
Aquasun 3RB

Instruction Manual



DESCRIPTION

The AquaSun 3RB is a premium automatic solar controller with temperature adjustment, manual, winter and tropical mode features.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

CONTROLLER

Find a suitable location to mount the control box*^{radio note}. The controller should be installed out of direct weather and no closer than 3 meters from the water's edge. Lift up the two mounting tabs and use two appropriate screws to mount the control box to the wall, keeping in mind that the power cable is 1.8m long and should be plugged directly into a general power outlet, not into an extension lead. Do not drill through the box.

SOLAR PUMP

The solar pump plugs into the left side 240Vac socket marked as PUMP.

TEMPERATURE SENSOR

The pool temperature sensor must be fitted into the suction line of the solar pump, as close to the pool as practical, preferably in a position out of direct sunlight. It is recommended that a 14.5mm hole be drilled in the PVC pipe, this can be carried out using a Dontek PD01 grinding drill or a small pilot hole can be drilled and a 14.0mm drill-bit used spinning in a counter clockwise direction to minimize the chance of shattering pipe. Insert the grommet into the pipe and gently push in the black sensor barb. The green sensor plug is to be fitted to the plug socket marked POOL, in some cases there is some benefit to cable tie 30cm of wire from the pool temperature sensor to the pipe and insulate this section [some ambient differences can travel up the tinned copper wire and affect the sensor reading].

All temperature sensor cables must NOT be run parallel to power cables and should never be cable tied to power cables. All cable run lengths should be less than 50m if possible. Cable ties should be used to fasten the sensor cable to the cold water inlet pipe making sure that the ties are approximately 10mm from PVC fittings. Cable ties should be

tightened only firm, over tightening can cause breaks in the outer PVC if not careful. If the cable is to be run under ground a conduit must be used to protect the wire and there is to be no cable joins within, conduit ends **must** be sealed to prevent water ingress.

Any excess cable should be removed and re-fitted ensuring that the wire ends are tinned with solder.

REMOTE TEMPERATURE ROOF SENSOR

The roof temperature sensor must be fitted into a small piece of solar collector or equivalent and attached to the roof. The best location is within an arm's length of the gutters edge of the house or shed as long as the sensor end is not shaded and is on a roof of similar aspect of the main collector. It **must not** be fitted on top of the solar collector or fitted to high points on the roof like Ridge Capping as false readings will be detected.

This unit has been designed to eliminate the need to run a temperature sensor cable from the solar controller to the roof; this is replaced by a battery powered transmitter that transmits the roof temperature. The roof sensor plugs into the radio remote temperature transmitter socket at the bottom of the unit [run the cable behind the box].

Fit the radio remote temperature transmitter with 4xAA alkaline batteries and mount it to a nearby solid fixture*^{radio note} by either the two mounting lugs or direct attachment though the controller. The transmitter must be installed out of direct weather and no closer than 3 meters from the water's edge. Mount the unit so battery replacement is possible without needing a ladder. [Antenna points UP].

*RADIO NOTE: RADIO TRANSMITTER SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Do not permanently fix the radio transmitter until good reception is achievable [See site test]; do not mount the Aquasun 3 in a position where reception of radio signals may be difficult, avoid mounting near other electrical equipment [try a site test with a FM radio or Mobile phone].

The range is 100m with no obstructions and with no interference from other transmitters or sources of electrical noise. Also be aware that equipment installed afterwards may also interfere with radio reception. Transmission may not occur through objects such as steel, aluminium, re-enforced concrete and large bodies of water [e.g. pump room under a pool]. Line of sight is the ideal situation but not always possible, the antennas should always remain vertical. Echo cancellation or ghosting may occur, which will prevent the signal being received reliably. If the Aquasun 3 is to be installed in a metal shed there may be reception issues and the controller may need to be optioned with a remote antenna or moved outside.

Other Notes: Both the transmitter and receiver are tested as a set to 100 meters; do not mix different transmitters with different receivers.

Read and understand this manual before going on site. Ensure the customer also understands the workings of the controller before leaving the site.

SITE TEST

Place the radio transmitter in the approximate location, open the unit and select test mode by removing the small plug from the RUN position from the 3 pin header and placing it onto TEST. The Aquasun 3 will enter into a RX TEST mode. Verify that every 8-9 seconds the LCD displays the temperature [e.g. TEST 32°] followed about 3 seconds later by the test mode transmission [TEST TST]. Check that this sequence is

repeated for about half a minute and ensure no transmission is missed. If a transmission is missed it may be due to an echo or ghosted signal, move the location of the radio transmitter or Aquasun 3 and retest. If no transmission is missed mount the transmitter and repeat the test, check that no transmission is missed for 2 minutes.

Turn OFF power to the Aquasun 3 and then set the radio transmitter to operating mode by removing the small plug from TEST and set it to RUN. Return to the Aquasun 3 and ensure it receives the transmission. When RUN mode is selected a transmissions occurs every 20 seconds.

If required the Aquasun 3 can be forced into RX TEST mode by holding the DOWN button on power-up for 3 seconds, RX TEST is displayed once the DOWN button is released.

During normal operation the software allows for missed transmissions, but when more than 50 minutes elapse without a transmission then the temperature value will timeout and will be indicated by the "Waiting for roof transmission" message.

IF LEFT IN TEST MODE, BATTERY LIFE WILL BE LESS THAN 1 WEEK!

REPORTED TRANSMITTER FAULTS

If the following messages are displayed, then action is to be taken to rectify the fault[s]

"WAITING FOR ROOF TRANSMISSION"

The Aquasun 3 cannot receive a roof temperature from the radio transmitter or more than 50 minutes have elapsed since the last transmission, check installation is per instructions & check battery conditions.

"TRANSMITTER IS IN TEST MODE"

The radio transmitter has been left in test mode, the Aquasun 3 will not operate instead it will enter into a RX TEST loop, this is to aid installation only, rectify by removing the small plug from TEST and place it onto RUN.

"TRANSMITTER BATTERIES ARE FLAT"

The radio transmitter batteries have expired; this will prevent the controller from operating. Replace batteries and re-select any operating mode to clear the battery low message. Note: Batteries may begin to leak before they expire, therefore it is recommended to replace the batteries once per year.

"ROOF SENSOR DISCONNECTED OR OPEN CIRCUIT"

Check that the temperature sensor is firmly connected to the terminals. If the cable has been trimmed ensure the ends have been tinned with solder. Cable joints must also be soldered and sealed (preferably with heat-shrink). An unbroken but damaged cable can also cause this fault.

"ROOF SENSOR SHORT CIRCUIT OR REVERSED"

If the cable has been joined or shortened be aware that the white side of the cable is positive, inside the transmitter there is a white + on the green board indicating where positive is to be connected.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

TEMPERATURE LIMIT

The controller will automatically choose to run the pump based on solar gain (i.e. sun shining & roof is hot), once the desired temperature is achieved the pump is stopped and a four hour wait commences to ensure no energy is wasted by cycling the pump.

If after 4 hours the roof is hot enough then the pump may start to provide another heating cycle and if the desired temperature is reached again then no heating will occur until the next day unless the controller is operating in time-clock mode where heating can occur until solar lockout time (09:00 till 19:00)

MODE OF OPERATION

Pressing the SELECT button once will display the current mode of operation, pressing it again or holding it will select the next available mode of operation.

The available modes are SUMMER, MANUAL, WINTER, TROPICAL and SETTINGS.

Summer mode is the normal operating mode for heating the pool.

Manual mode is for testing the pump installation on a cold or cloudy day. Once manual mode is selected the pump will start if it has been off, or stop if it has been on [running]. After 30 minutes manual mode will time-out and return to Summer Mode with a default temperature limit of 30°C.

Winter mode of operation is for off-season maintenance or if pool heating is not required [*AWAY MODE*]. This is a better option than turning off the controller as it will flush treated pool water through the solar system as well as prolong pump bearing and mechanical seal life. The pump will run for 3 minutes each day from when the winter mode was selected or at 10 a.m. if the time-clock mode was selected.

Tropical mode is for situations where the pool water overheats due to direct heating from the sun, beyond the set limit. When the roof is 4°C cooler than the pool temperature, the pump is started (this will most likely occur at night) and will attempt to cool the pool to 1°C above the temperature limit. Normal heating will occur the next day if the pool drops below the temperature limit by 1°C.

Settings mode is for setting the unit into time-clock operation.

When you select this option you will be asked if you wish to use the clock feature (CLK? ON/OFF).

If you select OFF then the controller will not work as a time-clock model and will allow the solar pump to run whenever there is solar heating available. If you select ON you will be

prompted to set the time of day, the controller will work in time-clock mode and the solar pump is prevented from starting outside of the set hours. [Unless tropical mode is selected]. Set the time of day in 24 hour format, note there is an AM/PM indication to avoid incorrect settings. Seconds are automatically set to zero.

Once the time is set select the START hour from 6am till noon, default is 9am which means the solar pump cannot start before 9am.

Now select the END hour from 15 [3pm] till 21 [9pm], default is 19 [7pm] which means the solar pump will stop at 7pm.

INSTALLER SETTINGS - ADJUSTABLE DIFFERENTIAL & ANTI-FREEZE/BOIL FEATURES

Special note: Adjusting these values to any setting other than the defaults may adversely affect the performance of this controller. To select these features, hold the DOWN button then press SELECT. When you select this option you will be prompted to set the solar gain start temperature [RUN° x] this setting allows the pump to start if the roof temperature exceeds the last valid pool temperature or pipe temperature by this value, adjust with the UP/DOWN button, press SELECT to accept. Next you will be prompted to set the differential hysteresis [END° x] which turns the pump off when roof temperature is less than the pool temperature plus this value, adjust with the UP/DOWN button, press SELECT to accept. Default values are 8° for RUN and 4° for END, these are the optimal values for maximum efficiency, some coastal locations may benefit from a reduced run value of 6°C for RUN and 4°C for END.

The next item is anti-freeze, you will be prompted by FRZ? ON/OFF, adjust with the UP/DOWN button, press SELECT to accept. If you select OFF then you will be prompted to the anti-boil selection. If you selected ON then you will be prompted to adjust the anti-

freeze start temperature point as follows; "FREEZ° x" adjust with the UP/DOWN button, press SELECT to accept. Once the roof temperature gets to the anti-freeze setting or below then the pump will be turned on for 3 minutes then turn off for 30 minutes, this sequence will repeat until the roof temperature rises above the anti-freeze temperature.

The next item is anti-boil, you will be prompted by BOIL? ON/OFF, adjust with the UP/DOWN button, press SELECT to accept, if you select OFF then the above settings will be saved and the unit will restart. If you selected ON then you will be prompted to adjust the anti-boil start temperature point as follows; "BOIL °xx" adjust with the UP/DOWN button, press SELECT to accept. The unit will save the new settings and restart. Once the roof temperature gets to the anti-boil setting or above then the pump will be turned on for 5 minutes then turn off for 15 minutes, this sequence will repeat until the roof temperature drops below the anti-boil temperature.

The customer is to be made aware that these features have been turned on and that the controller must remain turned on at all times.

NOTES

1. If a sensor fault is detected the controller will display which sensor failed (POOL and/or ROOF) and the type of failure.
2. After a power outage all configurable items are retained & the clock (if used) will keep time for up to 14 days.
3. Temperature sensors used with this unit is digital and is accurate to 0.5°Celsius, no calibration is required.
4. The sensor cable with the thin trace is the positive and is fitted to the right hand side of the green plug when looking at the plug screws, incorrect polarity will be displayed as a short circuit or reversed fault.
5. If the controller has stopped pumping and is displaying a higher temperature than expected it may be caused by a pump which is failing to prime, check the pump and if necessary prime the pump as per the pump manufacturers' instructions then reset the controller by turning it off/on.
6. Maximum rated output load for the 240V socket is 10 Amps / 2400 Watts.

WARRANTY – AQUASUN 3 RB

This range of product is covered by a limited 3 year warranty against component failure or faulty workmanship from the date of installation.

A faulty unit should be returned in the first instance to the dealer from which the unit was purchased.

Damage to the unit due to misuse, power surges, lightning strikes or installation that is not in accordance with the manufacturer's instruction may void the warranty.

Warranty does not cover travel costs to or from installation site.

If the power cord is damaged, do not use the controller; return the unit to the supplier for repair.

CUSTOMER RECORD (To be retained by the customer)

DEALER/INSTALLER NAME

SERIAL NUMBER

DATE INSTALLED

For service assistance phone 1300 130 693



Dontek Electronics Pty Ltd

PO Box 239, Bayswater VIC 3153 Australia

Phone: +613 9762 8800 Fax: +613 9762 8874 Email: sales@dontek.com.au