

Come Boating! Pilot Gig Commands (To be spoken with authority)

Toss Oars -- Oar blade up, loom between knees

Come to Oars – Oar resting in oarlock. Alerts rowers to stop what they are doing. (Use this when you need a minute to think.)

Guard Oars (Note port, starboard, or all.) -- Watch for an obstacle that could hit your oar.

Cross Oars -- Oar pulled across the boat to rest in the oarlock and on the opposite gunwale. Used to avoid an obstacle or to rest.

Prepare to Make Way -- Body leaning forward, oar blade toward bow (behind the rower).

Make Way Together -- Begin to row.

Prepare to Backwater – Oar blade toward the stern (in front of the rower).

Backwater Together -- Begin to backwater.

Trail Oars -- Oar blade laying on the water, skipping along it.

Hold Water -- Oar blade perpendicular to the water, digging in.

Release Oarlocks -- Undo oarlock without removing the oar.

Ship Oars -- Lay oars down on the seats on one side of the boat, generally starting with the bow.

("Prepare To *****" can be useful before any command, whether or not the command turns out to be necessary)

Rowers should continue to perform according to a command until given an new command.