

LIFESLING HOIST

Each of our yachts carries a Lifesling hoist. Each is contained in a purpose-made yellow bag in a cockpit locker in an obvious place, where a yacht has 2 cockpit lockers it will be in the starboard locker. One end has a hook to attach to the D ring of the casualty's harness (or whatever is suitable), the tackle is already opened out in the bag using parachute loops to prevent it tangling, and the other end block attaches to any spare halyard.

Please make sure it is stowed correctly after you have practised with it.



Getting someone back on board from the water is always going to be a difficult task. Hardly anyone who has gone overboard will be in any fit state to help them selves. The shock of the incident let alone the effects of cold water shock render most people incapable.

A thorough knowledge of this piece of safety equipment coupled with practice may save a life one day.

It makes it so much more difficult if the casualty is NOT wearing a lifejacket / harness.

LIFESLING HOIST

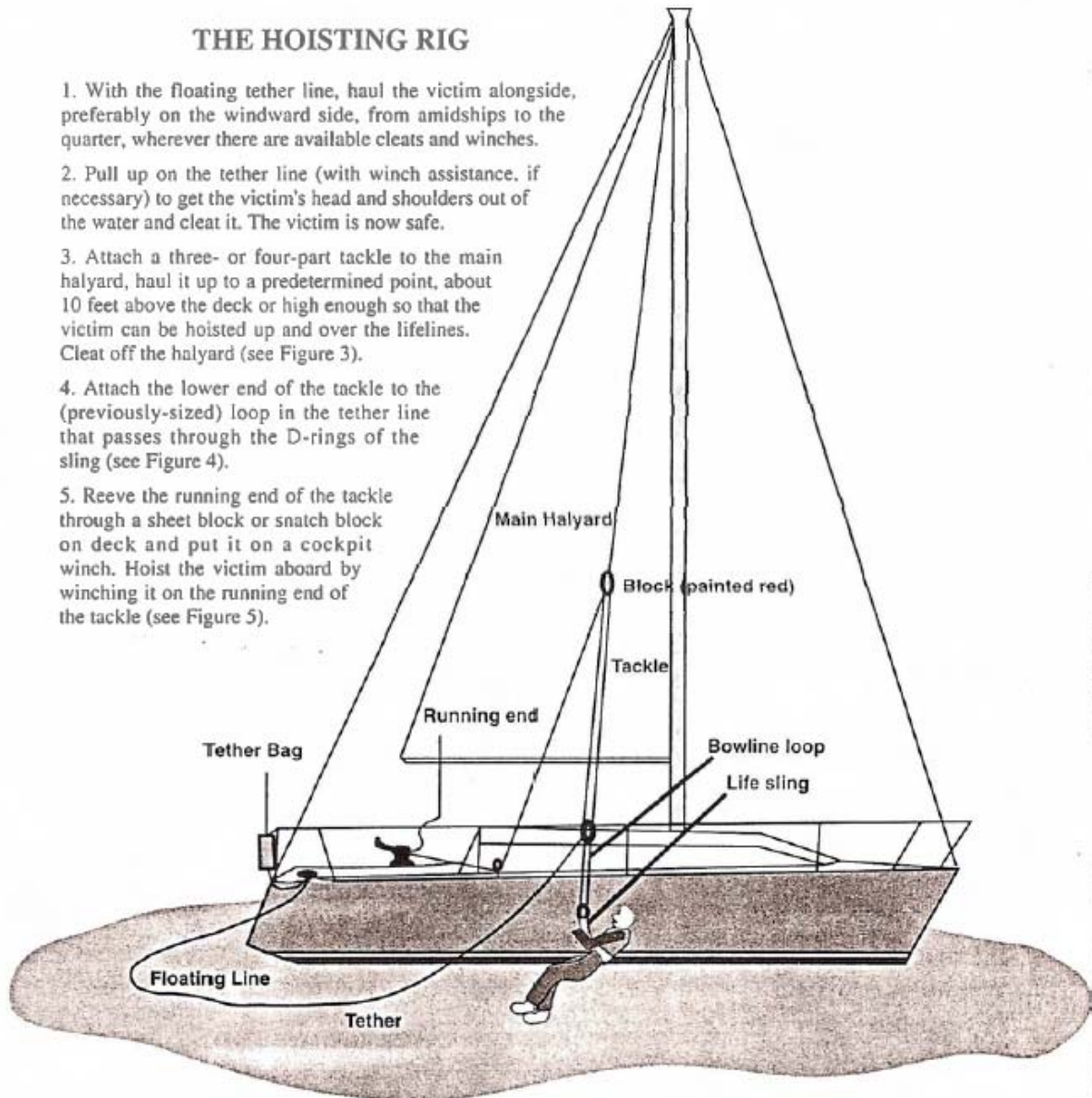
The script that follows is slightly modified, for clarity, from the wording attached to the diagram below.

1. Haul the casualty alongside, preferably on the windward side, from amidships to the quarter, wherever there are available cleats and winches.
2. Pull up on the tether line (with winch assistance, if necessary) to get the victim's head and shoulders out of the water and cleat it. **The casualty is now safe.**
3. Attach **the Lifesling** to any available halyard; haul it up to a predetermined point, about 10 feet above the deck or high enough so that the victim can be hoisted up and over the lifelines.
4. Cleat off the halyard / use a jammer (see Figure 3).
5. Attach the lower end of the tackle to a loop in the tether line that passes through the D-rings of the sling or the D ring itself, if possible. (see Figure 4).
6. Reeve the running end of the tackle through a sheet block or snatch block on deck and put it on a cockpit winch.
7. Hoist the casualty aboard by winching it on the running end of the tackle (see Figure 5). You may need to use your arm like the jib of a crane to ease the casualty up the side of the yacht & over the guard rail.

LIFESLING HOIST

THE HOISTING RIG

1. With the floating tether line, haul the victim alongside, preferably on the windward side, from amidships to the quarter, wherever there are available cleats and winches.
2. Pull up on the tether line (with winch assistance, if necessary) to get the victim's head and shoulders out of the water and cleat it. The victim is now safe.
3. Attach a three- or four-part tackle to the main halyard, haul it up to a predetermined point, about 10 feet above the deck or high enough so that the victim can be hoisted up and over the lifelines. Cleat off the halyard (see Figure 3).
4. Attach the lower end of the tackle to the (previously-sized) loop in the tether line that passes through the D-rings of the sling (see Figure 4).
5. Reeve the running end of the tackle through a sheet block or snatch block on deck and put it on a cockpit winch. Hoist the victim aboard by winching it on the running end of the tackle (see Figure 5).



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