ABU 444 service



This reel seemed to working fine with the exception of the line lay. The spool did not move in and out fully when cranking the handle-at certain points the spool would 'hang up' and stick in one position. It is a display reel but it is still nice to have display reels that are fully functioning and can be fished.

Remove the spool and handle and then remove the two screws holding on the body plate.



The problem with the line lay is apparent-the oscillating slider is held in place on the main shaft with two c-clips. One of the c-clips is loose and needs to be replaced.

Remove the two c-clips on the main shaft and then remove the main shaft. Undo the nut holding the rotor housing in place and then remove the rotor housing. Note there is a small screw underneath the pinion gear on the reel body-remove this and then the pinion gear can be removed.

Unscrew the drag knob fully and then you will have access to the drag washers. Before reassembly give everything a thorough clean.



Reassemble the drag stack giving the fibre washers a light coat of drag grease. Oil the shaft on the main gear and replace it in the housing.



Coat the teeth and the upper surface of the gear with a light grease. Place a few drop of oil in the pinion bushing and then replace the pinion gear in the housing. Note the screw in the reel body that holds the pinion gear in place.



Apply a few drops of oil to the main shaft and then replace-you will need to place the oscillating slider on the stud on the main gear (note that the 'dimple' on the oscillating slider faces towards the base of the reel). When everything is in position replace the two c-clips ensuring that they are seated fully in the grooves on the main shaft.

Apply a drop of oil to the bail spring mechanism and the bail trip arm.



Replace the rotor cup and the rotor cup locking nut. Replace the body cover and fix in place with the two screws. Replace the spool and handle. The spool oscillation works fine now-note the perfect line lay-a lot better than many modern spinning reels!

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