



# BOAT LIFT REVIEW GUIDE

## 1 - Overview

The purpose of this document is to explain the proper operational sequence for using the boat lifts with safety in mind.

**Note:** Boat lifts must be used under Coaches supervision for inexperienced club members!

## 2 - Background

The important thing with the lifts is to not hit anything. Sounds trivial, but there are several different things to hit:

- The boat being lifted can go too high, hitting the riggers of the boat above.
- The boat being lifted can go not high enough, scraping its riggers on the boat below.
- The legs on the lift can hit the base of the racks or the rollers holding the bottom boat.

## 3 - Using the Lifts to Get the Boat Out

**Step 1:** Position the lifts so they will slide in at **7-seat** and **3-seat**. That way the lift legs shouldn't hit anything.

**Step 2:** With the lifts in the middle of the bay, crank them up until they can slide between the desired boat and the boat below. You'll need to have spotters on the sides--one near the bow of the boat, one near the stern--to check the height of the lift.

**Step 3:** As the lift height gets close, slide the lifts over toward the boat, so the spotters can get a better view of the alignment.

**Step 4:** With the lift arms at the appropriate height, slide the lift in so the arms are just below the boat.

**Step 5:** Slowly crank the lift higher until the boat leaves the rack and is supported only by the lift arms.

**Step 6:** Carefully slide the lifts out until the boat is in the middle of the bay. Be sure not to hit the fluorescent lights or the exit sign.

**Step 7:** The lifts should slowly be cranked lower, keeping the arms of the two lifts as even as possible so the boat stays level.

**Step 8:** When the boat reaches a height between shoulders and overhead, have the rowers get hands on.

**Step 9:** Once the boat is supported by the rowers, the lifts can be lowered further then wheeled out of the way.

**Step 10:** Store the lifts out of the way at the back of the bay or in the space between racks along one side of the bay.

## **4 - To Put the Boat Back**

**Step 1:** Position the lifts on the far side of the bay, out of the way and facing the rack where the boat will go.

**Step 2:** Have the rowers bring in the boat, take it over head, and line the boat up with the RACK (not with the lift!!). The rib with bow's backstay should line up with the downstream-most rack arm.

**Step 3:** With the boat in position, move the lifts to the 7-seat and 3-seat positions.

**Step 4:** The rowers can lower the boat, or the lifts can be cranked up to slowly take the boat out of the rowers' grasp.

**Step 5:** Slowly crank up both lifts together, keeping the arms as even as possible so the boat stays level.

**Step 6:** Keep an eye out for the fluorescent lights and exit sign.

**Step 7:** Have spotters at the bow and stern ends of the boat keep an eye out for when the boat is high enough.

**Step 8:** As the boat gets close to rack height, carefully, slowly, and together roll the lifts toward the rack, so the spotters can have a better view. Be careful of the riggers of the boat below, and of scraping the lifted boat's riggers on the boat below the destination rack.

**Step 9:** Once the lifts are high enough that the gunwale will clear the rack, slide the lifts fully in.

**Step 10:** Slowly lower the boat to the rack.

**Step 11:** Once the boat is on the rack, lower the lifts an additional inch. Do not lower too far, or you'll scrape the boat below.

**Step 12:** Pull the lifts out, carefully lower the arms until all the extensions of the lift are down, and

then return the lifts to an out-of-the-way place.

Please notify your Coach, Program Rep or ACBA Rep immediately if you find the boat lifts are not working properly.