

Flying Your Asymmetrical

Set Up

Setting up an asymmetrical is basic. There are three attachment points for the asymmetrical and only two get adjusted while sailing. The only hardware that you might require is spinnaker sheets and three blocks.

Tackline: Lead the tackline through a block attached to the stem-head and back to the bow cleat. Many asymmetrical owners are attaching the tackline to the bow anchor roller if they have one. This is very effective because the bow roller is a few inches outside of the pulpit and keeps the sail free from the pulpit. Before attaching the tack to the anchor roller, make sure that the roller is reinforced enough to take the load of the tackline.

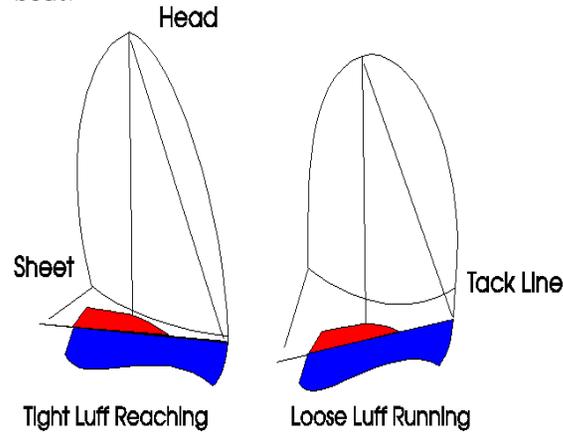
Sheets: Attach the spinnaker sheets to the clew of the asymmetrical and lead them through blocks on the port and starboard quarter and back to your cockpit winches. You can rig only one sheet if you are sure that you will not be jibing. If you are using two sheets, lead the lazy (windward) sheet around the headstay and back to the cockpit so that the asymmetrical will jibe outside of the head stay not through the fore triangle. (Please see the section on jibing)

Halyard: Attach the spinnaker halyard to the head of the asymmetrical or the top of the sock, whichever is applicable. Hoist the halyard to the top. You do not need to adjust halyard tension while sailing.

Sailing with your Asymmetrical

The sheet is the major control for your asymmetrical. You want to trim the sheet much like a symmetrical spinnaker. As the luff of the asymmetrical folds in, trim the sheet. If the luff of the spinnaker never begins to fold in, then you probably need to ease the sheet. As you sail with your asymmetrical you will learn how much trimming is necessary. Besides the sheet, you may want to adjust the tackline to optimize sail shape. When tight reaching, the asymmetrical will be more efficient with the tackline tight. When broad

reaching, the tackline should be eased to allow the luff of the asymmetrical to project out in front of the boat.



Jibing Your Asymmetrical

There are two ways to jibe your asymmetrical.

With A Dousing Sock: Before you jibe, douse the asymmetrical. With the sail safely in the sock, take the sock and walk it around the forestay. You can bring the sail around the forestay before or after the actual jibe. If you are only using one spinnaker sheet, you will have to re-lead the sheet for the new jibe. Once you are set up on your new jib, check to insure that the sail is properly set up and pull up the sock. This method takes more time than the second method, but it is the safest. There is very little chance that you will rip your asymmetrical when using this method.

Without A Dousing Sock: This method can be used if you have a dousing sock but want to jibe quickly. This jibing method requires that both sheets be rigged to the asymmetrical. Rig the lazy sheet in front of the forestay and in front of the luff of the asymmetrical. It takes practice to perfect this method so you should be sure to try it slowly for the first few jibes. As you head downwind, ease the sheet of the asymmetrical all the way out. The sail will flow out in front of the boat. When the boat is directly down wind (it might help to have the main at centerline) begin to take in the new sheet. The clew of the asymmetrical should pass in front of the luff of the asymmetrical. As you bring in the sheet steer through the jibe and begin sailing on your new jibe. Note: be sure that you do not have any sharp

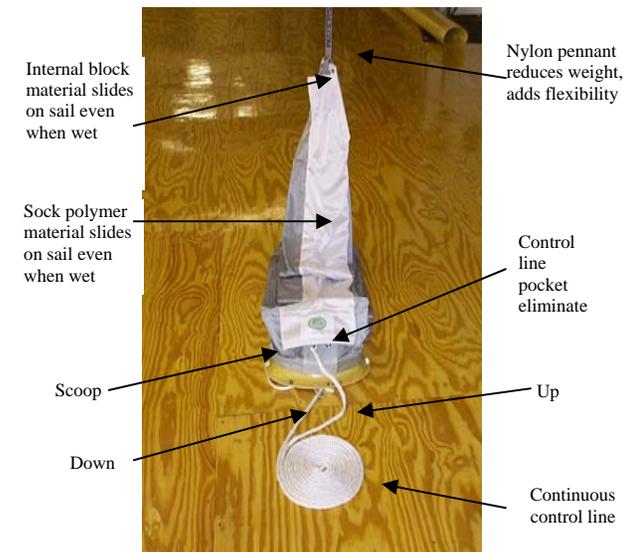
objects attaching the sheets to the sail. These could rip the sail during a jibe.

Using Your Dousing Sock

The Dousing Sock is designed to be easy and efficient. The control line is channeled through its own sock compartment to prevent twists. Your new asymmetrical, if you ordered the sock, will come with the sock already attached. If you need to install a sock or want to remove a sock, then spread the sail out without any twists.

Pull the sock to the top and either attach or remove the head from the head pennant inside the sock. Before hoisting the sock, the tack and clew must be pulled out of the sock below the scoop. Then pull the sock back down. To pull the sock up or down just pull on the continuous line that attaches to the scoop at the bottom and goes into the slot in the sleeve.

When sailing, the sock should be easy to pull up and down. If you have trouble dousing the spinnaker with the sock, you might try heading the boat down wind. As you head down wind, the asymmetrical will begin to be less effective and easier to douse. (See photo below)



Maintenance

Caring for your asymmetrical is easy but very important. Although Doyle uses the finest nylon available, if stored wet, the colors can sometimes run. In the unlikely event that your asymmetrical gets wet, be sure to dry the sail before storing it for long periods. Drying will also prevent mildew. You should have your asymmetrical cleaned by a Doyle service loft every one to three years, depending on usage.



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