



Volunteer Marine Rescue Brisbane Inc

Providing a Safer Marine Environment for Our Community

95 Allpass Parade, Shorncliffe Qld 4017

PO Box 201, Sandgate Qld 4017

t: 07 3269 8888 f: 07 3269 2245

e: management@vmrsandgate.net.au w: vmrbrisbane.com.au

Retrieving Sandgate 1 (if able to float)

1.0 Introduction

The following sets out the procedures to be adopted when retrieving our rescue vessel Sandgate 1 from the water for storage in the boatshed provided there is sufficient water depth to "float on".

2.0 References

Nil

3.0 Detailed Information

3.1 Preparing to Retrieve

- a) For preparing to retrieve the vessel it will be necessary to have a crew member open the boatshed in the manner as set out in SOP **VES015**.
- b) With the boatshed open, approach the slipway, but stay well clear. Have a crew member launch the cradle from the boatshed using the control gear described in SOP **VES015 Clause 3.2**.
- c) Continue lowering the cradle until the water level reaches the painted marks on the rear guide posts of the cradle. At this point the vessel will "float on".

NOTE: There may be some extremely low tides throughout the year where the water level will not reach the painted marks when the cradle is at its lowest. In these instances either, wait for the tide to rise to a suitable level, or refer to SOP **VES021** for an alternative retrieval procedure.

3.2 Retrieving

- a) If wind and sea conditions make it unsafe to attempt to retrieve the vessel without the possibility of sustaining damage **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RETRIEVE**. Tie the vessel up to the end of the pontoon and it will be housed by others when the weather subsides (the midweek crew will put the boat away when tide and weather permits).
- b) Once the cradle is in its correct position, drive the vessel towards it, aiming to enter between the first two posts on the cradle to bring the vessel straight up the centre.
- c) If your attempt to bring the vessel straight up the centre of the cradle fails, **DO NOT** use the power of the motors to lever against the cradle. Reverse off clear and try again. It may be prudent to just enter the cradle then use manpower to "walk" the vessel all the way in.
- d) On successful entry into the cradle, remove the securing ropes from the hooks on the rear locating posts of the cradle then take each rope around its respective rear bollard and secure, as tight as possible, to the horn cleat on each side of the rear gunwale using several figure eight wraps then half hitches (any other type of knot may not be easily undone). Lower the radio aerials and the light mast.
- e) Raise both motors fully and activate the "up" button/switch to begin retrieving the cradle with the vessel.



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- f) Stop before entering the boatshed (an automatic brake on the winch will prevent the cradle rolling backwards) and perform the cleaning of the vessel as outlined in SOP **VES012**.
- g) On completion of cleaning, continue winching the cradle and vessel into the boatshed to its home position.
- h) Press the emergency "stop" button on the control switchbox on the post above the winch to prevent the winch being accidentally activated.
- i) Close up the boatshed doors and switch off any lighting in the reverse order to SOP **VES015** that you used when entering.

4.0 Summary

Adhering to the above instructions will ensure a safe retrieval of the rescue vessel and securing of the boatshed.