



## **Voyager Trailers - *launch and retrieve* procedures**

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### **General**

Voyager trailers are custom built for each individual hull. Most trailer manufacturers have a standard range of trailers and adapt the trailer hull support to the hull shape to achieve fitment. At Voyager we have individual build specifications for each make and model of hull design. The benefit of having custom build specifications is that our custom-built trailers come with proven functionality.

### **Launching**

When launching it is very important to leave the safety chain connected until the trailer is in the correct position for launching.

The trailer only requires partial submersion for launching, the top of the keel entry roller should be level with the water to achieve the perfect launch. At this depth the boat will roll off the trailer guided by the wobble rollers and will have ample water depth to float the boat.

If the trailer is submerged further than the top of the keel roller you will run the risk of the boat floating off the hull support and floating on to the mudguards or cross-members resulting in hull damage. Let the wobble roller hull support do its job and reduce the risk of damaging your boat.

Ramp angle can vary depending on where you launch so special care must be taken when launching from steep ramps. Shallow ramps are less likely to cause launching issues, as long as there is sufficient water to float the boat trouble free launching will be successful. Use the top of keel entry roller in all cases as the optimum depth for trailer submersion.

### **Retrieving**

Retrieving a boat requires more care than launching as there are many factors to take into consideration;

- We do not recommend driving your boat onto the trailer when retrieving the boat. This can cause uneven loading and probable hull and/or trailer damage. While we are aware that there are people capable of safely driving their boats onto trailers, resulting damage is not covered under warranty.
- Prior to backing the trailer down the ramp pull out the winch rope to within a metre of the end of the trailer and secure the winch hook onto the rear hull support rocker arm or other convenient part of the trailer. When this is done lock the winch ratchet lever. This will enable you to secure the winch hook into the boat winching eye when guiding the boat onto the trailer prior to winching on.

- ***This part is the most important to achieve correct retrieval;*** Back the trailer into the water until the top of the keel entry roller is level with the waterline, do not submerge the trailer any deeper than this at the ramp. This will allow the hull support components to do their job and align the hull correctly on the trailer. Any deeper, or shallow, may result in damage to the boat hull or the trailer or uneven loading.
- When the boat has been winched up snug into the winch post, connect the safety chain and then you are ready to drive up the ramp onto level ground. Do not drive up any ramp without first attaching the safety chain – this will help secure the boat in case the winch rope snaps or winching hook fails. Prior to commencing your trip home always ensure that the boat has been adequately secured with load binders at the transom onto the rear of the trailer.
- Wind and current have a significant effect on achieving correct trailer/boat alignment prior to winching on. Ensuring that the keel comes into contact first with the keel entry roller, will guide the boat onto the trailer and self-align the boat centrally on the trailer.
- Uneven weight distribution on the boat will cause the boat to load unevenly. Similarly, any passengers remaining on the boat can also cause uneven loading. It is important to compensate in both cases by either evening out the load or having passengers compensate for the uneven loading by shifting from side to side accordingly. Other ways to compensate uneven loading are;
  - turn the outboard motor toward the side that is otherwise loading higher.
  - Angle park the trailer at the ramp to ensure that the trailer is parallel with the waterline.