

## **HOW TO REEF AN ACCESS DINGHY**

The following advice is offered concerning reefing mainsails reliably. This procedure has been recommended by the Executive Officer of IACA, David Staley, for all Access 2.3s, 303s, and Libertys with battenless mainsails:

1. Secure the clamp on the mainsail reefing drum so that the knot on the reefing line is near the front on the port side;
2. Set the mainsail to full size with the clew outhaul line tight;
3. Rotate the mast at least half a turn anti-clockwise (viewed from above) – more if possible. The top of the mast will wind some of the sail around itself, whilst the bobbin at the boom-end stays still, and the foot of the sail remains stretched taut along the boom. Do not release the clew outhaul line.
4. Release the clew outhaul, keeping the line tight, and continue rotating the mast anti-clockwise using the reefing line, and a hand on the bottom of the mast if necessary, allowing the sail to be wrapped tightly around the mast.
5. When reefed sufficiently for the crew and the conditions, secure the reefing line at the jamming cleat on the keel box and then rotate the bobbin and sail back clockwise, if possible, to ensure the sail is tightly wrapped at the bottom of the mast, securing the clew outhaul with the foot of the sail tight.

If this is done effectively, the mainsail should stay reefed for the duration of a sailing session.

Any sailor or helper who can improve on this procedure, or has another effective method of achieving reliable reefing should contact Richard Smallwood, Chairman of the ACA(UK) Technical Sub-Committee.