

Topper Squad Boats

We now have six Squad Toppers all located together in a special area. They are all numbered Y1- Y6...and not surprisingly so are the trolleys. Please put them back in the same area!



The Equipment

All Toppers are now rigged as **Centre Main**. Although some children may learn to sail on a rear main boat the Centre Main system has several advantages

To go with the Centre Main systems we have added **Tiller Extensions**, which are longer than a normal tiller, again enabling the sailor to sit further forward.

All six boats now have **3:1 Kickers** (Red) with a good quality fiddle and blocks. This means that in strong winds the Kicker can be pulled on hard to flatten and hence depower the sail. It therefore helps stop the capsize every five minutes.



Another control for depowering the sail, which is especially important in the Topper, is the downhaul. All Squad boats now have a **6:1 downhaul** (yellow). Between the downhaul and the kicker you should now be able to 'bend the boom'...literally.

To go with the downhaul the usual main halyard has been replaced by a '**Top Loop Halyard**'. The problem with the long main halyard is that when the downhaul is put on very tightly the halyard stretches, rather than the sail being flattened. The '**Top Loop Halyard**' is fixed only to the top of the mast, and therefore does not stretch. (Note that the upper mast section faces the opposite way to usual, when fitted with the Top Loop Halyard).



Storing and Finding the Equipment

The boats should be left on the trolleys with the boom, dagger board, mainsheet and rudder all in the boat. **The Kicker remains on the boom.**

The mast, sails and downhaul are already fitted together and again are numbered and found on the left hand side in the Log Cabin. **The downhaul stays on the sail/mast combination.** Please use the correctly numbered sail for the boat you have decided to use.

Note that if you want a **4.2m² sail** these are already on masts on the lower shelves below the main sails.

We would ask that all the equipment is put back in the appropriate place, and that items are not swapped between boats. (Already one downhaul has gone missing....if anyone knows where it might be please inform one of the committee or trainers).

Happy Sailing

Clive