

## Boat Davit Launching Procedures

### *General conditions to be met prior to launch*

- ❑ A Float Plan has been filed.
- ❑ Weather predictions allow for safe launch AND retrieval conditions.
- ❑ All persons involved with launching will wear a life jacket or work vest at all times.
- ❑ Persons not involved should stay clear of the area.
- ❑ The person assigned to disconnect the sling from the boat will wear a hard hat.
- ❑ Two people (minimum) are required, one of which must be a Cal Poly certified boat operator

### *Launching Procedures*

#### 1) Prepare boat for launching

- A) Complete boat checklist and file float plan.
- B) Remove boat cover and wheel covers.
- C) Unlock trailer from grating.
- D) Attach lifting harness to boat.

#### 19' Zodiac

- Short slings go to shackles on transom
- Mid-length slings attach to D-rings amidships
- Long slings attach to next forward D-rings

#### 16' Bayrunner

- Long line goes to bow
- Short lines go to stern corners

- E) Attach bow and stern (port side) tag lines.
- F) Put boat plugs in.
- G) Move trailer to davit area.
- H) With engine level, remove cowling and check oil. Vent fuel can, hook up fuel line and squeeze bulb pump. Hook up H<sub>2</sub>O hose attachment 'ear muffs' to engine, turn H<sub>2</sub>O on full force and start engine. On the Bayrunner, use the choke briefly if engine is cold. Let engine run for one minute to confirm function, then shut off.

#### 2) Hoisting boat.

- A) Align boat on grating with bow facing north (toward the base of the pier). The blue marks on grating indicate trailer placement.
- B) Get 2 boathooks from boating cargo container.
- C) Power on *Boat Davit* breaker in main electrical room.
- D) Unlock and power on breaker at boat davit.
- E) Unlock pennant box. Remove pennant and turn power on.
- F) Remove boat davit guidelines from cleats.
- G) Bring lifting block up and swing over boat.
- H) Clip hook into harness. **WEAR HARDHAT. DO NOT TOUCH CABLE.**
- I) Raise hook enough to verify that harness is secure and cable is centered over boat. Davit cable should not be twisted. This is to ensure that the boat rises vertically off trailer. Double-check all connections.
- J) Undo and remove chain railing.
- K) Raise boat off trailer.
- L) Swing boat out over the water stern first, use davit guidelines, davit push bar, and boat tag lines to position boat safely away from pier. Bow should now be facing away south (seaward).

#### 3) Lowering and releasing boat. CAUTION: This step has an increased likelihood of injury depending on sea conditions

- A) Lower boat using boat tag lines, boathook, and davit guidelines to fend boat off pier.
  - B) As boat nears water, drop taglines to people on the landing below.
  - C) When the boat is in the water pass one or both of the taglines (now bow/stern lines) to the pier (do not tie off to pier).
  - D) Watch rise and fall of the swell, adjust slack in taglines accordingly. Do not leave vessel unattended.
  - E) Winch operator should keep tension in the cable until the boat operator is in the boat and ready to disconnect harness.
  - F) With boat operator in position at the stern, winch operator should slack off just enough to allow boat operator to release stern harness clips.
  - G) With both clips removed winch operator should take up slack as boat operator moves to the bow.
  - H) The boat operator should keep block from swinging by maintaining control of the stern harness lines.
  - I) Boat operator unclips the bow clip.
  - J) Leaving the harness attached to the hook, winch operator raises harness from the boat.
  - K) Raise hook and harness.
  - L) Secure davit guidelines so davit cannot swing.
  - M) Put chain railing back up.
- 4) Leaving the pier
- A) With the boat attached to the pier load any additional persons and or equipment (use the boat davit for heavy equipment)
  - B) Following engine starting procedures start the engine and let idle for a couple minutes while loading
  - C) When not loading try to fend boat away from pier --- IMPORTANT: the boat operator's primary job at this point is to fend the boat away from the pier. Depending on tide and sea condition there is a possibility of flipping the boat by trapping the gunwales under a portion of the pier on a rising swell.
  - D) When all supplies and people are loaded, untie the boat from pier
- 5) Retrieving boat
- A) Reverse steps in 3, 4 above to retrieve boat.
  - B) Important: After sling is connected, lift boat just clear of the water and confirm that all water drains from both pontoon gutters on the hull. It may be necessary to stand on the transom to tip the water out. The boat should rest in the sling with the bow slightly elevated.
  - C) If the bow is down and the water will not drain, lower a tag line from the pier deck, attach line to the bow eye, raise the boat several feet and secure tag line to cleat, then lower boat to just above the water. This procedure should tip the bow up and drain the water.