45 to 75 to the horizontal is preferred
  - Belt restrains should not be held away from the body by wheelchair components or parts, such as the wheelchair arm supports or wheels together. See Figure 3.
  - Shoulder belt restraints should fit over the middle of the shoulders
  - Belt restraints should be adjusted as snugly as possible, consistent with occupant comfort
  - Belt webbing should not be twisted when in use

Figure 2:





Figure 3:

**Additional information:**

- The ease of access and manoeuvrability of the wheelchair within a motor vehicle can be significantly affected by wheelchair size and turning radius. Smaller wheelchairs and or wheelchairs with a shorter turning radius will generally provide greater ease of vehicle access and manoeuvrability to a forward-facing position.
- Changes or modifications made to your Equaliser wheelchair may affect conformance to the ISO standard. A risk assessment should be taken to identify risks related to crash worthiness. This may include but is not limited to; moving securement-point brackets, adding rigid postural supports that are not firmly attached to the wheelchair, installing after-market postural seating, installing communication aids, other devices or components that have sharp edges