

Top Tips for young freesailors

Retrimming -
little & often!

Windward trim - best shown on 'Quick sail trim guide' on page 2.

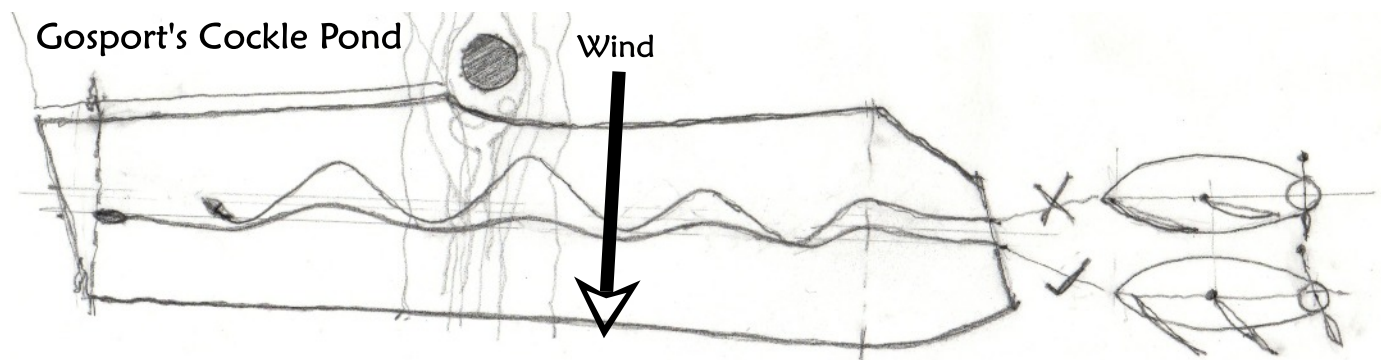
- 1) Set the fullness of the main at the boom, no more than 1 in 6.
- 2) Set less fullness in the jib at the boom, as in the diagram.
- 3) Set jib sheet for the airflow to follow smoothly behind the main.
- 4) Set your mainsail twist first with your kicking strap.
- 5) Match your jib leech to relate to your mainsail leech shape.
- 6) Have plenty of 'slot' to allow clean airflow across the back of the main, all as the 'Quick sail trim guide'.



Visit www.guildfordmyc.co.uk for more detail in the 2019 Model Boat's article.

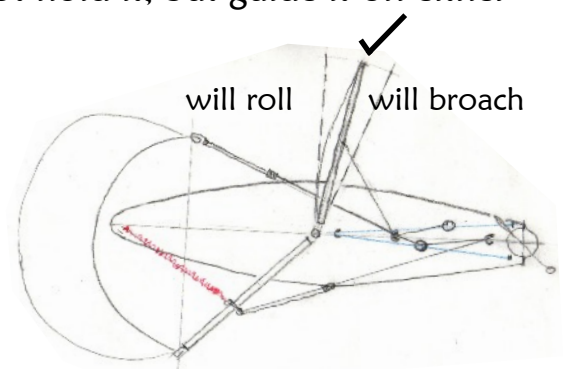
Under the tab 'workshop' - Sail Trimming MB 2019.

Reaching trim - the most important thing is that the sail trim must match the vane angle perfectly. Avoid a 'Gosport trim' with the sails pulled too far in and vane gear too square. This creates an exaggerated zigzag course with the boat heeling and luffing hard in the gusts and bearing away too much in the lulls. The diagram below compares this with where the sails are further out; this will not make the boat heel or luff, as instead the sails will shake and the vane gear will bear away less violently to

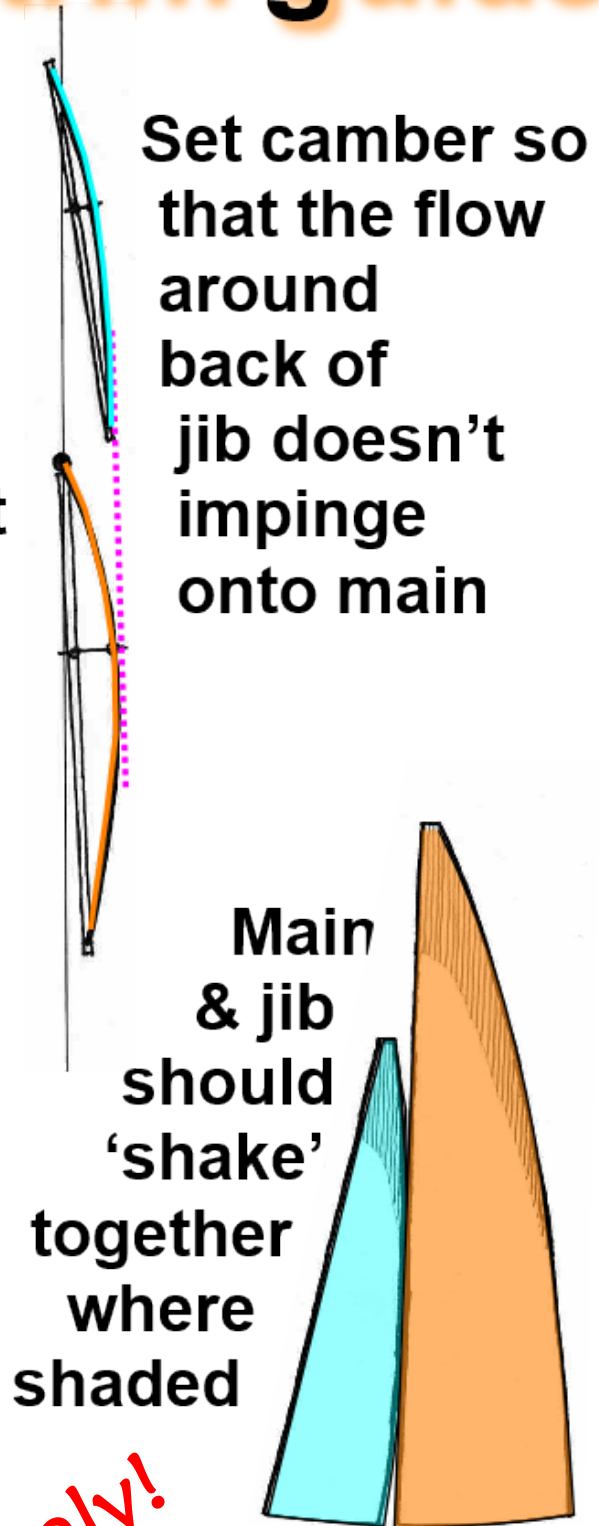
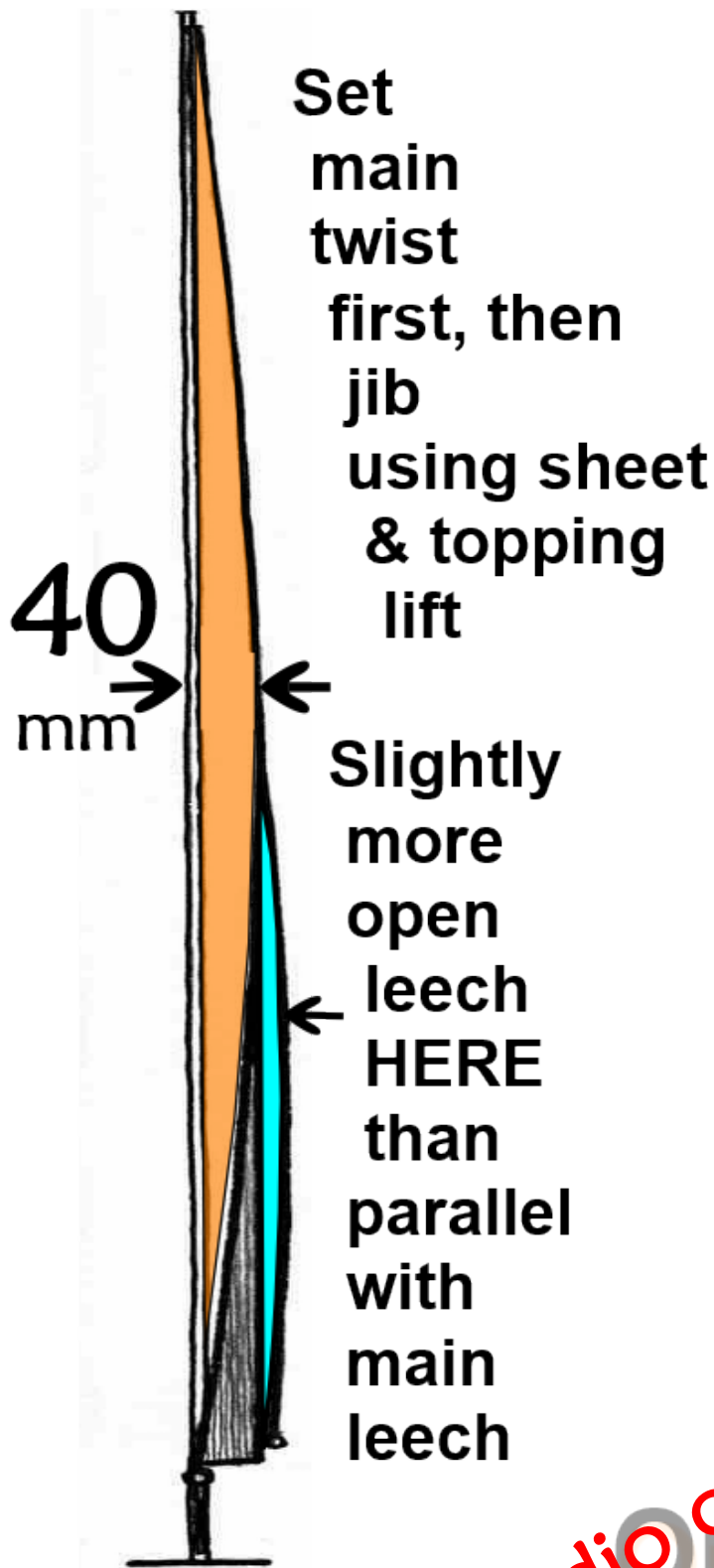


its course. It is much quicker with less risk of being caught in no wind behind the clubhouse. Allow sufficient twist so that in the wind variations there is at least some part of the sails pulling well. As a guide; with a reasonable breeze square across, the vane angle is likely to be about 75° and a bit closer to 65° if the wind is very light. Coloured dots on deck related to dots on vane dial help you to keep trim in balance.

Downwind trim - always set the spinnaker symmetrically dead down the middle. The mainsail should be set to balance any sideways forces. To check this set the boat up resting on its bow and the front of the keel. Do not hold it, but guide it on either side to find what forces will be acting on the boat and how it balances: before launching sheet mainsail in to prevent rolling or out just to get the boat balanced onshore. Probably the closest quartering run that you can go with a big spinnaker will be at a vane angle at 45° to the centreline, Once past this line use a flat spinnaker!



Quick sail trim guide



Radio Once afloat,
If in doubt let them out!