

boats is possible, or the davits shall be of the quadrant or other such type as will ensure the above condition being fulfilled: Provided that this requirement shall not apply to any ship in Class I or Class V, Home trade, where the height of the boat-deck above the water-line at the vessel's lightest seagoing draught does not exceed 15 ft.

(4) The boat's falls shall be long enough to lower the boat into the water with safety when the vessel is light. Life-lines shall be fitted to the davit spans, and shall be long enough to reach the water when the vessel is light. Hooks shall not be attached to the lower tackle-blocks.

(5) Means shall be provided for speedily, but not necessarily simultaneously or automatically, detaching the boats from the falls. The boats placed under davits shall be attached to the falls and kept ready for service; the points of attachment of the boats to the falls shall be sufficiently away from the ends of the boats to ensure their being easily swung clear of the davits; the boat's chocks shall be of such construction and arrangement as shall be satisfactory to the Department.

(6) Where more boats than one are served by the same set of davits, arrangements shall be made to prevent the falls fouling when they are recovered; and where more than two boats are served by the same set of davits there shall be provided an approved appliance for lowering the boats in turn and rapidly.

(7) The Department may accept in lieu of davits or sets of davits any other appliance, appliances, or arrangements which appear to them at least as effective as davits for placing the boats in the water.

## 12. Stowage of Boats, Buoyant Apparatus, &c.

(1) All boats attached to davits, and all boats stowed under boats attached to davits, shall be stowed in such a way that—

- (a) They can be launched in the shortest possible time;
- (b) They will not impede in any way the prompt handling of any other of the lifeboats attached to davits or stowed under boats attached to davits, or the buoyant apparatus carried under Rule C, Class I, Foreign-going, or the marshalling of the persons on board at the launching-stations, or their embarkation;
- (c) Even under conditions of list and trim unfavourable from the point of view of the handling of the boats, as large a number of persons as possible can be embarked in them;
- (d) Except as hereinafter provided, they shall be so stowed as not to require lifting before being launched.

(2) With regard to the stowage of other additional lifeboats and buoyant apparatus the following provisions shall apply:—

- (a) They must not impede in any way the prompt handling of the lifeboats attached to davits, or the additional boats stowed under boats attached to davits, or the buoyant apparatus, or the marshalling of the persons on board at the launching-stations, or their embarkation.
- (b) The lifeboats may be stowed one above the other, or they may, subject to such conditions as the Department may impose, be fitted one within another; but where boats so fitted require lifting before being launched, they shall only be permitted if attached to davits operated by mechanical-power appliances.
- (c) The lifeboats may be stowed in rows across a deck, bridge, or poop.
- (d) As large a number of the boats as possible shall be capable of being launched on either side of the ship, either by means of approved appliances for transferring them from one side of the deck to the other, or by stowing in rows across the deck, or by some other equally satisfactory means.
- (e) Means shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Department for lowering the lifeboats into the water in the shortest possible time.

(3) Where a boat is stowed underneath another boat there shall be provided approved removable supports or other approved appliances, so as to secure that the weight of a boat is not unduly supported by the boat underneath it.