

SMALL BOAT PROCEDURES

Loading and Rigging

1. Always have a partner when carrying the small boats. They are not only heavy, but are awkward and easily blown out of your hands.
2. Always use boat stands. At **NO** time can the rudder rest on the ground.
3. Always rig boats on the grass or the beach, **never** the concrete in the cage.
4. Lift boats by the ends, or around the hull, do not lift on the skirt lips. They will break off.
5. Make sure you have the correct lakos and Ama for the canoe. They are custom fit and will not work correctly on other boats.
6. Fill out Pre-trip Checklist.
7. Make sure that all fittings are tight and in place before placing the canoe in the water.
8. Load the boats from the beach, rudder first. You will need to get your feet wet until the dock has bumpers installed.
9. Cradle the canoe with your arms when carrying; do not rest it on your shoulder blade as it easily slips off.
10. When sitting in the canoe, make sure that the rudder does not hit the ground.
11. Make any seat and foot brace adjustment nearest shore, before you start paddling.
12. Make sure that boat has: (items supplied by VOS, * a light and whistle are personal items)
 - 1) Bailer
 - 2) Seat
 - 3) Tow Rope
 - 4) Whistle*
 - 5) Light* (before dawn and after dusk, front and rear)

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Unloading and Storing

1. Unload from the BEACH, not the dock. (this can change when the dock has bumpers installed)
2. Always get help lifting the canoe from the water and carrying it back to your stands.
3. Drain any water in the canoe or amas by removing the rubber stoppers.
4. Unrig the canoe on the grass and take parts to the wash area on the green turf.
5. Rinse the lakos, and store in the Grey Shed
6. Wash the Canoe and Ama with scrubber provided. Make sure all slime and dirt is removed as it breaks down the gel and slows the hull causing premature wear.
7. Install mini-storage lakos and attach Amas to it. Carry boat to the storage rack.
8. Fill out checklist and leave in binder. If you notice any damage or problems with the canoe please make note of it on your POST-Trip Checklist and notify Ryan or Arleen
9. If repairs are needed, fill out repair sheet in the back of the binder and leave for staff to inspect.