

16 Inch LX200GPS Checklist

Start Up

- ✓ Plug in the computer to the power. Verify that the telescope drive has power.
- ✓ Open the dome.
- ✓ Remove the dust covers for the main objective, eyepiece, and finder scopes.
- ✓ Power up the computer and log on. Verify the date and time are correct.
- ✓ Open *TheSkyX Professional* by double-clicking on the icon. The program should open. Verify that the starfield it shows looks correct given the time and date.
- ✓ Position the tall ladder so the telescope doesn't hit it when the telescope slews.
- ✓ Once *TheSkyX Professional* has started, establish a link with the telescope by selecting Start Up | Connect Telescope. It will ask you to 'Home' the telescope. Click 'yes' and the telescope will slew to the home position (hopefully close to where the last user left it). After you hear two series of three beeps the telescope should be ready to go.

Using TheSkyX and Centering your Target

- ✓ On the screen, the yellow circle shows the current position of the telescope and the red bullseye marks the target position selected with the mouse.
- ✓ To place an object in view, find the object in *TheSky* either by clicking on the object in the sky map or in the 'Search for:' field and then click on 'Find'.
- ✓ Click on the Slew button to move the telescope to the currently selected object. Depending on which side of the pier it is on it may slew through the pole. The shaded areas on the star map that straddle the meridian mark the limits of tracking before it is necessary to flip the telescope to the other side of the mount. Don't let it hit the ladder when it moves.
- ✓ Use the finders and the handpaddle to center your object. Focus as needed.

Shut Down

- ✓ Under the 'Start Up' menu choose 'Find Home' and slew there. There will be two sequences of three beeps when you have arrived.
- ✓ Choose the 'Shutdown' tab and 'Disconnect Telescope'
- ✓ Close *TheSkyX Professional*
- ✓ Right-click the Windows *START* logo at bottom left and choose 'Shutdown'
- ✓ After the computer has shut off, unplug it and the power to the telescope drive
- ✓ Replace the dust covers for the main objective, eyepieces, and finder scopes
- ✓ Close the dome. Rotate it such that the slit is facing East
- ✓ Turn off the illuminated reticle and reading light if you used them
- ✓ Turn off the lights and lock up