

ROYAL SYDNEY YACHT SQUADRON

USING THE SLEWING CRANE FOR LAUNCH AND RETRIEVAL - Aug 2012

Note: It is the responsibility of the owner/skipper of the boat to ensure the safe use of the jib crane at all times. **At no time should any person be on the boat or under the boat when it is lifted.**

Prepare vessel for launch

1. Ensure all water is drained from bilge prior to fitting the bung plug.
2. Remove the backstay or necessary running rigging.
3. Identify the boat's keel lifting points and attach the lifting slings, ensuring they are correctly oriented .
4. Attach athwart ships and fore and aft lines (J24 forward and Yngling aft, Etchell & Dragon athwart ships).
Use the spinnaker sheets and tweakers to either side of the cockpit on Etchell and Dragons (making sure the lifting slings are centred on the boat).
5. Attach a long line to both the bow and the stern to use as control lines whilst slewing.
6. Move the boat cradle to the slewing crane, and centre its keel over the yellow line.
7. Check the position of the lifting slings, before attaching the slings to the hook of the slewing crane. Ensure the shackle pins are in and secured.
8. A second (or third) person is to gather in the bow and stern control lines in preparation for controlling the boat when it is being lifted from the cradle.
9. Engage the hook to the lifting slings and slowly take the weight of the boat on the slings with the crane. Double check all lifting equipment. Keep hands clear of the contact area between the hook and sling.
10. Use the control lines to keep the boat square to the crane as it is being moved, with the crew in close proximity to the crane pedestal and well clear of the load. Lift the boat until it is clear of the cradle. Slew the boat around slowly (bow first) "east or west".
11. When the boat clears the hardstand, lower the boat slowly into the water. As the boat nears the water, pull on the control lines to prevent the mast hitting the crane.
12. Only remove the slings from the crane hook when the hook is low enough to ensure wave surge will not affect the removal. Return the hook to the up position, at least 2x metres above the deck, with the crane then slewed to its original park position, and switch off.
13. Remove and return the empty cradle, from under the crane, to its hardstand storage position.
14. Moor the boat in the pond. Re-fasten backstays and prepare for sailing.

Prepare vessel for retrieval

1. Moor the boat in the pond. Pump water from the bilge until empty. Remove the backstay.
2. Ensure the slings are correctly attached to the lifting points and with the correct orientation.
3. Attach the bow and stern control lines to the attachment points.

4. Attach spinnaker sheets and tweekers, either side of the cockpit, to ensure the lifting slings are centred on the boat.
5. Move the boat to the slewing crane. Centre it below the hook. Check the position of the slings and lines, before attaching the slings to the crane hook. Attach the hook, whilst ensuring hands are positioned behind the hook so they cannot get caught between the lifting sling and the hook.
6. A second (and or third person) is to gather in the bow and stern control lines in preparation for lifting the boat from the water.
7. Slowly take the weight of the boat with the crane and continue lifting until the boat is clear of the water.
8. Use the control lines to keep the boat square to the crane as it is being lifted and slewed towards the cradle. Move the boat around slowly (bow first).
9. Lower the boat slowly into the cradle. As the boat nears the cradle rest point, pull on the control lines to centre the boat and prevent the mast hitting the crane. **Do not go under the boat to centre the keel, until the boat is within 300mm of the rest position.**
10. When the boat is secured in the cradle, remove the slings from the crane hook. Lift the hook and return the crane to its original park position and switch off. Replace the ladder to the mount on the crane pedestal
11. Move the boat and cradle to its hardstand storage position.
12. Re-fasten backstay and prepare boat for storage.

Pendant controls

Emergency Stop

Start

Up

Down

West (as marked on the overhead gantry)

East (as marked on the overhead gantry)

- Note.* ✓ ***Press button down “half way” to obtain a slow movement***
- *Fully depress button to obtain a fast movement*
 - *Release button, movement will stop*
 - *Always use the slow movement when manoeuvring boats*

 - *Replace pendant in cradle after use.*
 - *Turn off electrical power to crane*

