

# THE BIG BIRD

## Big Game Side Surface Planer



### Assembly Instructions for The Big Bird

- Step 1:** Slide rubber o-ring over the loop end of the Osprey release.
- Step 2:** Connect Osprey release to the tow arm with split ring provided as shown in illustration A.
- Step 3:** Slide rubber o-ring over split ring to hold split ring in place on tow arm.
- Step 4:** Attach snap or second Osprey release to attachment ring at the back of the Big Bird with split ring as shown in illustration A.

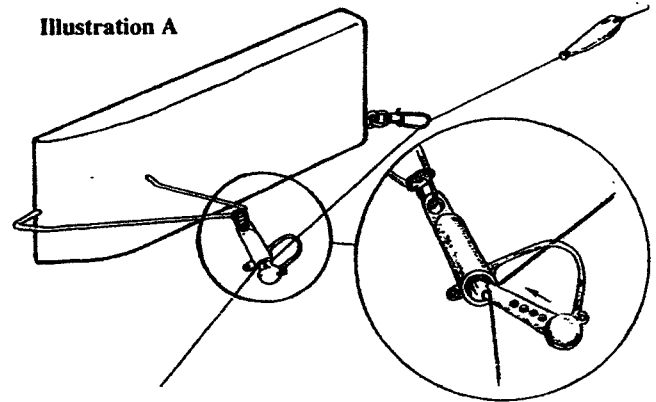
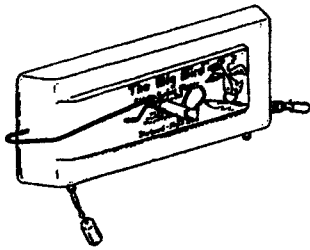


Illustration A

Illustration B



### Rigging Instructions for The Big Bird

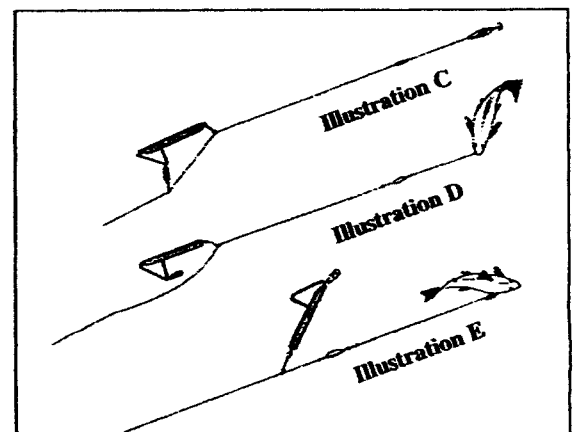
**Slider Rigging:** The slider rigging method keeps the board connected to the line after it releases. The slider method can be used with either an unweighted flat line or a weighted line. When using Yellow Birds on an unweighted flat line it will be necessary to place a large bead on the line ahead of a swivel to act as a planer board stop. This will prevent the board from sliding all the way down to the fish. We recommend placing this stop three feet or more ahead of your lure. To run lures deep you should add weight to your line using a trolling lead or rubber core sinker several feet ahead of your lure in place of the bead and swivel combination. The more line you let out, the deeper your line will run. We recommend 25 to 150 feet. Now you are ready to attach the Big Bird.

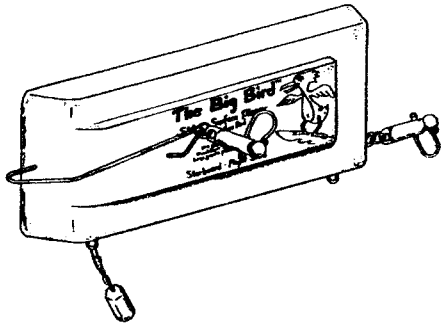
**Step 1:** Place line in the notch at the end of the peg as shown in illustration B. Push peg and line into the tube of the Osprey. The notches on the side of the peg indicate how much tension is holding the line. The farther in you push the peg the greater the tension is on the line. This will determine how much pressure is needed for the line to release when the fish strikes. If peg is pushed all the way in the line will not release. You can then retrieve the board with the fish. You can then remove the board in the boat. This allows you to play the fish without leaving the board on the line.

**Step 2:** Open snap and insert line as shown in Illustration A. Be sure to close snap after line is inserted. The Big Bird is now ready for use.

**Step 3:** Place The Big Bird in the water while boat is trolling. Let out desired amount of line until The Big Bird is at a desired distance from the side of the boat.

Illustration C shows The Big Bird attached to line, rigged as a slider. Illustration D shows The Big Bird releasing when fish hits. Illustration E shows The Big Bird sliding down the line to trolling lead stop.





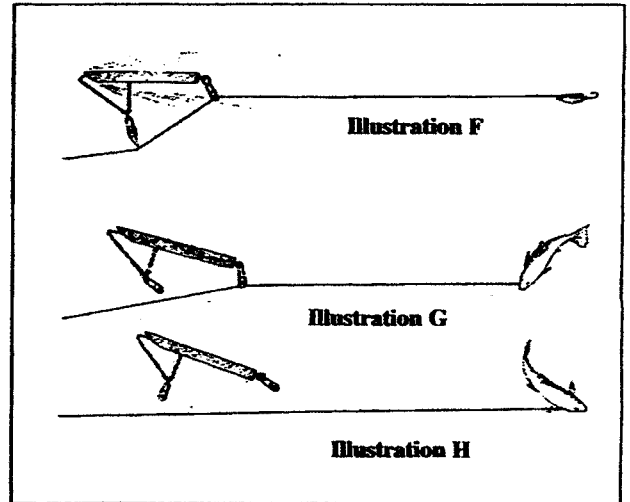
**Double Release Rigging:** Double release rigging allows The Big Bird to drop completely off the line when the fish strikes. This eliminates the need to retrieve the Bird with the fish. Using this method you will have to swing around and retrieve the Bird. To double release rig you will need to replace the snap on the back of the Bird with an additional release.

**Step 1:** Repeat step 1 from slider rigging instructions.

**Step 2:** Replace snap on back of board with second Osprey. Install line in the release as step one. Do not push the peg in as far as you did on the primary release on the tow arm. The idea is that after it releases from the primary release on the tow arm the line will also break free from the rear release.

**Step 3:** Repeat step 3 from slider rigging instructions.

Illustration F shows The Big Bird double release rigged. Illustration G shows The Big Bird tow arm release breaking free from the line when the fish hits. Illustration H shows The Big Bird detached from the line.

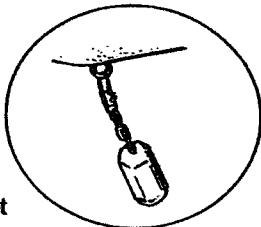


Double release rigging is a method preferred by many walleye and striper fishermen across the country. This method is for use in lakes. It's not a good idea for use in rivers with heavy current.

## Trimming the Board

The Big Bird is internally ballasted and will run well in most conditions. Occasionally when running large deep diving crank baits, musky baits, heavily weighted rigs, or lead core line the nose of The Big Bird might lift. When the nose lifts out of the water this reduces the amount of surface area in contact with the water in turn reducing its ability to run out away from the boat. This will also cause the board to skip in rough water. When this happens you need to add Xtra Ballast to the front attachment ring to trim the Board out. It may also be necessary to add Xtra Ballast to the rear of the board when running at higher speeds. Running at higher speeds can cause the Board to dive. If this happens add Xtra Ballast to the rear attachment ring of The Big Bird.

### NEW! Xtra Ballast for The Big Bird



Xtra Ballast weights let you trim out The Big Bird to keep it running properly in all water conditions.

#### Xtra Ballast (2 per package)

- XB12 (1/2 ounce) - \$4.95
- XB34 (3/4 ounce) - \$4.95
- XB10 (1 ounce) - \$4.95

\*Add \$2.00 for shipping & handling.

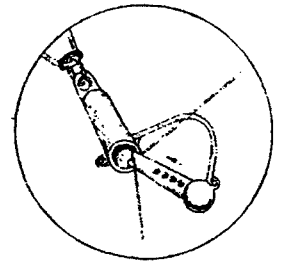
### Xtra Supplies

Send order to:

Yellow Bird Products  
P.O. Box 785  
Frankfort, IL 60423

Order Toll Free:  
888-696-BIRD(2473)  
or check our website at  
[www.planerboard.com](http://www.planerboard.com)

### NEW! Osprey Release



Osprey lets you adjust tension without tools. It's easy to rig in a moving boat. It works with monofilament or Fire Line. The Osprey works on all planer boards.

- Osprey Release Kit - ORS - \$4.95  
(1 release, snap, o-ring, split rings)
- Osprey Twin pack - ORT - \$7.95  
(2 releases w/split rings)

\*Add \$2.00 for shipping & handling.