

# **GP14 Launch Checklist**

## **Before Leaving the Boat Park**

- ✓ Bungs in and drain plugs tightened securely
- ✓ Rudder off and stored safely until afloat
- ✓ Centerboard fully raised and locked
- ✓ Trolley tyres inflated and handles secure
- ✓ Safety stop fitted to trolley
- ✓ Painter attached and long enough to control boat
- ✓ Crew briefing: roles agreed before launch
- ✓ Take time — avoid rushing before rolling

## **Moving to the Water**

- ✓ Walk the trolley straight down the slipway, not sideways
- ✓ Stop before the waterline; check slope and tide
- ✓ Remove and stow cover safely away from water
- ✓ Keep bow pointing into wind; mainsheet loose
- ✓ Hold bow firmly; prevent premature float-off
- ✓ Push together — helm guides handle, crew steadies bow
- ✓ Use painter as safety line if slip is steep

## **Launching**

- ✓ Float boat until hull just lifts from trolley
- ✓ Crew holds painter, helm steadies boat
- ✓ Push trolley clear and park above waterline
- ✓ Helm boards last, facing forward, sheet loose
- ✓ Lower rudder and board halfway once clear

- ✓ Always launch into wind if possible
- ✓ Keep mainsheet uncleated to avoid gusts
- ✓ If single-handed, use long painter and wade in gradually

## **Coming Ashore / Recovery**

- ✓ Approach slowly, head-to-wind, sails eased early
- ✓ Drop jib if needed for control
- ✓ Raise rudder and centerboard halfway before grounding
- ✓ Crew steps out first to guide bow
- ✓ Align trolley straight behind boat
- ✓ Float boat on evenly; avoid twisting hull
- ✓ Attach winch strop or bow hook
- ✓ Walk up together — no solo pulling in deep water
- ✓ Drain hull, rinse trolley, loosen rig tension
- ✓ Cover once dry

## **Windy & Tidal Conditions**

- ✓ Onshore wind: crew holds bow to wind, helm boards quickly
- ✓ Offshore wind: use long painter, prevent boat blowing away
- ✓ Crosswind: launch from windward side, bow to wind before hoisting
- ✓ Tidal flow: launch into current and hold with painter

## **Common Pitfalls to Avoid**

- ✓ Forgetting bungs
- ✓ Dropping rudder too soon

- ✓ Letting mainsheet cleat during launch
- ✓ Misaligned trolley scratching hull
- ✓ Painter too short letting boat drift away

## **Equipment Tips**

- ✓ Long floating painter for control
- ✓ Padded trolley supports prevent hull wear
- ✓ Painter carabiner for quick attach/detach
- ✓ Wading shoes for safe footing
- ✓ Small sponge for quick bail-out or wipe-down

## **Quick Summary**

- ✓ Before launch: bungs in, rudder off, board up, painter on
- ✓ During launch: float free, steady, crew holds bow
- ✓ During recovery: approach slow, raise foils, align trolley, rinse and drain