

BASIC SKIFF LAUNCH AND RECOVERY PROTOCOL

1. Before considering any launch check the weather forecast. The Met Office website provides a very good localised forecast.
2. Check the tides. You don't want to be stuck waiting to bring the skiff ashore.
3. Be sure to inform others of your ETA. Remember to allow time for it being a bit harder than you thought.
4. Check the skiff is ready for launch. Check the hull visually looking for serious damage. Ensure oar pins are sound the seats are fixed in place and the rudder and its mounts are sound.
REMEMBER TO FIT THE BUNG.
5. Ensure that the safety equipment (Anchor with chain and warp, bailers x 2, grab bag with first aid kit, flare pack, VHF and instruction sheet.) is present and in correct order. The protocol for the use of life jackets is in a separate document but must also be followed.
6. Transport the skiff to a suitable launch site using the launching trolley. Depending on conditions one person may require to enter the water. With the bow rope held firmly on shore roll the trolley in to the water until the skiff floats. The trolley will float too but it can be pulled clear of the skiff and should be left ABOVE the high water mark. Pull the bow of the skiff on to the beach.
7. The cox/senior crew member should then board the skiff and fit the rudder ensuring the locking tab is positioned properly.

Basic rowing protocol is in a separate document.

8. Once returned safely to shore the rudder should be removed and laid in the skiff. To recover the skiff ease the skiff in to the water with the bow rope held firmly on shore. Locate the skiff in to the guides and slide the trolley under the skiff. Secure the bow rope to the trolley handle and pull clear of the water. Remove the bung.
9. Having returned the skiff to the shed hose down inside and out with freshwater. Bail and sponge the remaining water out of the boat before storing inside. Stow safety equipment in the appropriate places.
10. Report any incidents that have occurred either the Safety Officer or a member of the committee.