



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

# RISER HANDLING SAFETY

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Advice for handling Wenger Risers



The British Association of Barbershop Singers

**SING BARBERSHOP**

It's the Harmony that makes the difference

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# SAFETY ADVICE FOR RISER HANDLING (WENGER RISERS)

If you have read the Retention document in [www.singbarbershop.com](http://www.singbarbershop.com) you will know that it is considered to be a good idea to try and involve all members in a club job to foster club spirit. However there is one task that needs very careful consideration as to whom should be involved, as it involves moving Risers which because they are **HEAVY** could cause serious damage to personnel or equipment if mishandled.

If within your club you have a Health & Safety officer then he should implement the following suggestions to ensure the correct and safe handling of Risers. If an H & S officer is not available then all club members should be made familiar with Risers by preferably being given a demonstration by an experienced handler or at least being issued with individual safety instructions. Below are a series of suggestions as to ensure safety is paramount at all times:

### THE ERECTING AND TAKING DOWN OF RISERS

- In order to reduce the risk of a Riser toppling over, if left standing on its end it should be partially opened like a book.
- When lowering or lifting a riser, remember to bend your knees and not your back.
- Listen for the double click of the Riser strut, which indicates the Riser is locked in position. If it cannot be locked it should not be used and reported to the person responsible for Riser maintenance.
- Backrails should always be fitted. It must also be remembered that they too are heavy and fitting them to the back of the risers should be done by 2 people.
- After a riser has been fully erected it can be wheeled into position but extreme care should be taken to ensure that it is balanced and nobody is in danger of being run down.
- When linking Risers together, take care to ensure the linkage is correct before allowing access to the Riser.
- Before starting to take down the Risers, it is particularly important to ensure that those who are not physically capable and particularly any visitors are marshalled to be well clear of the Riser crew. Responsibility for ensuring this happens should lie with those who cannot assist in the taking down of the risers and their storage.
- Risers should be numbered so that a record can be kept of their maintenance history. A yearly inspection should be undertaken with a separate record book or a card attached to the back of the Riser showing the date and a signature of the person responsible for the inspection.

**Colin Roper**

BABS Membership Services Director

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*This document was originated by Richard May, with the assistance of Ron Hollis, Knights of Harmony.*