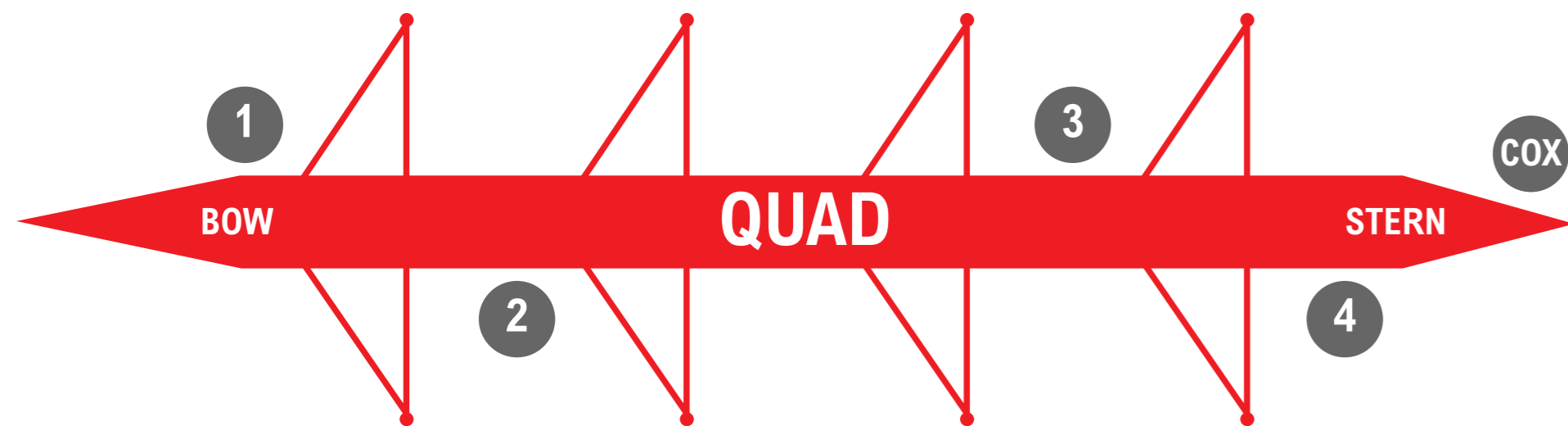


CARE OF BOATS

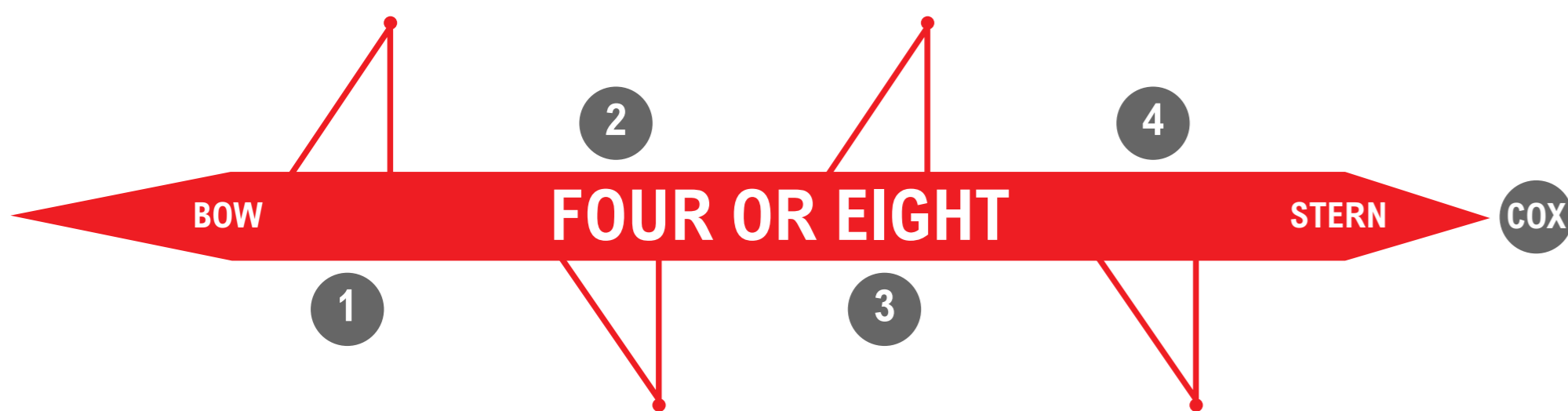
WHERE TO STAND AND LIFT

It is important when lifting and carrying a boat to position the crew correctly to ensure the weight is evenly distributed. Boats should not be allowed to dip to one end or to one side and make sure all crew members are not being asked to carry more weight than they can manage.

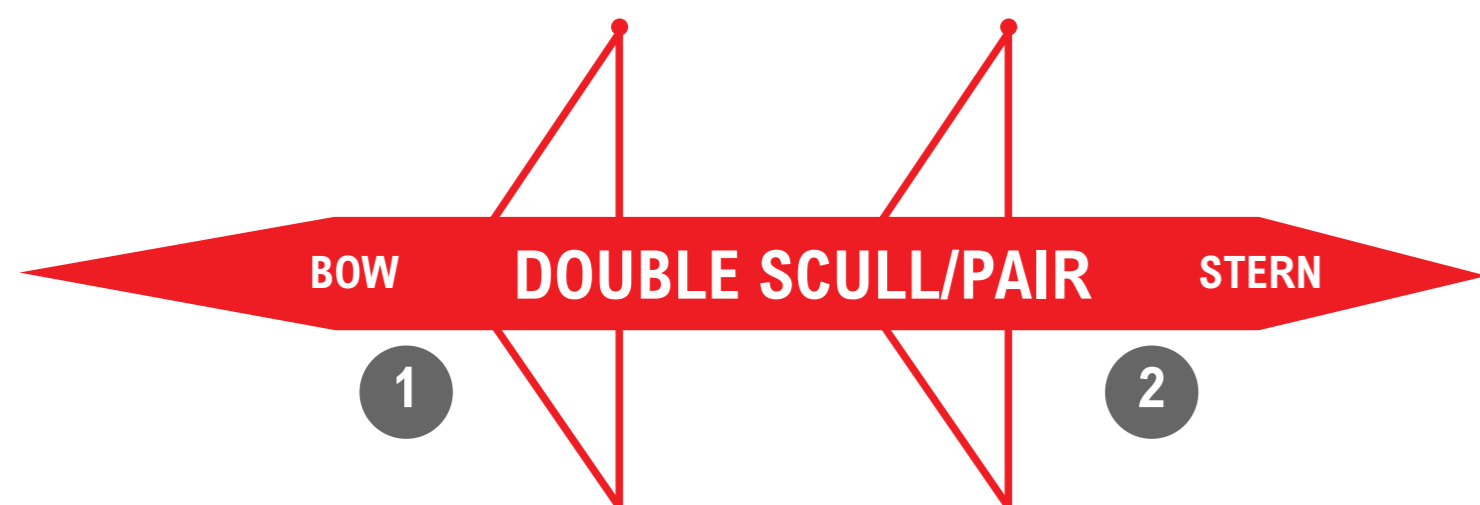
QUAD – Stand alternately between riggers with boat upside down



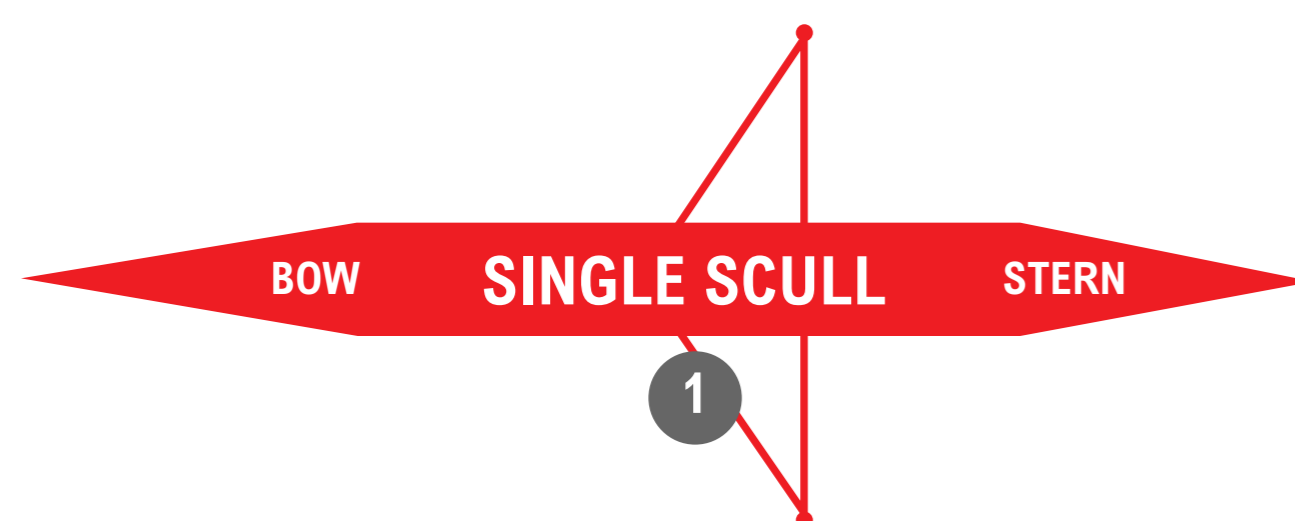
FOUR OR EIGHT – Stand opposite your rigger with boat upside down



DOUBLE OR PAIR – Hold at bows and stern on shoulder as close to cockpit as possible (not right at each end of boat)



SINGLE SCULL – should be carried at mid point with boat balanced on shoulder



Boats and equipment is very expensive to buy and maintain.

Average prices; Single scull circa £4000+

Double scull/Pair circa £6000+

Coxed four/Quad circa £10000+

Eight circa £16000+

Good practice when handling boats is very important in reducing unnecessary damage. Accidents will happen but the more careful we are the less damage will occur. Remember that a damaged boat reduces the opportunities for club members to row as well as being a cost.

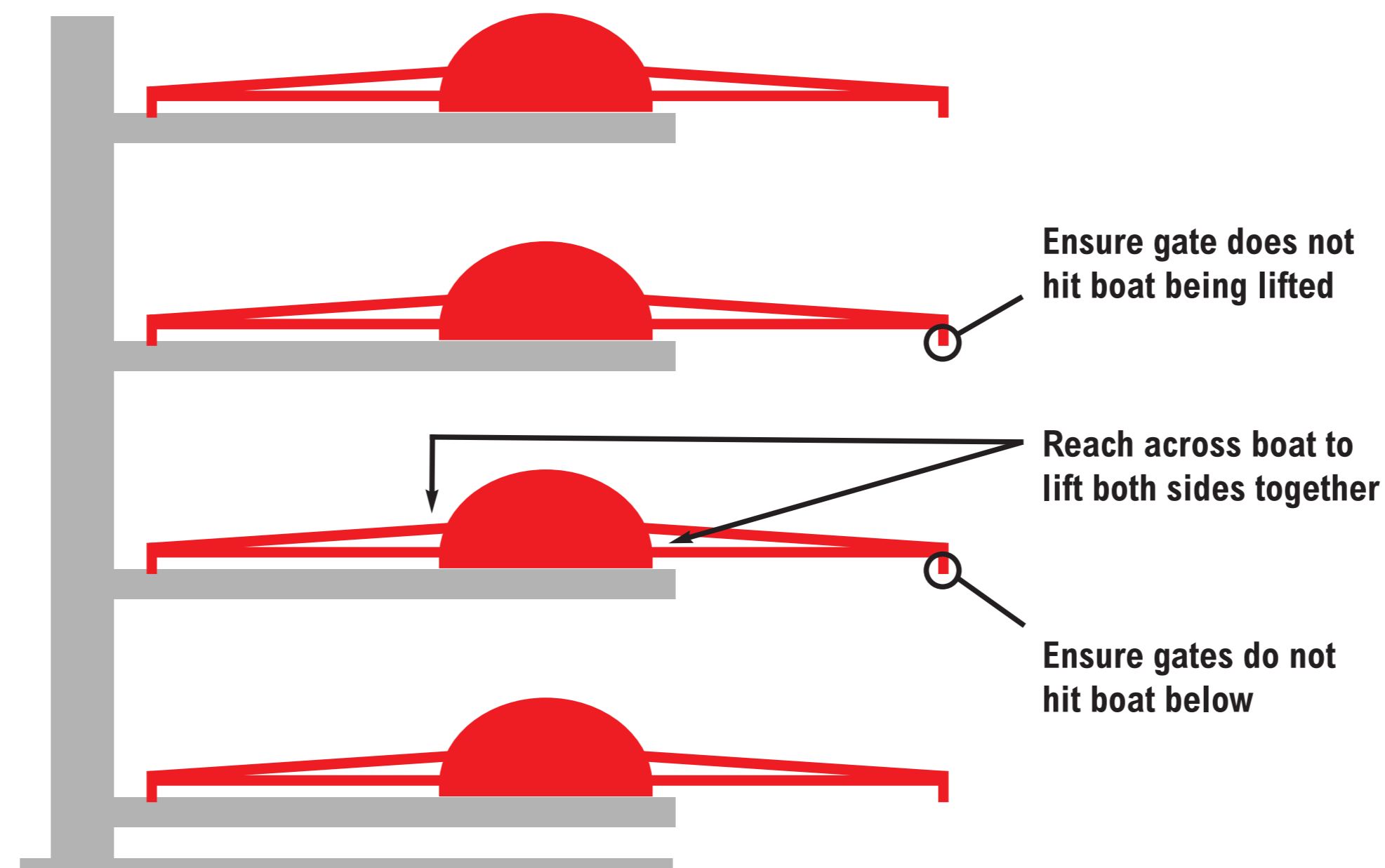
Please observe these simple rules when carrying boats.

BASICS

If you do not know how to do it then do not be afraid to ask. If it is a crew boat ensure all the crew are present and ready before lifting the boat and know who is in charge. One person (cox or crew leader) should make the calls.

THE RACK

Removing the boat from the rack and replacing it afterwards is awkward and must be done carefully. Main hazard is the riggers from the boat above and the riggers on the boat being lifted. Pay especial care they do not scrape on another boat. Ensure that you have sufficient people to safely lift the boat. If extra hands are needed then ask for more help before attempting to lift (often the case with higher racks or if is a lighter crew with a heavier boat or a single scull).



BOAT INSPECTION

Once the boat has been removed from the rack and placed on trestles it should be inspected to ensure that it is safe to take afloat. Pay special attention to;

Bow ball in place and in good condition.

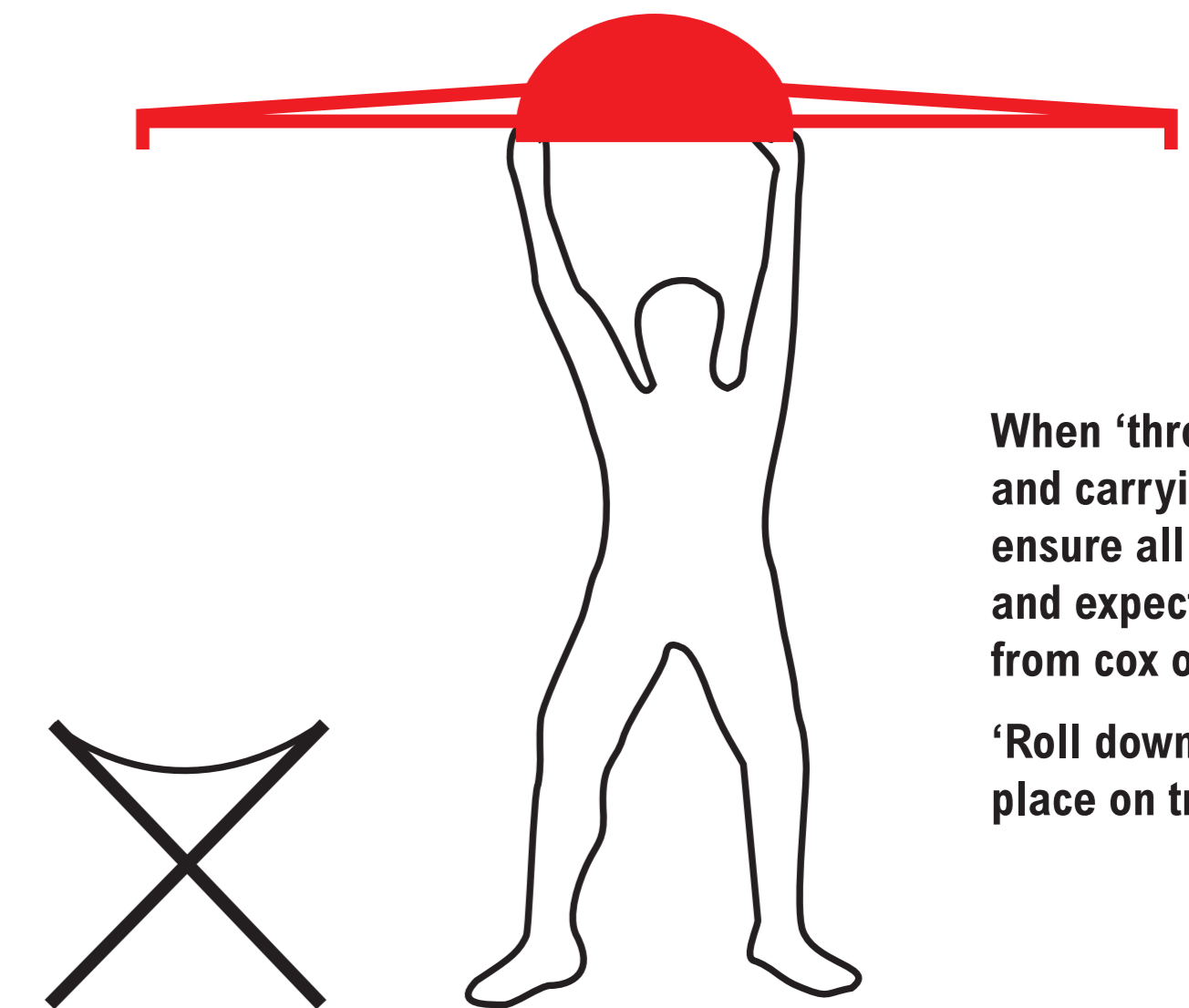
Steering equipment fully functioning.

Heel restraints on shoes are correctly fastened.

Shell of boat in good condition with no holes.

CARRYING AND TURNING OVER THE BOAT

When turning the boat over ensure all crew members know what is happening and what they are expected to do. More experienced crews can 'throw up' a boat above heads and bring it down on one side. Less experienced or less strong crews should keep the boat at waist height and turn it over at that level. Ensure you have correctly spaced trestles available to place the boat on.



When 'throwing up' boat and carrying 'above heads' ensure all crew is ready and expecting instructions from cox or crew leader.

'Roll down' to one side to place on trestles.

BOATING

When placing the boat in the water ensure that all crew members are standing on one side of the boat holding it at waist height on both sides (far and near sides). Ensure that your feet are right at the edge of the stage and place the boat in the water ensuring you keep heads up, backs straight and bend knees. Pay special attention that the boat's fin and rudder are clear of the stage. The cox or crew leader must take charge and give clear instructions.

When putting boat into or taking out of water keep head up, back straight and bend knees



AFTER THE OUTING

At the end of an outing all boats must be placed on trestles and thoroughly cleaned inside and out. If any damage has been sustained during the outing, or if prior damage is picked up, this should be reported to the boat master immediately (contact details on posters). If you consider the boat is unsafe to use please place a note on the boat to prevent further use until it can be inspected.

Prompt reporting of damage is vital to keep the fleet available for use.