Schulman Telescope Hand Paddle

The hand paddle used at the Schulman Telescope is technically an non-optimized device for the LCOGT controller. The controller (like most of its kind) was designed for semi-professional operation and research and not so much for “starparty” type usage. Thus this paddle has some “features” that should be known before using it.


Fast
(Shift)
TELRAD
Red
Top
(Mark)
White
Next
(Park)
N
NE
NW
E
W
SE
SW
S
AUX-AB
COLL
PLANET
COLL X-Y
AUX1
FOCUS
TELRAD
CCD
Speed
Station
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- The Red button at the top of the paddle is an Emergency Stop (E-Stop) plunger. Pressing this button will de-energize the brakes (causing them to clamp down) and disconnect the drives from the telescope. The E-stop plunger on the telescope controller works in the same way.
- Moving the joystick will send commands to the controller to move the telescope. In this implementation moving the joystick will result in a single commanded JOG (moving the telescope of a set number of arcminutes). The behavior is NOT as is customary with the paddle moving the telescope continuously while using the joystick (like a remote controlled toy or video game). Holding the joystick in a particular direction will not initiate further motion. The joystick must be permitted to return to the neutral (central) position for another JOG. In addition, a first JOG must be completed with the telescope settling to the new position before another JOG will be possible.
- The magnitude of the JOG is determined by adjusting the