

Solent Sunbeam basic control guide, with jib luff NOT attached to forestay, swept back spreaders, and lowers in line with mast.

NEED

Very Light Winds (0-3kts)

Flat mainsail
Boom below C/L
Jib luff sag
Jib twisted
Jib sheeted inboard
Open leeches

Light Winds (4-10kts)

Fuller mainsail

Boom on C/L
Jib luff sag
Jib leech slightly closed, leech tell-tales flowing
Leeches slightly more closed

Medium Winds (8-15kts)

Fuller mainsail

Boom on C/L
Jib luff sag
Jib leech closed but tell-tales flowing
Main leech straightened, little twist
but keep tell-tales flowing 50% of time

Strong Winds (15+kts)

Flat mainsail with mast bend and top of mast sagging off
Draft forward
Boom a bit to leeward of C/L
As little jib luff sag as possible
Centre of effort (rake) more forward to counter-act weather helm
Open jib slot

Main leech tight, but will have twist in it anyway because of wind strength
Steer for constant angle of heel
Avoid boat "nodding"
Avoid mast over-bend wrinkles in main running from clew to mid mast

ACHIEVED BY

Jumpers off, outhaul on, backstay on a bit
Traveller well to windward, mainsheet out
Jib halyard slackened off
Tracks in av. fore and aft position, but
Move tracks inboard
Sheet both sails lightly, boom weight on rod vang

Mast ram aft, no backstay, vang off, jumpers on somewhat, outhaul medium
Traveller maybe 3" to windward of C/L
Jib halyard slackened off but tightened as wind builds
Move tracks forward a bit in soft.
Sheet harder as speed and wind builds, but keep jib and main leech tell-tails flowing

Mast ram aft, backstay just tight, vang off, jumpers on, outhaul medium
Traveller to windward as necessary
Jib halyard about 5" sag relative to tight forestay
Average track setting
Tighten mainsheet

Tight backstay, jumpers let out but locked on, jib halyard + outhaul on hard. Vang off.
Both Cunninghams hard on
Traveller down a bit, + down more in gusts
Jib halyard hard on
Jib halyard hard on

Jib tracks out and aft, sheets off if necessary. If tiller goes soggy open up the slot more
Main sheet tight but let off for twist and depower

Disregard jib luff tell-tales, keep leech tell-tales flowing
Bear away and wiggle over waves
Slacken mainsheet, reduce spreader angle when ashore if a problem.

NOTES

1. With the fore-stay just tight, the distance from the front of stem to front of mast measures 8'10".
2. The rake is set by locking the jib halyard so that when taut with constant pull it just touches the mast partner board in front of the mast. The halyard is then swung out to the fore-stay and the position of the end of the halyard is marked on the fore-stay. The fore-stay length is then adjusted so that the distance from the mark to where the deck intercepts the back of the stem is 23.5".

RW/2018