

MID-GEORGIA SOARING ASSOCIATION

LAUNCH PROCEDURES

Glider pilot:

- Accept tow rope for hookup only after “Before Takeoff Checklist” is complete.
- Give thumbs up to wing runner when ready to launch.
- For three wheel and CG hook apply full wheel brake.
- Watch Pawnee complete slack removal.
- When slack is removed wag rudder. If no response from tow pilot, call “glider ready.”
- Remove wheel brake immediately and fully/close and lock spoilers when takeoff roll begins.
- Avoid distractions that take eyes off tow plane – can cause kiting.
- Be ready for PTTT (Premature Termination of The Tow)!

Ground team:

- Pull rope straight out from tow plane Tost funnel.
- Show tail dolly to glider pilot.
- Show tow rope end to glider pilot only after canopies are closed and locked.
- After receiving thumbs up check glider configuration ((canopy(ies) closed, tail dolly removed)) and pattern is clear before leveling wings.
- Signal tow pilot to take up remaining slack.
- After seeing glider pilot wagging his rudder, signal tow pilot for takeoff with large circular overhead arm movements.

Tow pilot:

- Taxi on to runway so as to avoid prop wash on open glider canopies.
- Take up final slack when signaled to do so by wing runner.
- After seeing takeoff signal from glider (rudder wag) and wing runner (large circular overhead arm movements) begin takeoff.