



# Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair

## CONDITIONS OF USE, SAFETY AND HANDLING AND BEACH ACCESS



The Shire of Broome is committed to ensuring that the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is kept in good working order. Persons who use the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair have a responsibility to ensure that they take all reasonable steps to avoid an accident by operating it in a safe and careful manner. Persons who use the chair do so at their own risk and the Shire cannot be held liable for any incident, which occurs while it is in the charge of a third party.

It is the responsibility of the user to ensure they have read and understood the following Conditions of Use, Safety and Handling and Beach Access information.



**The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is made available to the Broome community through the Disability Services Commission WA.**

**For further information, please contact the Shire of Broome on 08 9191 3456 or Beach Services on 0407774293**

# Conditions of Use

1. The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is available to the public free of charge.
2. The Shire of Broome requests all persons wanting to borrow the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair, to provide the Shire of Broome with at least 24 hours notice, where possible.
3. The Shire of Broome requests that the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is only used within the boundaries of the townsite.
4. The Shire of Broome requests that all users and carers operating the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair thoroughly read all safety warnings and conditions for use, prior to journeying to the beach.
5. Whilst operating a vehicle on the beach, the Shire reminds all beach-going patrons of the 15km p/h speed limit. Please refer to map below of areas where vehicles are permitted.

## **Collection/Return of the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair**

6. The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair must be collected and returned to the Shire of Broome Beach Services upon an appointment being confirmed with the beach Inspector during normal office hours on 0407774293.
7. For the safety and comfort of future patrons, please ensure the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is rinsed thoroughly with fresh water and is free of sand.
8. Report any damages or mechanical problems when returning the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair.

# Safety and Handling

1. The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is not a self-propelled wheelchair. The occupant user should not attempt to push or propel the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair. The occupant should not grab, hold or try to push the wheelchair by the wheels.
2. Do not exceed the maximum weight allowance for the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair, which is 100kg.
3. Ensure that the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair, whether occupied or empty, is never left alone on a gradient (slope) greater than 5 degrees, or in the water.
4. The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair has been designed to be used at the waters edge and is stable with water levels at around the centre height of the wheels. It is important for users to understand that the chair has balloon tyres, which have a tendency to float depending on the weight being carried. **By taking the chair into deeper water the chair will float and become unstable** and require the need for considerable effort in controlling its stability.
5. It is recommended that you access the water where the beach is patrolled should the user wish to enter the water. Be aware that the recommended swimming area at Cable Beach is patrolled by Beach Services and Lifesavers from April through to October, between 9am and 4.30pm.
6. Wave patterns, wind strength, type of beach and underwater formations and tidal movements can all combine to create very difficult conditions for individuals to deal with. Prior to going to the beach or the waters edge ensure that you have the knowledge, experience and ability to deal with the conditions that may present themselves. Please check with the Beach Inspector or lifeguards prior entering the water. **IF IN DOUBT – THEN DON’T ENTER THE WATER.**
7. Ensure there are no loose parts (head support, footplate, arm rests, restraints, etc) before negotiating the beach and entering the water.
8. Arm rests and metal frames may get hot in the sun, please exercise caution by covering the Beach Freewheeler with a towel or keeping it in shaded areas if out in the sun to avoid burn.
9. Take a moment to check over the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair for any damage or mechanical fatigue.
10. The carer must ensure that the occupant user is adequately secured in the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair, prior to entering the water or travelling across the sand. It is also recommended that an able-bodied person wades into the water first to make certain that there are no holes or steep gradients.
11. When you apply the break to the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair, release the anti-tip lever from the nylon clip, then push the cross bar with your foot to secure onto the tyres. Ensure the anti-tip bar is secured with the nylon clip prior to travelling along the beach. (please see diagrams pg 4& 5 of the Instruction manual attached below)
12. The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is heavy and bulky, lifting without appropriate care and diligence may cause back injury. When lifting and carrying, ensure you use appropriate lifting and handling procedures. If possible get some assistance.
13. The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is designed to be pushed and used over sand and grass, please be cautious and avoid any rough or sharp objects or glass where possible.

# Beach Access

1. There are no access points in Broome suitable for the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair when occupied to be wheeled onto the beach. The Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair when occupied must NOT be pushed onto the beach via a beach access ramp. For the safety of the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair occupier and carer, you must deliver the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair and occupier to the beach using a vehicle. The Shire of Broome strongly recommends entry/exit to all beaches using a 4WD vehicle.
2. The Shire of Broome Beach Services and Beach Inspector can assist individuals onto Cable Beach using approved beach vehicles via the surf club entrance. Please discuss this with the Beach Inspector 0407 774 293 prior to arrival at Cable Beach.
3. Vehicle access to Broome beaches is available at the Cable Beach Reserve (in front of sunset bar and grill), Gantheaume Point, or from boat ramps at Entrance Point (Port Area) and Town Beach. Parking at Entrance Point (Port Area) and Town Beach are in the car parking areas only. Do not park on the beach.
4. Be aware that due to wind and tidal variations, beach suitability may vary from one day to the next.
5. Broome can experience very high and very low tides. If you are unfamiliar with the tidal movement at Broome beaches, please consult with the Shire of Broome prior to using the Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair or driving a vehicle onto the beach.

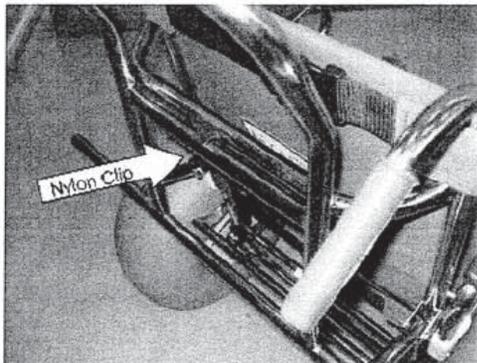
**Beach “FreeWheeler” Wheelchair is located at the Broome Surf  
Life Saving Club  
For further information or to loan the Beach “FreeWheeler”  
Wheelchair contact the  
Shire of Broome (08) 9191 3456**

## **PARKING BRAKE/ANTI-TIP ASSEMBLY**

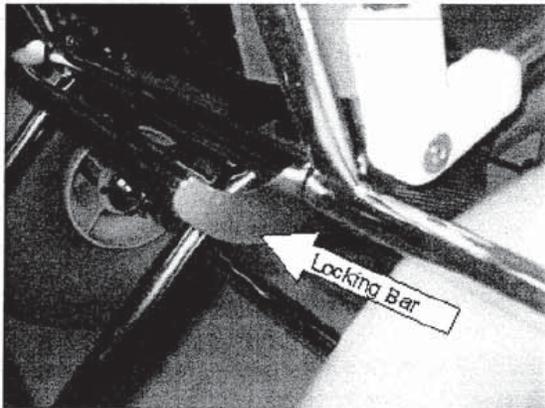
The parking brake and anti-tip mechanism when not in use is clipped to the top crossbar adjacent to the push handles.

### **TO APPLY THE PARK BRAKE**

Steady the chair; release the parking brake/anti-tip bar assembly manually from the nylon clip, swing down towards the rear wheels. Place your foot centrally on the anti-tip bar and push it forward onto the tyres. This will then depress the surface of the tyre and the locking bar needs to be engaged to prevent accidental release of the park brake and anti-tip bar.



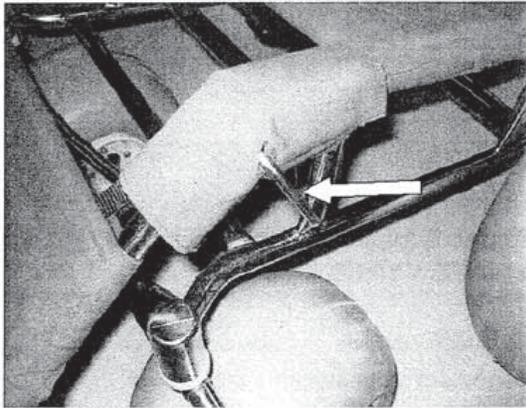
### **TO RELEASE THE PARK BRAKE**



Steady the chair, lift the locking bar upwards to release the park brake. Swing the parking brake/anti-tip bar assembly upwards and locate into the nylon-retaining clip for travel.

## FRONT FOOT REST

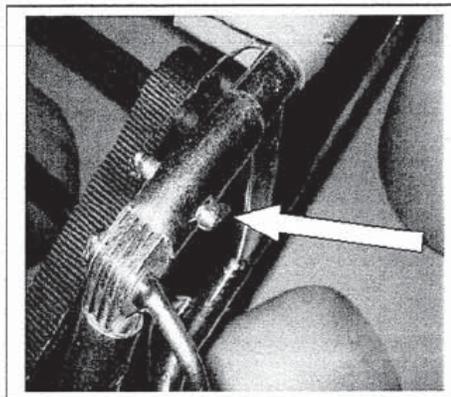
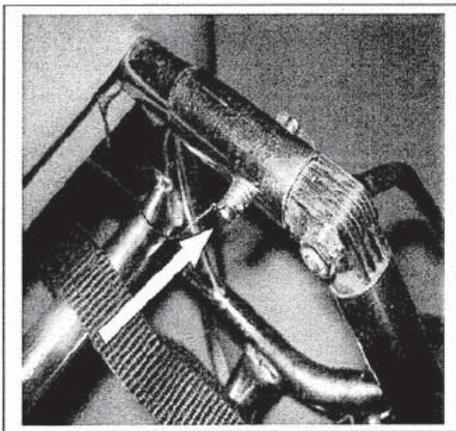
This is adjustable for angle and height, using the locking handles that are fitted to either side of the front frame pivot point (see photo below).



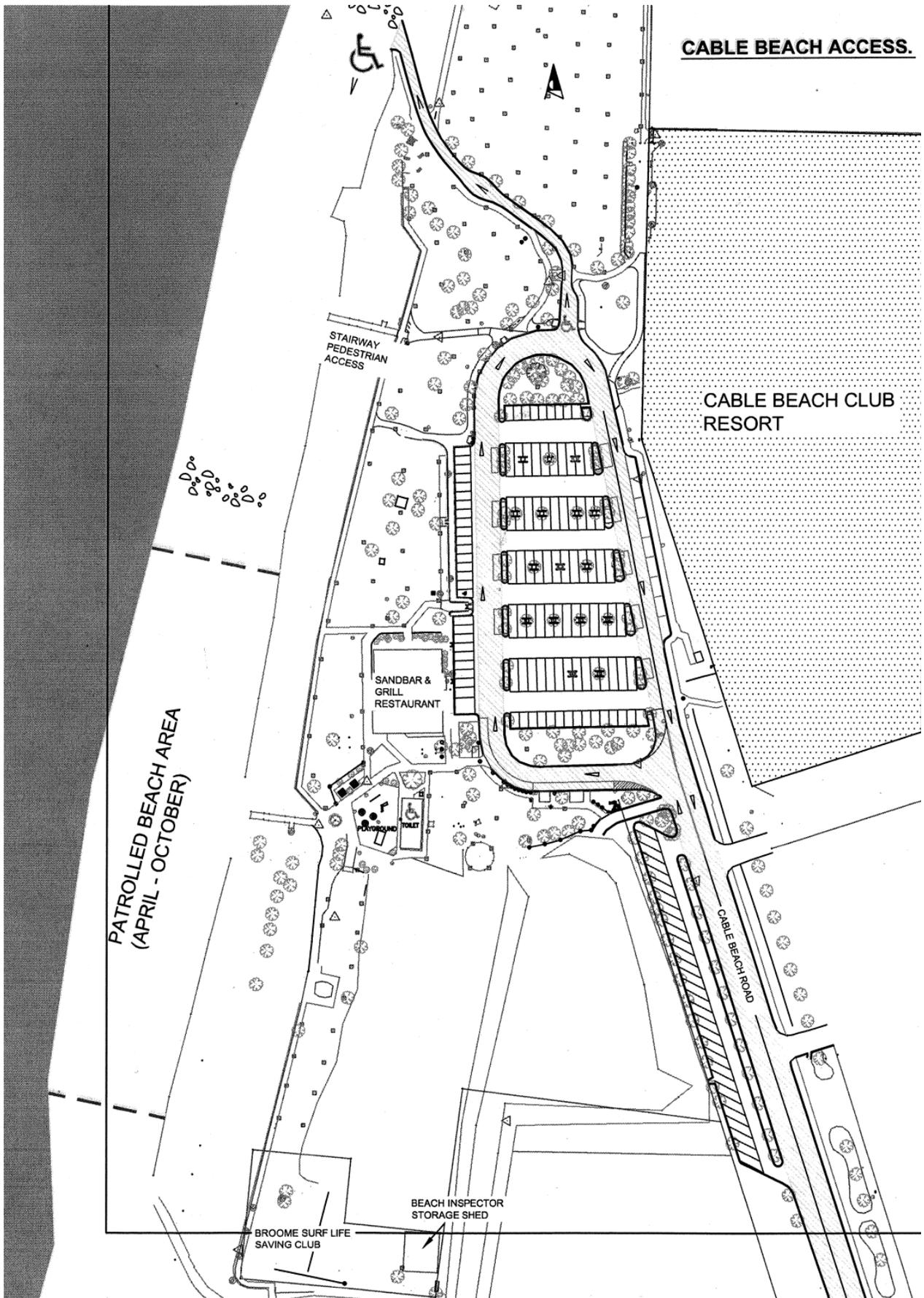
To adjust height/angle, release and turn in an anti-clockwise motion the locking handle on either side. Adjust footrest height to the preferred position and re-lock the footrest by rotating the locking handle in a clockwise direction.

The acrylic leg support panel is adjustable for position by releasing the Velcro straps, adjusting the panel as required and refitting the straps.

The front footrest can be taken off the chair by removing the two spring loaded drop latch pins (see photo below). To remove the pins, apply pressure to the pinhead (spring side), and rotate so the latch will not drop into the vertical position. Lift drop latch to the horizontal plane and release pressure on the pinhead. Ensuring the latch is in the horizontal plane, withdraw the pin.



Remove the footrest by pulling the frame away from the front end of the chair. To refit simply reverse the procedure. **NOTE** always locate the retaining drop latch pins in a secure place to prevent loss when not in use.



# Cable Beach Access Map

NOTE: DRIVING OR PARKING OF VEHICLES SOUTH OF THE BEACH VEHICLE ACCESS RAMP IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED WITHOUT THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT.