

POLICY: SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE – Boat lifting equipment

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Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to safely stack and unstack dragon boats in the DBSA storage sheds at Aquatic Reserve and The Sailing Club.

Safety Procedures involved:

1. Check that pulleys are in safe working order and are secure on girder (I-Beam).
2. Check slings and ensure that they are not damaged.
3. Boats must be aligned correctly to ensure the stability of the stack.
4. The dragon boats have a unique spacer to be placed on the 2nd and 6th seats of the underneath boat with the convex section fitting the contour of the boat on top.
Slings only can be used on the boats.
The bottom boat always has two large bearers underneath to stabilise the stack – a bearer at each end.
5. Slings are positioned at the front and rear of the boat to be lifted. In the [Aquatic boatshed](#) the front of the boat should be level with the yellow line on the floor and the slings should then be positioned directly below the I-beam. The yellow floor markings are toward the rear of the shed and the boats should go into the shed bow first. Boats should be stacked 3 high. The pulley chain should align with the centre off the boat.
6. At the [Sailing Club](#), the boats should go into the shed stern first and should be positioned about 30cm from the rear wall – taking care not to hit the wall. The slings are then positioned directly below the I-Beam. Boats should be stacked 4 high. The pulley chain should align with the centre off the boat. Bottom bearers should be positioned on the floor markers and care taken when loading the top boat as it is a tight fit.



7. A minimum of four people are required to move a boat. Two people to simultaneously operate the pulleys at the front and rear and two people to steady the boat.
8. Under no circumstances is climbing on the stacked boats permitted.
9. NO ONE is allowed under the boats when they are on the pulleys.
10. Boats are not to be left with pulley chains or gloves resting on the boat itself.