

Flight Director Checklist

NS-62

Launch Location = Norlo Park Fayetteville

Launch Date = Sat. April 1

Attempt Number = # 1

Payloads:

Helios

Cmd

nm Cmd

Basic

Trace

Glides

Back's Box

Mars

Glider

Comments:

One Month in Advance:

- Vehicle Rental (check that outlets work)
- Helium Ordered
- HAM Radio Club notified about using UMD's call sign

Launch Week

Pre-Flight Planning Checklist

- Send the launch announcement email
- Create Zello station UMD NS-67
- Print waivers
- Preliminary weather check
- Preliminary ground track check
- Payloads determined and ordered
- Vehicles identified and configured for tracking

Pre-Flight Systems Checklist

- BLT Bucket (check Inventory)
- Inflation Bucket (check Inventory)
- Recovery Bucket (check Inventory)
- Launch Kit (check Inventory)
- Balloons (2) Size of balloon 1 1600g Size of balloon 2 1600g
- Batteries (check if charged)
- Bow Saw
- Clean Up Bucket (Broom, Dust Pan, Garbage)
- Extension Pole
- Functioning Radios and GPS
- Helium
- Ligates
- Machete
- Parachute and Ring + Assembled Command Module kit
- Payloads
- Phone Chargers
- Power Inverter
- Scythe
- Soldering Iron & wire
- Sling Shot
- Spare LVCs
- Cmd kit
- Helios kit

- Radios/GPS
- Tie in complete Exempt payloads: _____
- Tarp (Big and Small)
- Tracking Antennas
- ~~Tree Climbing Gear~~
- Van Keys
- Walkie-Talkies 6
- Wi-Fi hotspot
- 900s Ground station

FAA Notification Checklist

- File NOTAM (6 hours prior)
- Call NOTAM desk (866-225-7410 ext 9) to get NOTAM number:
NOTAM # _____
- Call Washington Center (2 hours prior): 703-771-3470
- Call HGR Tower 301-797-2039 at 7am

Radios + Callsigns Checklist

- Command Module: _____
- Main tracking van: _____
- Second tracking van: _____
- Specific payloads: _____
- _____
- _____

Others: _____

PRE-LAUNCH MEETING / PRE-LAUNCH DAY

- Launch Confirmation/Postponement Email
- Pre-Launch Meeting**
 - Everyone should have signed a waiver: new ones collected, sign-In sheet for other visitors
 - Launch time goal: _____

- Assign/prepare for jobs (BLT, Comms, Nav, etc.)
- Chase Vehicles will need to leave semi-immediately be ready to leave within 5-10 minutes of launch
- Everyone helps clean up, so we can get out efficiently

Final Checks

- Waiver Check
- Weather Check
- Ground Track Check
- Zello Check

Launch Day

On launch pad

- Parachute to Balloon lanyard configured
- Parachute and Ring assembled
- Command Module in place
- Payload string lined up and assembled
- Harmless payload stickers on each payload
- Payload string weighed: Necessary Free Lift = _____
- Antennas in place
- No sharp edges or weak links

Pre-Inflation Checklist

- Helium Tanks uncovered and regulator hooked up
- Hook lanyard from parachute around balloon neck before connecting to inflation tube!**
- Instructions and Gloves to BLT anchors
- Instructions given to tether handlers & tether in place
- Full payload string laid out and ready to go
- Balloon in BLT ready to go

Inflation

BLT Instructions: (Always use BLT!!!)

- Lay out BLT with inside facing up (Velcro side down). Immediately fold together to prevent moisture from getting inside the BLT.
- When ready for inflation, Place balloon in the center with the neck facing one open end.
- Fold around the balloon, the Velcro seem should be towards one side so it doesn't end up on the top when fully inflated
- Designate people to hold BLT down. (At least 4 people)

Start inflating at max flow rate

Inflation Complete: Measure Total Free Lift = _____

Pre-Release Checklist

- Check payloads are ready
- Good final communications check

Countdown & Release

- All Payloads turned on
- Raise Stack above pad in full flight configuration
- Telemetry and Downlink good
- Tether handlers ready
- Countdown from 10
- Release

Release Time Mark = _____

Initial Heading of Flight = _____

Post launch (during chase)