

# Winch Launch Procedure

**Generally :** The frequency for La Motte du Caire is 122.500 Mhz

Traditionally at La Motte, when the first pilot to take off doesn't succeed in staying up, he is allowed to line up his glider immediately after landing, so he can have another go.

It is very helpful when there is somebody to drive the cable-car. When the winchdriver also has to do this job, all pilots have to wait longer for take off.

When lining up gliders their radios should be switched on.

Please preflight your glider before you line up, so you can do this in a unhurried manner.

When we are busy, the first two gliders in the launch queue should be ready when the cables arrive. Everybody else in the queue will benefit.

Don't forget to inform in time the name of the pilot, the type of glider and perhaps the time you need before take off. The winch-driver is writing the starting-list and he may have the motor running.

Before you initiate the launch you should be sure that nobody is low above the winch or in the circuit. Sometimes gliders from other airfields are not on frequency.

When somebody wants to take off in the afternoon, he should inform the winchdriver about 15 minutes beforehand, so that the winch driver can prepare.

**Procedure:** Perhaps the winchdriver is not in the winch, so first call him before sending all your message.

Treuil de AB ?

Winch, AB calling you

He will answer you (*oui j'écoute - yes I hear you*). In case nobody answers, wait a moment and try again.

**Announce:** Treuil de AB, LS 4, équipage Miller (dans une minute)

Winch from AB, LS4, pilot Miller (in one minute)

Make your cockpit checks, hook on the cable, close the canopy and hold up your thumb to indicate you are ready. The wingtip holder will lift the wing.

**Commands:** Treuil de AB, tend le cable blachère / route  
Winch AB, pull in the cable blachère / route

The winchdriver confirms and begins to pull in the cable slowly (taking up slack).  
When the cable is tight you announce loud and clear:

**Tendu et prêt**  
Tight and ready (all out)

Acceleration begins immediately and the winchdriver announces:  
**Début de treuillée à la Motte du Caire**  
(Beginning of launching at La Motte du Caire)

**Correction:** Depending on the wind or undesired drifting the winchdriver may request a correction:  
**Corrige blachère / route**  
(Correction towards Blachère or road)

**Interruption  
of the**

**procedure:** Halte Stop, Halte Stop, Halte Stop  
As long as the glider is on the ground, the procedure will be interrupted immediately. Once airborne, do not use this command any more.

**Speed during  
the launch:** plus vite = faster  
  
lentement = slower

**Attention, new procedure:**

To the end of the launch the winchdriver will announce:  
„fin de treuillée“ (end of the winch launch)  
This means that the pilot pushes forward the stick and the winchdriver reduces the power, so that the cable releases without tension.