

The Big Game 7000CL, 7500C3 and especially the Big Game 7500CT are IMO the best 7000 sized ABU reels ever made. All have hefty brass side-plates, 5.3:1 gears, a bearing on the drive shaft and one on each spool shaft end, and a very effective cast control system. You truly own one of the best, especially the actual Swedish made ones in the brown box.



Your 7000's will cast extremely far in the right hands, yours someday if you practice and learn the ways of that reel.

A few tips I have found along the way that I think might help:

- Spool it initially with a mono having a thickness around .018-.019", which is roughly US made Berkley Big Game 20-25lb. Don't overfill. Too thin a line and too much of it will cause control problems. Make sure to tie on a shock leader that wraps around the spool six or so times, and is rated for 10 lbs for every oz cast, i.e. 5 oz weight=50lb shock leader.
- Before spooling, make sure the bearings have been cleaned, and lubed with an oil of moderate viscosity. Blue label 3-in-one is the classic choice, as is red rocket fuel, or other similar weight oils. Experiment, and find out what works for you, but I strongly suggest you not go the thin oil route. Long spin spool times look great for TV ads, but terrible for controlled casting. About the only time I would say a very thin oil is O.K. is if you have a gale force wind to your back.

Also while apart, make sure to clean off the handle side spool shaft where it enters the pinion, and then very lightly lube this area with a very thin oil.

- Learn how to adjust spool tension. The right knob should be fully tight, while the left knob with the numbers should be adjusted so that just a little lateral "knock" can happen with the spool while the reel is in free spool. At this point you can turn the knob ever so slightly to add a little drag to the spool. As you get better, you will want to revert back to the first way I mentioned for maximum distance. A note about ABU spool caps. If there is an "O" ring present when removed, it's adjustable. No "O" ring means it stays fully tight. Some folks will cheat and use the non "O" ring right knob to center the spool, but this risks losing the knob, and jamming the handle in use. Copper shims under the caps are what's used to properly adjust spool centering.
- Brake blocks. You have four pins on the spool, and various sized blocks to help with cast control. Might want to add 4 blocks at first just to gauge the control of the reel. Casting weight, weather conditions, and lure/bait type will dictate to you later on how many and of what type of blocks to use. Greater experience will probably lead to using one, or two of the smaller brown fiber blocks to balance good control with good distance. Note that any combination of brake sizes and types can be used to really tune the reel the way you like.

Stick with it, and enjoy these wonderful reels as the long range casters that they are or can be!

Jon