

Sonar boat handling –
POW 2007
Updated through 2013
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- tape hooks that hold spinnaker hatches down – tape over ANYTHING that can catch anything!
- use spinnaker hatches (side lazarettes) for storing chute (for first set? For both sets?) It is cleaner to set out of the lazarette. If you have 3 total, it is easier to drop and stuff the spinnaker down below (see notes on Drops for tips), which means the second set will be from down below.
- eye-ball spinnaker sheet on second beat. Pull slack out of sheet. Be sure it is clear for set
- Bring Velcro strips and attach to starboard turnbuckle to capture spinnaker halyard on beats
- Tie bowlines to chutes if sheets are tapered
- Tape all hooks and shackles (topping lift, foreguy even when not in use, halyard shackles (with a tab), jib tack, etc., etc.)

On sets, be sure the spinnaker sheet is PRE-CLEATED to a mark, so the chute pops full when the guy is quickly pulled aft by the skipper or crew!

Pre-cheat the clew as much as possible, especially around the starboard shroud base

On gybe sets, the skipper can pull sheet around (tiller between legs). Be sure to have starboard sheet (guy) pre-cleated at a pre-determined mark...and be sure the twings are correct (starboard on; port off).

On windward hoists, the skipper MUST pull sheet around, cause middle crew is hoisting and forward crew is walking chute around, then going for pole. Again, starboard sheet (guy) must be pre-cleated at mark

On windy sets, skipper must be sure not to let boom out against shrouds until chute is up or away from boat

On light air sets, jib must be eased a foot or so – maybe more – to let the spinnaker get air as it is setting...but with the pole preset, there should be no problem with the guy getting caught under the foot of the jib.

In heavier air, it is better to burp the jib only a few inches on set, cause otherwise it blows out over gunwhale and traps guy

If setting out of down below, try to pull chute out of hatch prior to hoist. It is good to pull chute out of lazarette too if setting from there.

In gybes, forward crew would switch twings on way up to gybe pole; would clear windward tell tale on way back from gybing pole. Would pull slack out of leeward twing to keep it out of water.

In a fast gybe into a possible luff, the spinnaker trimmer needs to blow the leeward twing immediately – before luff!

On drops, if three people total and dropping down below, put jib sheets up on cabintop before drop, and drape all the hanging control lines over the port jib sheet cleat holder to open the space and avoid getting the lines tangled in the chute.

- Upwind set-up (keep the boat powered up for mark exit and possible tacking duel right out of mark):
- skipper pre-sets traveler for rounding, and backstay if needed
- forward crew does outhaul and downhaul as needed

In pre-start, pre-set backstay so it is just snug when going upwind, so it isn't swinging around in pre-start and catching the boom on gybes.

NYYC 2007 Quantum sails:

- no backstay tension until overpowered, but take up slack because leech gets caught on backstay. Also, needed enough backstay to keep forestay from pumping in and out (if can't trim mainsheet hard enough to accomplish that).
- keep jib halyard on the loose side (some wrinkles); always raise jib with some jib halyard fine tune on, so you can ease halyard tension easily during beat if needed.
- Don't get outhaul too tight (minor ridge on foot until overpowered)
- No vang upwind
- Traveler up so boom is centered. As get overpowered, ease traveler down until on centerline. Add more backstay to depower. If backstay is on, consider easing traveler below centerline, or easing sheet (whichever is more appropriate for the water and tactical situation) – flat water, keep leech tension and play traveler; chop – keep traveler centered or above and play mainsheet (twist is fast).
- Jib car lead (NOTE: the turning block on the lead is a ratchet block! – be sure to lead the sheet the correct way) – play the lead as appropriate for the conditions, keeping the jib on the slightly full side down low for best acceleration out of maneuvers.
- Some like to burp the jib in big puffs. In flat water, we feathered in the puffs and kept the jib in; in waves, OK to burp because you need to keep the bow down and the boat going fast.

On tacks:

- BIG ROLL
- tack traveler at the moment the boat is rolled – ease main 6” or so, then trim – this keeps the leech from getting hooked on backstay
- Jib back?
 - Under 7 knots – No
 - 7-10 knots – Yes
 - Over 10 knots – No

2009

light air, see if twings are long enough to run aft and pinch into turning block eyestraps

before raising jib, be sure all the slack is out of the windward sheet and that the leeward sheet has some take-up in it

traveler up early in tacks, with main extra eased so leech clears backstay...

added 2011

- be sure traveler is cleated on both sides before bearing away at windward mark in breeze.
- check that when you pull the jib halyard fine-tune, it doesn't lift the angle of the halyard such that it pops out of the halyard cleat. If so, wrap the halyard tail around something as a back-up.
- Trimmer needs to have twing in hand or nearby for gybes, especially when sailing hot after gybe, as it is important to let the twing off when sailing hot
- Pole stored on deck in breeze is better as it allows the dangle from the windward rail when approaching windward mark on starboard.