



OARCA Tulista Coastal Rowing Centre Equipment Handling Directions

PREPARING TO LAUNCH

- The key lock code is communicated to approved club members and changed regularly. Please contact a Board member for the code.
- Swing gate wide so that a boat can be easily moved out. If the wind is blowing, use a bungee to temporarily secure it.
- Personal items can be left in the plastic bin/shed. Bring a sturdy dry bag to carry your personal items in the boat.

Safety

- Ensure that everyone has a PFD (OARCA PFDs are in the bin).
- Gather safety equipment from the bin – throw bag, whistle, VHF radios.
- Review OARCA safety requirements and recommendations if there are any guests or new members.
- Review the tide, current, wind and sea state conditions. Determine route.
- Confirm that a float plan has been filed (using the OARCA signout form).

Moving the Boat (s)

- Put wooden curb/boat ramp wedges (stored in the bin) at the curb edge.

Coxed Quads:

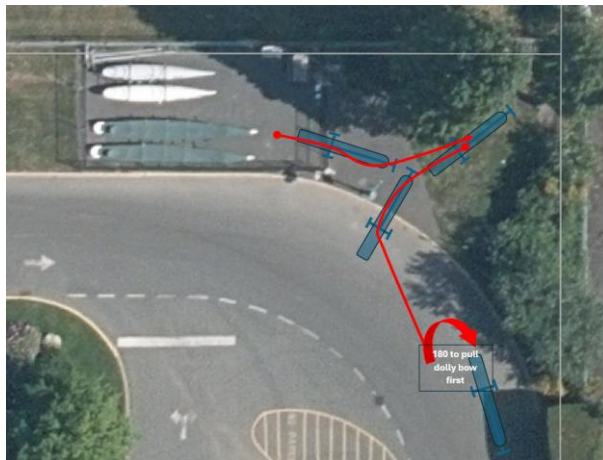
- **It may be necessary to remove the stern drain plug & drain the boat before moving it onto the trailer.**
- Set a boat trolley immediately in front of the bow of the quad.
- Remove the cover - rolling the canvas cover and set off to one side (not on the ground).
- 1 person maneuvers the trolley, 2 people lift the bow of the quad, 1 person moves the bow tire(s).
- Lift the boat up with one person on each side at the bow. Slide the bow-most tire out of the way and roll the trolley into place. **Do not lift the boat using the riggers.** The stern tire can be left in place.
- Be sure that the bow of the boat sits right up at the front of the trailer, slipping into the notch. Tie the boat securely to the trolley with the red rope that is on the trailer.

Double:

- Set the boat trolley beside the rack, as far in towards the back fence as possible.
- Lift the double off the rack, turn it over (roll away from the rack) , walk it forward and place it on the trolley, with the bow right against the notch. Tie the boat securely to the trolley with the red rope that is on the trolley
- You may find it helpful to rest the stern on a tire while you adjust your grip. Having 2 people lifting at the stern is also helpful. **Do not lift the boat using the riggers.**

Check and Ready the Equipment

- Find oars for the boat you are taking out. Place them into the boat.
- Clip the throwbag to the boat.
- **Check that the stern drain plug is closed**, vents are closed, and seats, feet and rudder (quad only) are present. Note: Do not place the quad rudder into the well until boat is launched.
- Double check you have everything you need before moving the boat out of the compound.
- Slowly pull the boat out of the compound swinging it toward the trees. The bow of the quad should be almost in the bushes before swinging the stern towards the curb. (see diagram).
- It may take a few adjustments to get the boat in position on the grass before heading down the wood ramp wedges. Have someone positioned to shift the wedges as needed so the boat doesn't drop over the edge of the curb.
- Put the curb wedges inside the compound. Swing the gate closed and lock the gate. Put the key back into the lock box. **DO NOT take the key with you.**
- Roll the boat and trailer to the boat ramp. Remember this is an actively used public boat launch. Watch out for traffic, in particular vehicles with trailers.



AT THE BOAT LAUNCH

- Watch for boats that are launching. The majority of powerboats follow the flow pattern of right side to launch and left side to return.
- Avoid using the dock. Instead wet launch the boat by rolling it down the ramp that is adjacent to the beach (to the left of the dock). Wet launching is easier and there is less risk of damaging the riggers on the dock.
- **Be aware that the boat ramp can be quite slippery especially at lower tides.**
- Put the oars into the oar locks before heading down the launch ramp. Keep the blades tight to the oar locks until the boat is launched and you are ready to get in.
- Untie the red rope from the cleat. Have one person hold the bowline. Quad: have 2 people hold the trailer handle, and have one person on each side of the boat as it is rolled into the water. You can pull back on the riggers to slow the boat down if necessary. Watch you don't get caught between the oar lock and the bow of the boat.
- The boat needs to be completely floating before pulling the trailer back up the ramp.
- Once the boat is floating, move it to be parallel to shore.

- Have one person pull the trailer up the ramp and store it up near the fence with one tire up on the curb, while the others maintain control of the boat.
- Enter the boat in this order – first 3 seat, then 4 seat, then 2 seat, then the coxy, and then bow seat (3,4,2,C,1). Jump up on your bum on the edge of the boat and then swing your feet in. Swish off any sandy, gravelly bits before swinging your feet into the boat.
- Move away from the boat launch, being aware of other boats that are launching and landing, before stopping to make any adjustments.
- Once you are a few strokes from shore, in at least 2m of water, put the rudder into the slot (it must be vertical as you slide it into the slot). Do not secure the rudder with the small fasteners - keep them open so that it is easy to pull the rudder up.
- Enjoy your row.

RETURNING TO SHORE

- Continue to be aware of other boats that are launching and landing. Give other boats lots of room as it can be tricky to be precise with your landing if there is any wind, etc.
- **Pull the rudder up – before you reach the ramp/shore (in >2m of water). Opposite the end of the dock is a reasonable rule-of-thumb.**
- Aim to land at the bottom of the ramp that is adjacent to the beach. Be aware of submerged rocks and other hazards resulting from tide changes.
- If necessary, land at the beach but be aware that you will need to move the boat down to the concrete ramp in order to get the boat onto the trailer.
- Maneuvre the boat so it is parallel to the shore.
- Pull your oars across so the blades are up against the oar locks.
- Exit the boat in this order – first bow seat, then coxy, then 2 seat, then 4 seat and lastly 3 seat (1,C,2,4,3). Swing your legs over the side and step down so both feet land at the same time. Hold onto the boat as you wait for the others to get out.
- Have someone get the trailer while the others maintain control of the boat.
- Roll the trailer down the ramp. With one person controlling the bow line, gently swing the stern away from shore so the boat is facing with the bow up the ramp, perpendicular to the shore.
- The boat needs to be out far enough that the trailer can get fully underneath it. With the trailer submerged, the boat can get pulled up to the top of the trailer into the notch. Use the red rope to secure the boat to the trailer.
- With two people on the trailer handle, pull it up out of the water. As it gets further out of the water, more people can help push it up the ramp.

PUTTING THE BOAT TO BED

- Have someone run ahead to open the compound, put the curb wedges back in place, and get the buckets etc. out.
- Bring the boat up onto the grass. It is easiest to remove the oars and wash the boat before putting it in the compound. If more than one boat is out, it may be necessary to wash one in the compound, one on the grass and one next to the curb.

- Wash the boat thoroughly. Sponges, cloths and small buckets are in the bin. There are 2 large buckets of water and 2 sprayers in the compound. Wipe the inside of the hull and footwell, removing any grit and debris. Rinse slides, metal hardware and oarlocks/pins thoroughly using the hand pump or sponge. Wipe the slides with a cloth. Rinse the seat wheels.
- Wipe the oar handles and sleeves (or dip them in the buckets of fresh water) and return the oars to the rack.
- Remove the stern plug.

Coxed Quads (stored in compound stern first):

- Roll the canvas cover over the boat and starting at the stern, secure it in place with the straps under the boat. Keep the straps flat (not twisted) and snug them down. It helps to have people either side of the boat- one to pass the strap under and one to do it up.
- Roll the boat into the compound, until the stern is close to the back fence. The stern tire will be in place already (it does not have to be moved when putting the boat on or off the trailer).
- 1 person controls the trolley, 2 people lift the bow, 1 person pushes the bow tire into place.
- Lift the bow, push the tire into place, pull the trailer out and set the boat on the tire.
- Tilt the boat on the tires (so that water doesn't pool on the cover). Place the centre tire as wedge to keep the boat tilted. (**The boat doesn't actually sit on the centre tire fully- it is just a wedge.**)
- Tie the boat to the bow and stern tires. There is a tie down strap looped around each tire: pass it over the boat and then tie it to the tire on the other side. This will prevent the boat from getting blown off the tire in strong winds.

Doubles (stored on rack stern first):

- Fold in the starboard riggers. Roll the trailer so it is beside the rack, as far towards the back of the compound as possible. Lift the 2x off the trolley and roll it over (rolling the riggers away from the rack). Walk it towards the back of the compound until it is aligned with the rack. It may help to place the stern onto a tire while you readjust your grip and/or have 2 people lifting at the stern.
- Place the boat onto the rack, making sure it is properly aligned (tape markings on hull aligned with rack), not resting in riggers, sitting evenly and not impeding other boats. Tie the boat onto the rack.

Vents

- Doubles and solos should be stored with the vents OPEN (assuming they are upside down on the rack).
- Quads should be stored with the vents closed (to prevent the boat filling up with rain). In warm, dry weather the quad should be stored with at least one vent OPEN (to allow air to escape as it warms and expands).
- Return trolley to storage location.
- Return all safety gear, buckets, sponges etc and the wood curb wedges to the bin.
- Close the gate and put the key back into the lock pad.
- **Notify your contact person that you have returned.**

SEE YOU AGAIN!