

ROWING, SCULLING AND BOAT CLASSIFICATION

Boys in the Fourth form start off by rowing with two oars; this is known as sculling. In the Lower Fifth they then progress to sweep rowing (with one oar). Sculling boats are: octuples (octos), quadruples (quads), doubles and singles. Rowing boats are: eights (VIII), fours (IV), pairs (2). See illustrations to follow.

Boat classifications specify the sex, age and/or expertise, the number of rowers, whether they are rowing or sculling and if they have a cox or not. Most commonly boats have 1, 2, 4 or 8 rowing seats. Abbreviations are as follows:

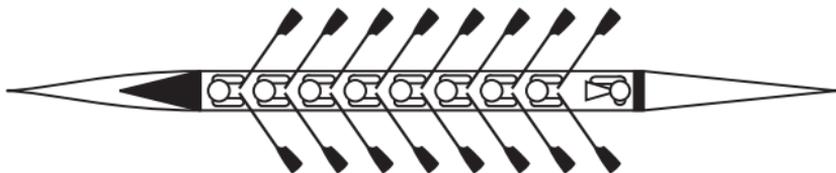
M	men
W	women
J	junior
E	elite
NV	novice
IM3...	coding for senior racing categories according to points
14	under 14 age group
2...	no. of people in boat
x	sculling
+	coxed boat
-	coxless boat

For example:

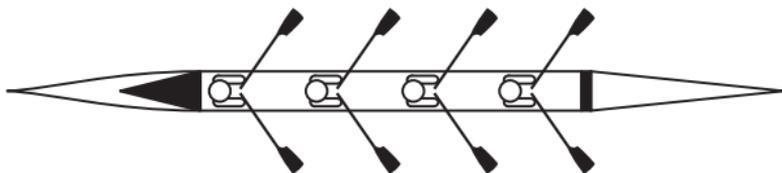
J154x+ would mean junior under 15 quad sculling with a cox and
J154- would mean junior under 15 rowing coxless four.

SCULLING BOATS

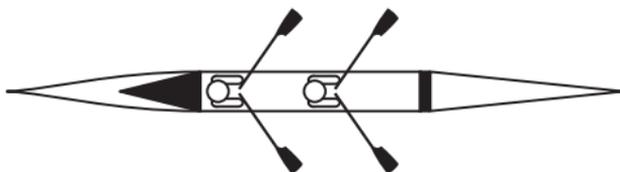
Octo / 8x / Octuple Scull (coxed)



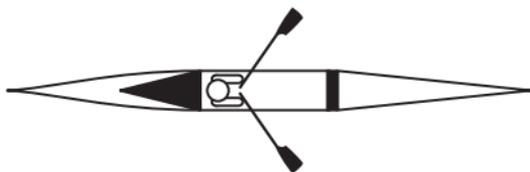
Quad / 4x / Quadruple Scull



Double Scull / 2x

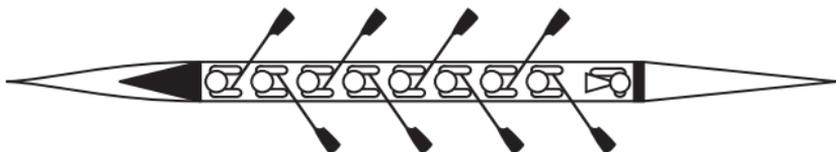


Scull / 1x / Single Scull

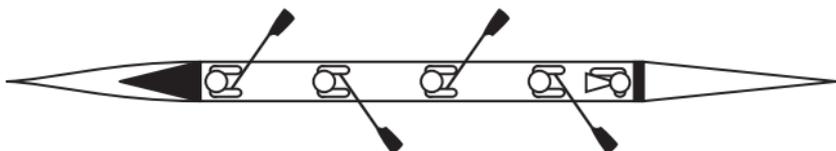


ROWING BOATS

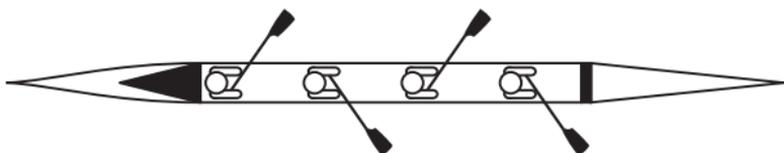
VIII / 8+ / Eight (coxed)



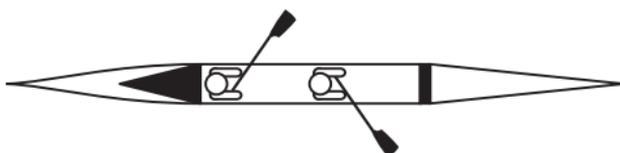
IV / 4+ / Coxed Four



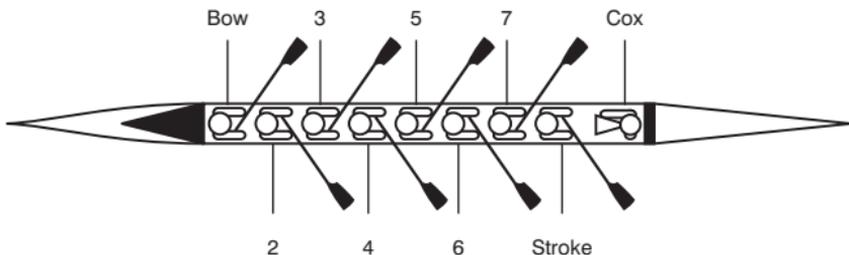
IV / 4- / Coxless Four



Pair / 2- / Coxless Pair



POSITIONS IN A BOAT



THE COX has an important role in making sure the crew follow the coach's plans. A cox can either be positioned at the stern (back) of the boat facing the crew or at the bow (front) facing forward. There are advantages to each. At the stern, they can see the crew and therefore oversee exercises and correct any errors in timing, for example. Sitting at the front, the cox has a clear sight of where to steer.

THE STROKE sits at the stern end of the boat (facing the cox in a stern-coxed boat). He/she sets the rhythm of the stroke, which the rest of the crew have to follow. A good stroke can maintain a steady rhythm, keep the right ratio (fast through the water and slow up the slide), and raise or lower the rating (the number of strokes per minute) as instructed by the cox or dictated by the conditions.

As the stroke's oar is normally on the port side of the boat (left from the cox's viewpoint), this is called 'stroke side'.

BOW sits at the front (bow) end of the boat. They should notify the cox of any hazards which may be blocked from his/her view. In a coxless boat the bowman often steers. As the oar is normally on the starboard (right) side of the boat, this is called 'bow side'.

THE REST OF THE CREW are numbered from bow to stern with bow being number 1. Usually therefore odd numbered crew members are on bow side and even on stroke side.