

Oceanhippie's notes for Elliot Asymmetrics

PREPARATION

Pull the bow sprit out before tying on. (twice I managed get the lazy sheet on the outside)

SNAG POINTS

Pre Hoist – halyard check as normal but also check:

- **Outhaul** needs to be cleared to make sure it is NOT running between the mooring D ring and the forestay or tack will foul before it get to the pole.
- **Pole retrieval string** can get stuck in the hatch so pole will not go out.

On jib drop/Gybe. Kite Sheet has to be lifted OVER the pile of Jib or it snags on the gybe.

HOIST

Jobs: Helm, Main, halyard, tackline/feeder

Feeding is minimal - just smash halyard and half way up smash the tack line.

Tack and head should arrive at same time. Halyard person gaps sheets as soon as up. Tackline/feeder drops jib. Lifts lazy sheet out from pile of jib.

GYBE

Don't do a blow through Gybe:

Remember: The pole is too short. The Ratchet blocks are v powerful.

“ready to Gybe”: pull slack out of new sheet to make sure its OVER jib pile.

“gybe ho”: ease old sheet till clew level with forestay on way in

Boom over: Pull new sheet right on to pull twist out then ease to set.

MAKING SURE NEW SHEET IS OVER TOP OF JIB FOLDS! BUM CLEATS!

DROP

Prefer to drop kite on windward side. Your body should be on the windward side straddling the bridge thing by the mast holding on with legs is a good spot.

Fore'd hand grabs kite one hand, UNDER Jib sheets, blow the tack line. When both hands on kite shout to offside to blow halyard. Drop V Fast into hole. Pack afterwards.

Plan for mad helm syndrome. Drop: boat will need to be down wind. But Helm won't wait for the pack/tidyup. If you on leeward side when they head up you going to be pulled over board – if you to windward side into the hole or mast – which is better.

Gybe drop. “Mexican” kite on windward side anyway straddle windward bridge grab kite, blow tack. Gather kite bottom and call for blow halyard.

Leeward Drop. Get set early grab lazy sheet UNDER Jib, set up on WINDWARD bridge use lazy sheet to get to clew (trimmer will need to ease) then blow tack line gather kite bottom and call for blow halyard.



MAD HELM SYNDROME

One of the most common mistakes in sailing is to head up during the kite drop. The actual drop should always be completed before heading up.

Heading up:

- Causes wind to increase and blows kite to leeward
- Heels boat to leeward.
- Reduces the freeboard (distance to water) on leeward side.
- Lurch throws fore'd hand to Leeward.

You can shave it by heading up when the kite is down – but not packed. Tips to 'shave' it.

- Other crew need to HIKE before the heel not after – flatter will aid the packer.
- Jib Sheelter eyeball the packer – did they go under the sheet? Will loose kite go into jib block.
- Communicate – packer can pause for a second and just hold on if they know the turn is happening – you catch them bending forward changing grip on the kite when you head up they'll be in trouble.