

Launching and Retrieving Instructions for Careel 18 - Iris 391

1. Before setting off:

Charge the battery. Check the trailer lights. Check the trailer safety chain.

Tie down the back of the sliding hatch to prevent it being sucked off when traveling at highway speeds.

Confirm that the outboard motor screw clamps are tight and the lanyard securing the motor to the transom is fastened.

Secure the rudder so that it does not swing during travel

2. At the ramp, remove the trailer light and number plate board

3. Remove the girth strap securing the boat to the trailer

4. Fully lower the rear wobble rollers and rear-most trailer skids. (Failing to do so will eventually crack the hull during launching)

5. Put the petrol tank into the fuel locker

6. Open the cabin storm-boards to get access to the cabin

7. Fully raise, then cleat, the centreboard. (It was lowered onto the trailer centre rollers to release the tension on the centreboard stop, particularly when traveling)

8. Attach the dog clip to the front hatch catch

9. Fit the wind indicator to the top of the mast.

10. Undo the rear ocky strap securing the mast to the pushpit.

11. Install and secure the mast-prop, then rest the top end of the mast on the mast-prop roller

12. Remove the small shock cords securing the halyards and shrouds to the mast

13. Silicone spray the mast sail track and pulleys.

14. Go to the front of the boat and undo the ocky strap securing the mast to the pulpit. Roll the mast back on the mast-prop roller and fit the foot of the mast into the tabernacle. (Watch that the shrouds don't snag on the mast prop or cabin roof fittings)

15. Check that the shroud turnbuckles are free and not 'knuckled over'. Lay the shrouds towards the stern in the gunwales, then outside the pushpit.

16. Tie a rope to the forestay, just above the Highfield lever, and thread the free end around the bow roller and back to the mast. (This rope provides additional control as you raise the mast.)

17. Lay out the baby stay so that it is not tangled and is within easy reach on the foredeck.

18. Close the sliding hatch and stand, feet apart, on the hatch, straddling the mast. (Stand with your feet on the sides of the hatch, above the runners, to avoid stressing the hatch.)

19. Holding the rope in one hand and using your legs rather than your back, lift the mast until it is vertical. If there is any snagging of shrouds or any other difficulty, you can just secure the rope onto a mast cleat and investigate.
20. When the mast is up, wrap the rope around a mast cleat, or merely hold it in your hand to maintain tension while you attach and close the babystay Highfield lever. Relax - the mast is now up and secure.
21. Remove the rope. Attach the forestay Highfield lever to the bow furler and then close the Highfield lever. (Both Highfield levers should be quite hard to close.)
22. Open the sliding hatch. Position the boom so that the end protrudes slightly out the companionway. Clip the topping lift to the end of the boom and lift it so that the end of the boom is about 1m above the cockpit floor, then cleat the topping lift.
23. Take the fore-end of the boom and attach the gooseneck near the top of the track on the mast. (Note that the topping lift takes the weight of the boom.) Attaching it near the top of the gooseneck track allows you to later pull it down to tension the sail.
24. Clip the mainsheet to the fitting on the end of the boom. Remove and stow the mast-prop.
25. Thread the top corner of the mainsail into the sail track, attach the main halyard then run the main halyard back to the cockpit. Tie a shock cord around the boom to stop the sail unraveling.
26. Attach the lower end of the boom vang and Cunningham. (The upper ends will be attached after the mainsail is raised.)
27. Select a headsail and fasten onto the furler. Clip the hanks onto the forestay. Attach the jib halyard then set up the halyard to either utilize the furler, or run the halyard via the pulleys at the base of the mast, back to the cockpit.
28. Attach the jib sheets to the jib clew. Pass them back to the cockpit, inside the shrouds for a jib, or outside for a genoa.
29. Position and fasten the cockpit cushions. Attach the radio aerial. Attach the Burke throw bag
30. Fasten a long rope to the bow cleat and stow neatly on the foredeck near the bow.
31. Raise the outboard motor. Confirm that the lanyard securing the motor to the transom is attached. (This should be done before travelling).
32. Walk around the boat on the trailer, checking that the motor and centerboard are raised and that everything looks right for the launch.
33. Remove the winch wire from the bow, then launch the boat.

Retrieving – Generally a reverse of the launching steps

34. When the boat is back on the trailer, lift and fasten the rear skids and wobble rollers so that they almost touch the hull. (The weight of the boat is taken on the center rollers; the skids are there to limit any rocking.) Similarly, don't over-tighten the girth strap as it is also there just to limit any rocking.
35. Lower the centreboard onto the trailer rollers, taking all tension off the strop.