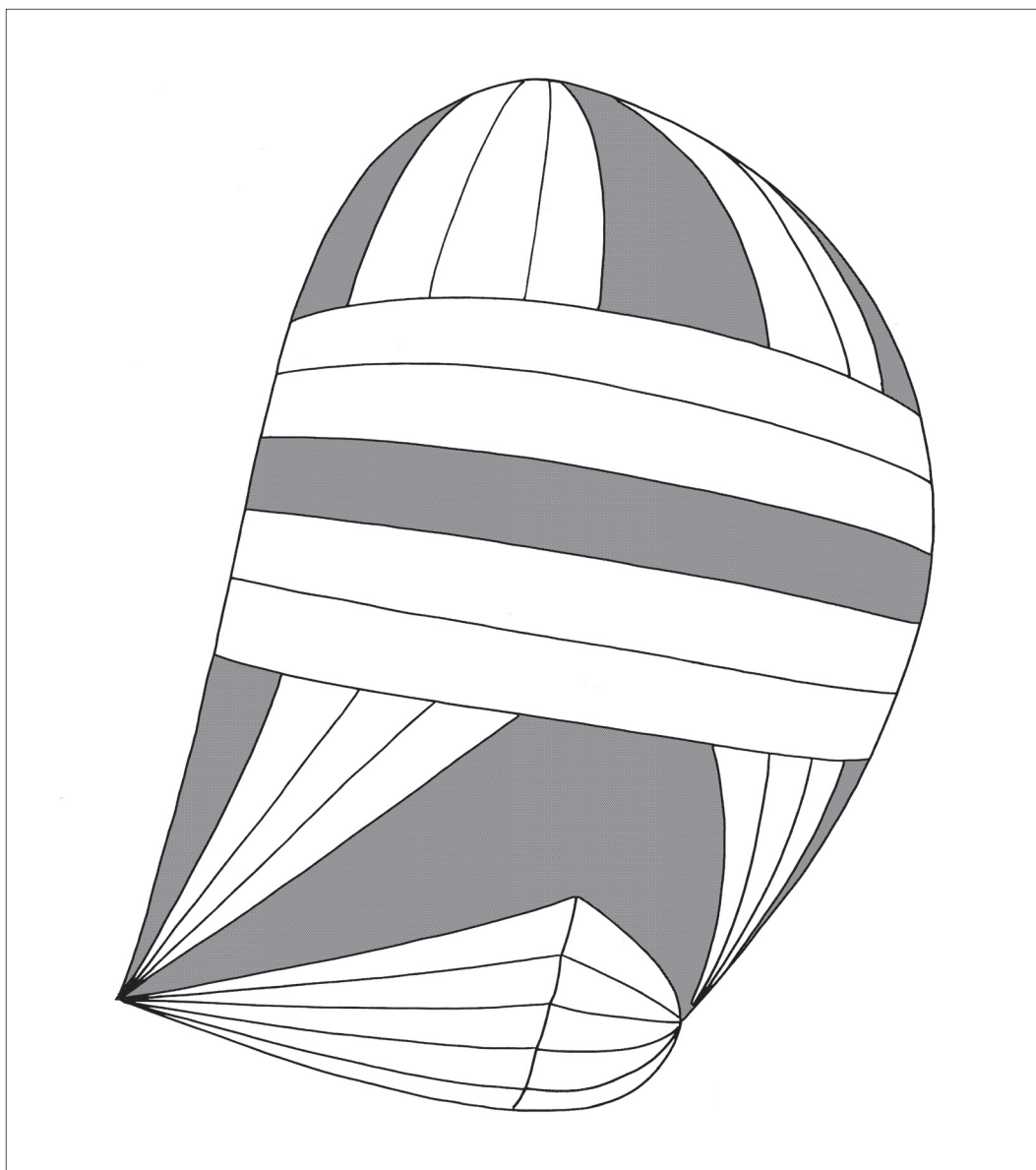


Using a spinnaker



Spinnaker sailing

These instructions have been compiled with both the beginner and the experienced sailor in mind. Our aim has been to help the beginner to start using a spinnaker safely, and to give the experienced skipper assistance in teaching a novice crew. Three different systems have evolved over the years which we describe in detail on the following pages.

Method 1 The "End-for-End" method where the topping lift and the down-haul are attached to the centre of the spinnaker pole. We consider this method suitable for boats of up to 25 feet LOA.

Method 2 "End for-End" again, but with the topping lift at the centre of the pole, and the down-haul attached to the outboard end. In our opinion this system is best suited to fractionally rigged boats to a maximum of 40 feet LOA, and for mast-head rigged boats of up to about 33 feet LOA.

Method 3 The "Dip Pole" method is normally used for larger boats.

Whilst there are further varieties of methods and equipment available, we feel that these three methods, which are described in detail in the following pages, are the best foundation on which to start using a spinnaker.

Stowing spinnakers

1. Simple Stowage (smaller spinnakers)

Flake each spinnaker leech/luff separately but simultaneously, starting at the head of the sail, and allowing the bunt of the sail to hang loosely from your hands.

With larger spinnakers of, say, 50m² (500 sq.ft) and upwards it can also be an advantage to flake the foot of the sail. Stow the bunt of the sail in the turtle with the leech/luff to each side and on top. Leave the head and the clews projecting slightly, and bind them together with a piece of light line.

2. Stopping

A number of elastic bands are placed around a plastic pipe of 9 - 12 inch diameter - a plastic bucket with its bottom removed does excellently! The spinnaker is then fed through the pipe head first, taking care to keep the leech/luff untwisted. The rubber bands are slid off the pipe and over the sail at about three foot intervals, thus holding the sail together along its length. The sail is hoisted in this stopped state, allowing the wind to break the elastic bands when its foot is spread open by sheet and guy.

There are other stowage methods; among them being the Spee Squeezer or "sock".

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Method 3. For spinnakers over 80 m². (850 sq.ft.)

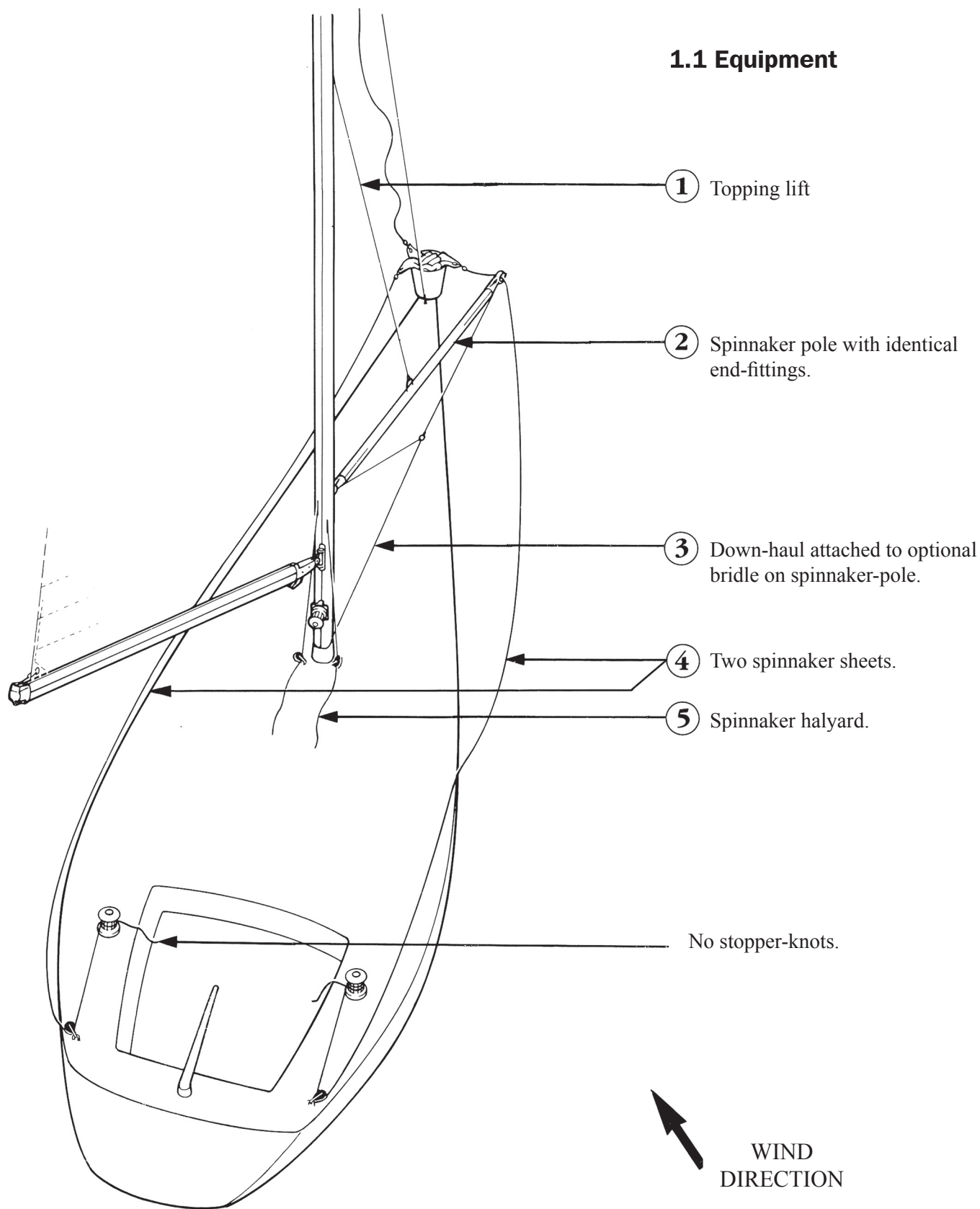
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**Deviations from these recommendations are acceptable, providing they are
agreed between Seldén Mast and its customer.**

1 Equipment

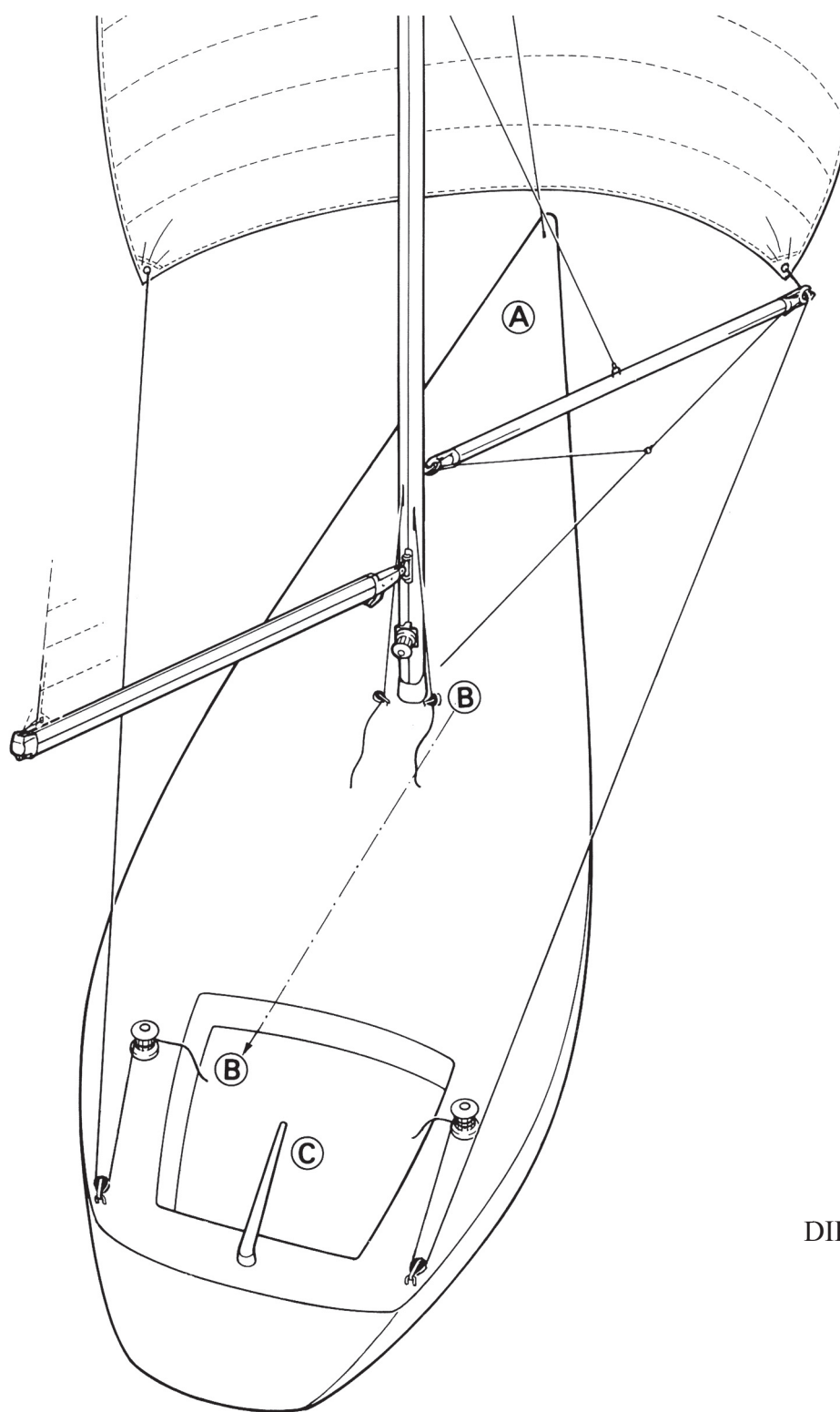
Method 1. Topping lift and down-haul to the centre of the spinnaker pole. For spinnakers under 50 m² (550 sq.ft). Recommended for helmsman and two crew.

1.1 Equipment




Hoisting/Sailing

Method 1. Spinnakers under 50 m² (550 sq.ft.).



1.2 Hoisting

1. (A) hooks up the spinnaker. The sheet must run freely through the spinnaker pole end-fitting.
(B) rigs the spinnaker pole, topping lift, and down-haul.
2. (C) hauls in the sheet.
(B) goes to the leeward sheet-winch.
3. (A) hoists the spinnaker.
4. (A) calls out 'TOP' when spinnaker is fully hoisted.
(B) hauls in the guy.
5. (A) tidies up and hands the genoa.


 WIND
DIRECTION

1.3 Sailing

Keep the pole horizontal and at right angles to the apparent wind.

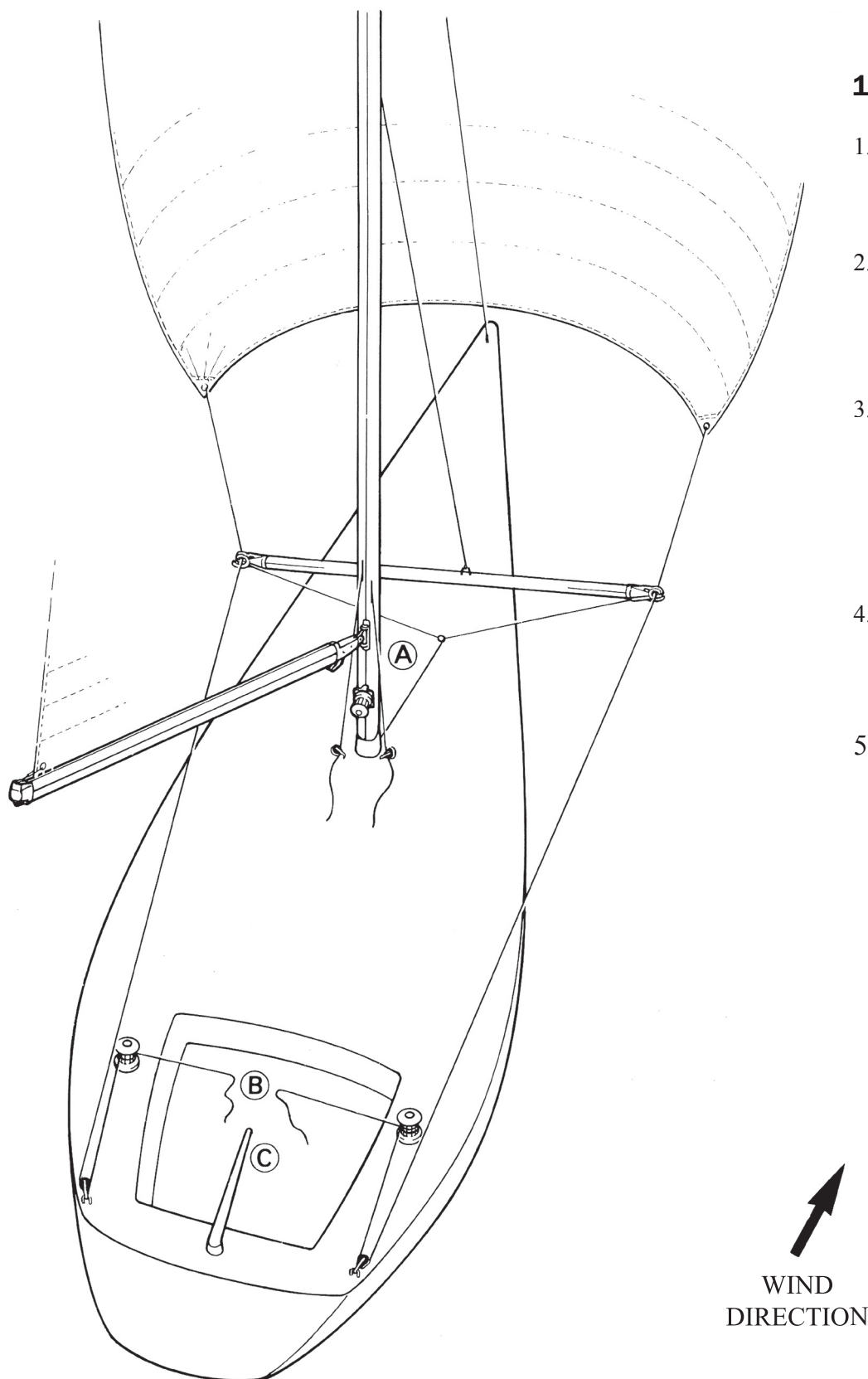
The height of the spinnaker pole should be such that the clews are at about the same level.

The spinnaker sheet should be eased until the luff of the sail is just about to break ("curl").

To reduce rolling and the risk of broaching in heavy weather one can use Barber-hauls, see Spinnaker Instruction 2, page 8.

Gybing

Method 1. Spinnakers under 50 m² (550 sq.ft.).



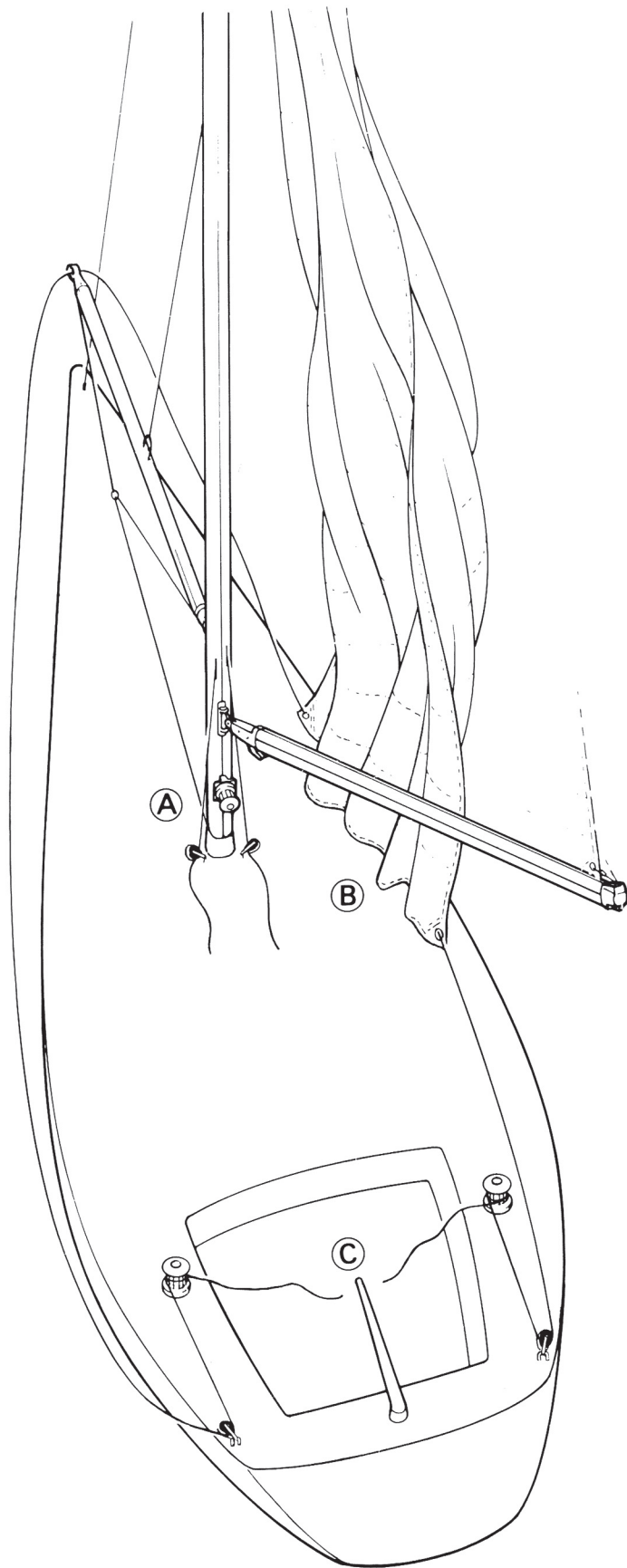
1.4 Gybe

1. ① trims the sheet and guy so that the clews are equally eased off. (Mark the sheets!).
2. ② standing astride and facing forward takes the spinnaker pole out of the mast-fitting and attaches it on to the "new" guy.
3. ② takes the spinnaker pole off the sheet, and hooks that end on to the mast-fitting. (The new outboard end of the pole should be as near the clew as possible to facilitate hooking up to the mast.)
4. ② calls out "READY" as soon as the pole is hooked to the mast.
③ hauls in the "new" guy
5. ④ gybes the mainsail.

NB. In *ghosting conditions* keep the mainsail amidships to help keep the spinnaker filled during the entire operation. The helmsman's main duty is to keep the boat as *dead before the wind* as possible

Lowering

Method 1. Spinnakers under 50 m² (550 sq.ft.).



1.5 Lowering

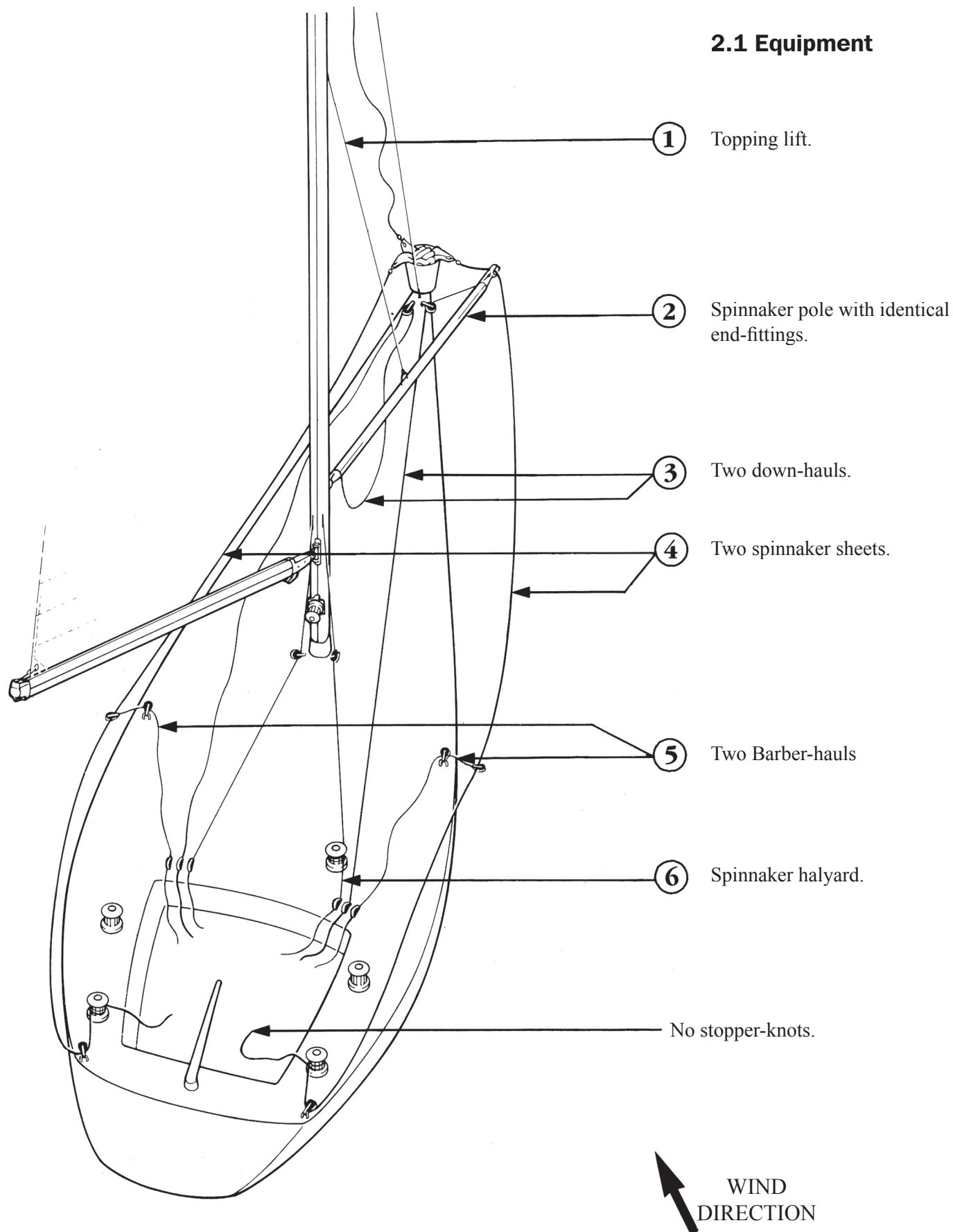
1. (A) sets the genoa.
2. (B) grabs the spinnaker sheet and collects the foot of the sail close under the lee of the mainsail while *at the same time...*
- (C) eases off the spinnaker guy.
3. (A) lowers the halyard at the same rate as collects the sail.
4. (B) then sheets in the genoa.
5. (B) tidies up.

The spinnaker should be properly stowed as quickly as possible.



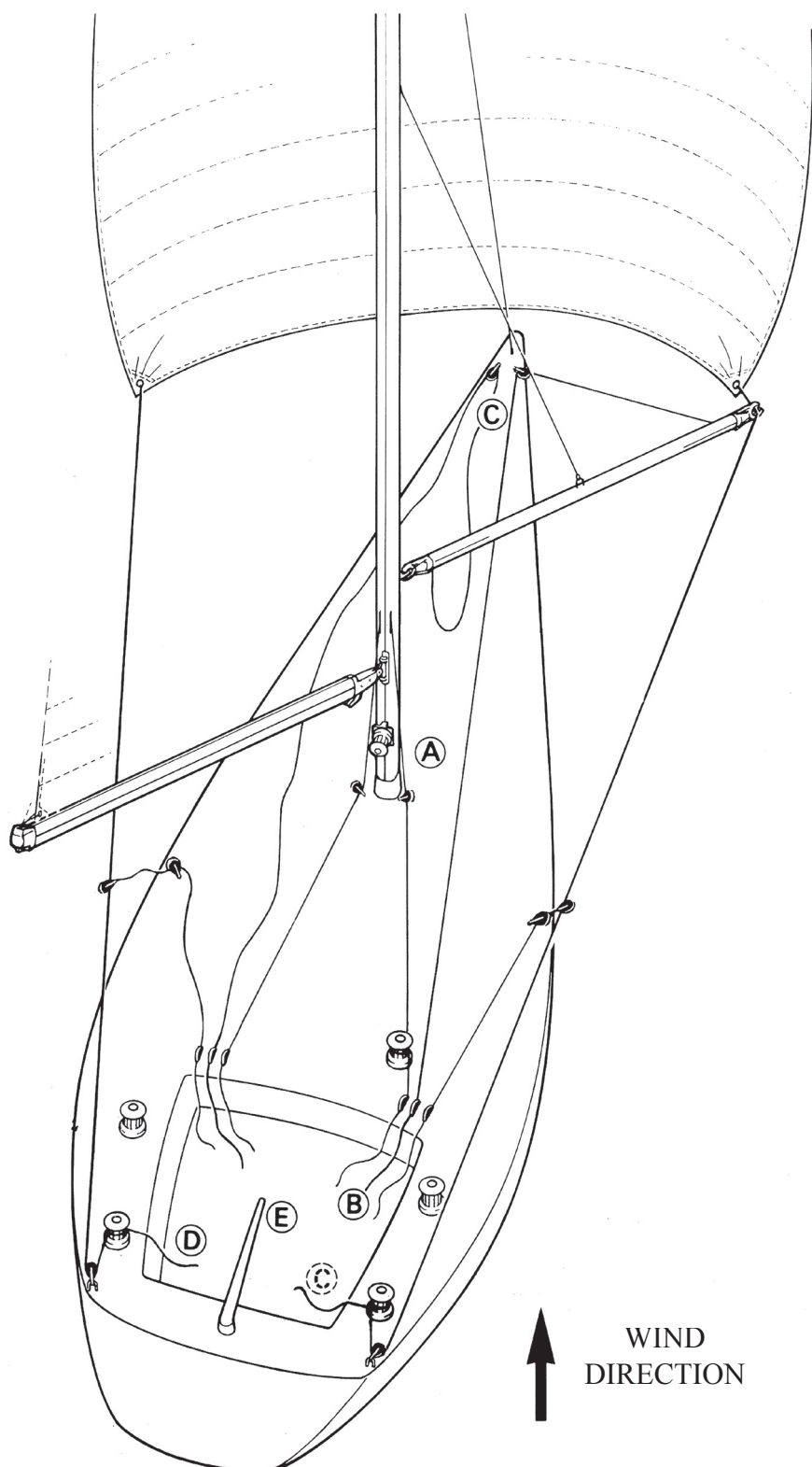
2 Equipment

Method 2. Down-haul forward. Spinnakers under 80 m² (850 sq.ft). Recommended for helmsman and four crew - two crew minimum.



Hoisting/Sailing

Method 2. Spinnakers under 80 m² (850 sq.ft).



2.2 Hoisting

1. (A) and (B) set up the spinnaker pole, topping lift, and down-haul, and hook up the spinnaker. The sheet must run freely through the spinnaker pole end-fitting.
(D) adjusts the spinnaker pole for height and then hauls in the guy and down-haul.
2. (A) and (B) hoist the spinnaker.
(C) ensures that the sail runs free from the turtle and holds its leech/luff to prevent the sail from twisting.
3. (B) calls out "TOP" when spinnaker fully hoisted.
(D) hauls in the sheet.
4. (C) removes the empty turtle and takes over guy and down-haul trimming.
5. (A) and (B) tidy up and hand the genoa.

2.3 Sailing

Keep the pole horizontal and at right angles to the apparent wind.

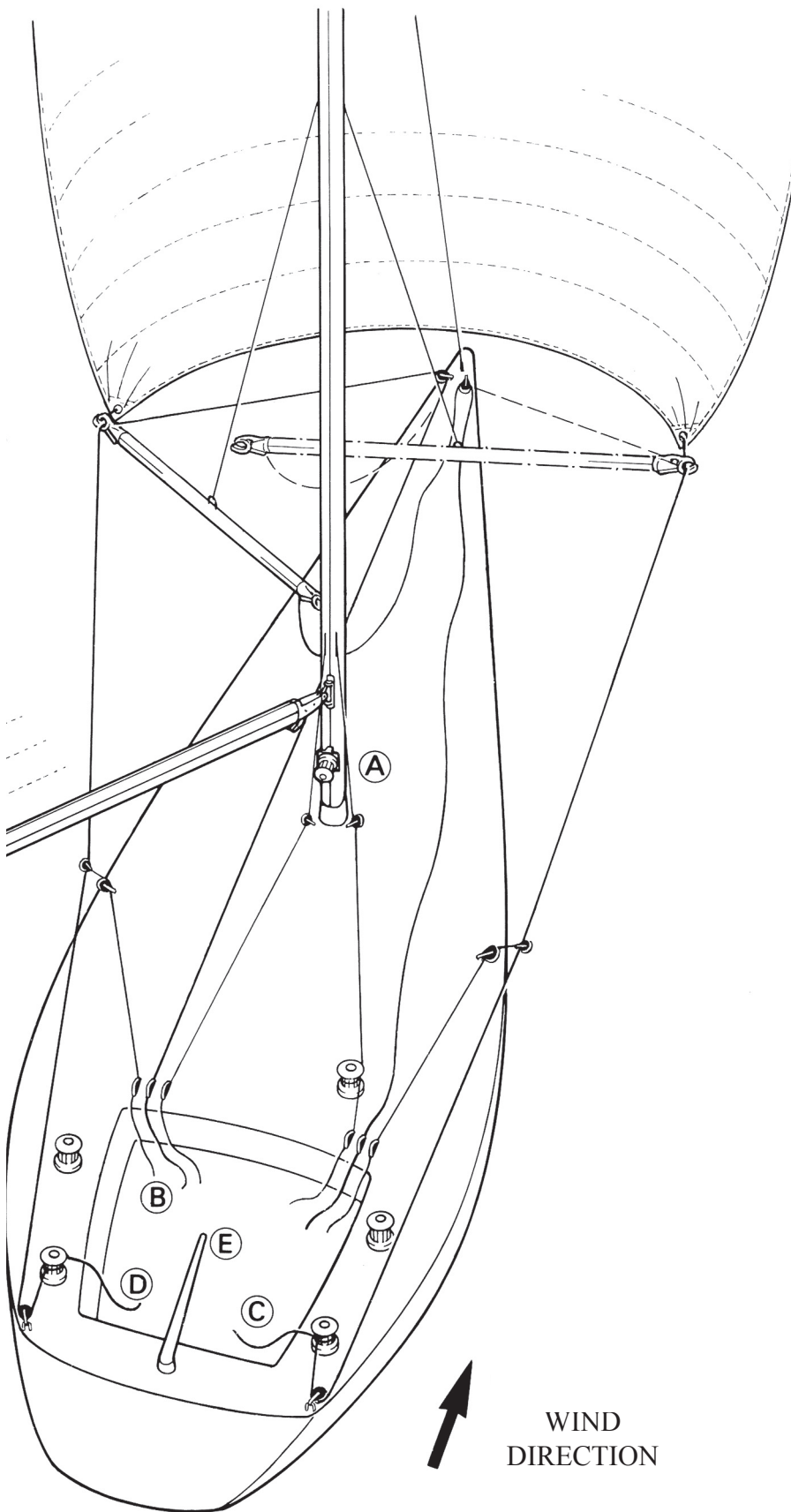
The height of the spinnaker pole should be such that the clews are at approximately the same level.

The spinnaker sheet should be eased until the luff of the sail is just about to break. ("curl").

In heavy weather use the leeward Barber-haul to reduce rolling and the risk of a broach.

Gybing

Method 2. Spinnakers under 80 m² (850 sq.ft).



2.4 Gybe

1. (A) lowers the inboard end of the spinnaker pole to a comfortable working height, and hooks the leeward down-haul to the inboard end of the pole.

(B) adjusts the topping lift and ensures that the new down-haul is released.

(C) and (D) adjust the sheet and guy so that the clews are equally freed (mark the sheets). The Barber-hauls are taken in.

2. (A), standing astride and facing the fore, unhooks the spinnaker pole from the mast and hooks that the end to the sheet.

The spinnaker pole is then unhooked from the guy and on to the mast fitting.

The new outboard end of the pole should be kept as near the clew as possible to facilitate this operation

(A) calls "READY" as soon as the pole is hooked to the mast.

3. (B) gybes the mainsail.

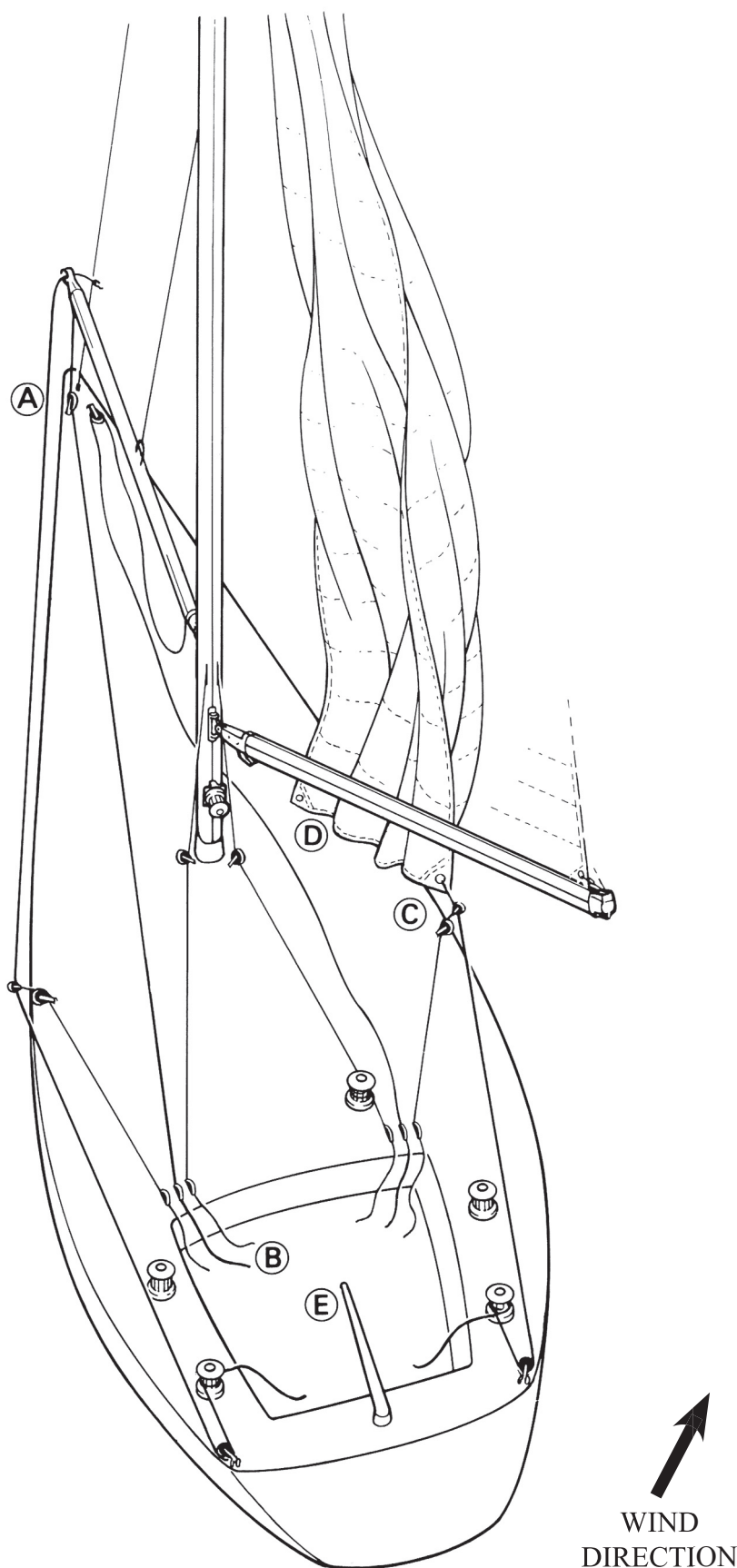
(C) and (D) trim the spinnaker sheet and guy and ease the Barber-haul on the "new" sheet

(B) trims the "new" Barber-haul.

NB. In *ghosting conditions* keep the mainsail amidships to help keep the spinnaker filled during the entire operation. The helmsman's main duty is to keep the boat as *dead before the wind* as possible.

Lowering

Method 2. Spinnakers under 80 m² (850 sq.ft).



2.5 Lowering

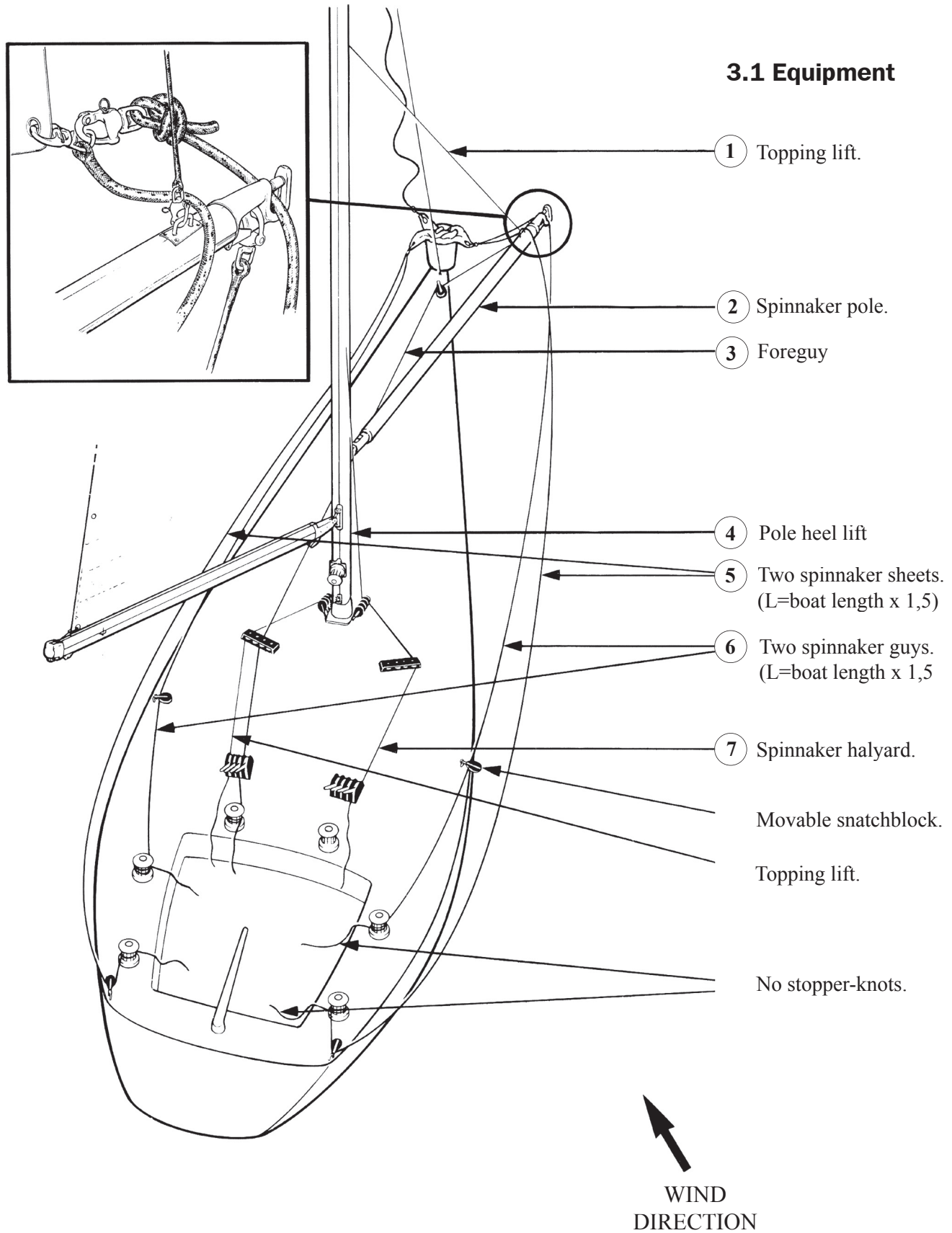
1. (A) and (B) hoist the genoa, and lowers the end of the pole to (A) who is standing near the forestay.
(C) grabs the sheet and draws in the clew using the Barber-haul to help.
2. (A) unhooks the spinnaker windward clew.
(A) should stand to leeward of the spinnaker pole so as not to be hit by the recoiling pole end. Alternatively (C) can pay out the guy.
(C) and (D) collect the foot of the sail.
3. (B) lowers the halyard at the same rate as (C) and (D) draw the spinnaker in under the lee of the main-sail.
4. (B) sheets in the genoa.
5. (A) and (B) tidy up.

The spinnaker should be properly stowed as quickly as possible.

3 Equipment

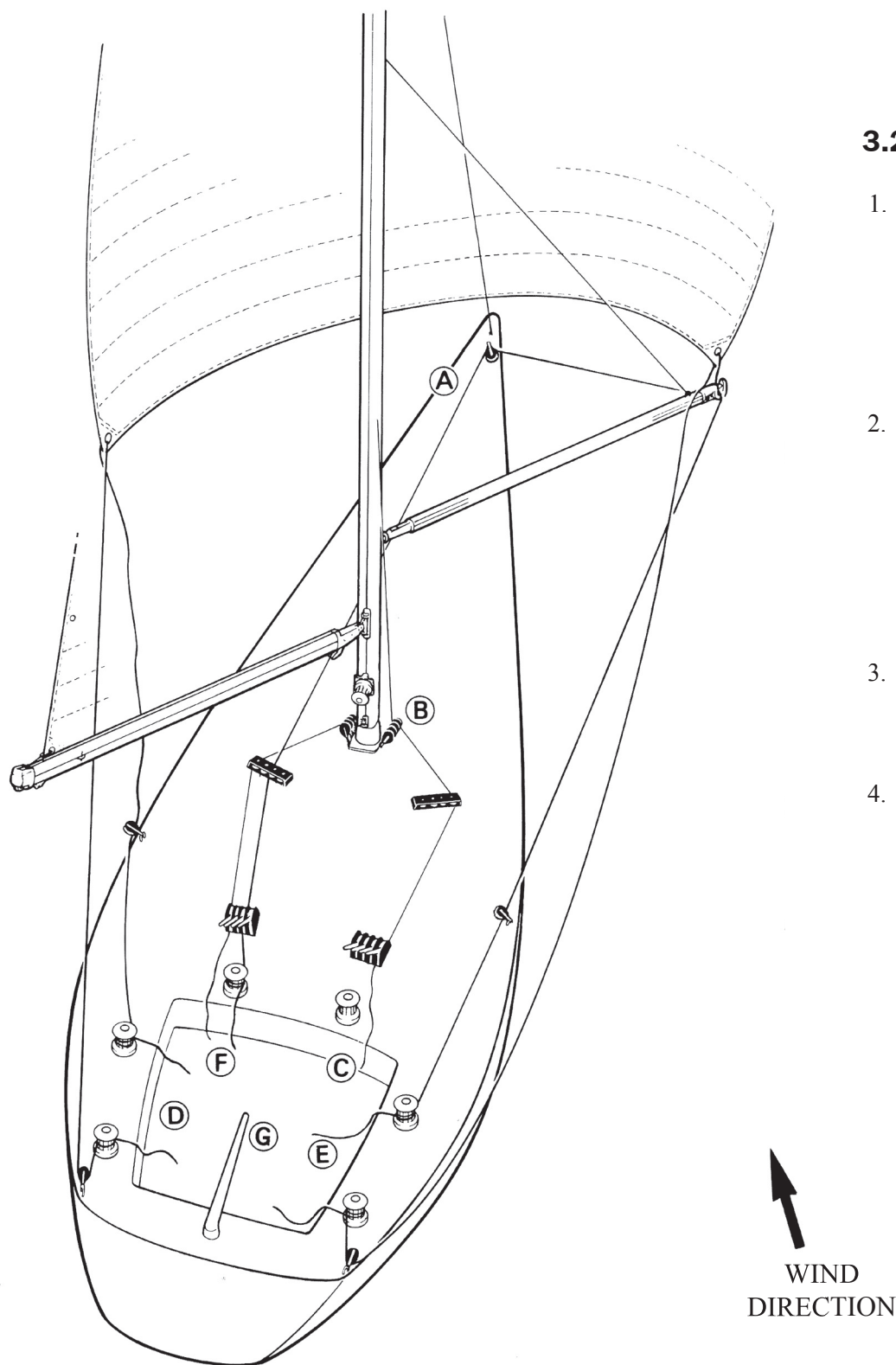
Method 3. "Dip" method for spinnakers over 80 m² (850 sq.ft).

Recommended crew: helmsman and six crew - three crew minimum.



Hoisting/Sailing

Method 3. Spinnakers over 80 m² (850 sq.ft).



3.2 Hoisting

1. Ⓐ and Ⓑ set up the spinnaker pole, topping lift, and fore guy, and hook up the spinnaker. (The guys are rigged as shown in 3.1).
- Ⓕ and Ⓑ then adjust the pole to suitable sailing height.
2. Ⓔ hauls in the windward guy.
- Ⓑ and Ⓒ hoist the spinnaker.
- Ⓐ ensures that the spinnaker runs free from the turtle, holding its leech/luff to prevent the sail from twisting.
3. Ⓒ calls out 'TOP' when spinnaker fully hoisted, whereupon Ⓓ sheets in.
4. Ⓐ and Ⓑ tidy up and hand the genoa.

3.3 Sailing

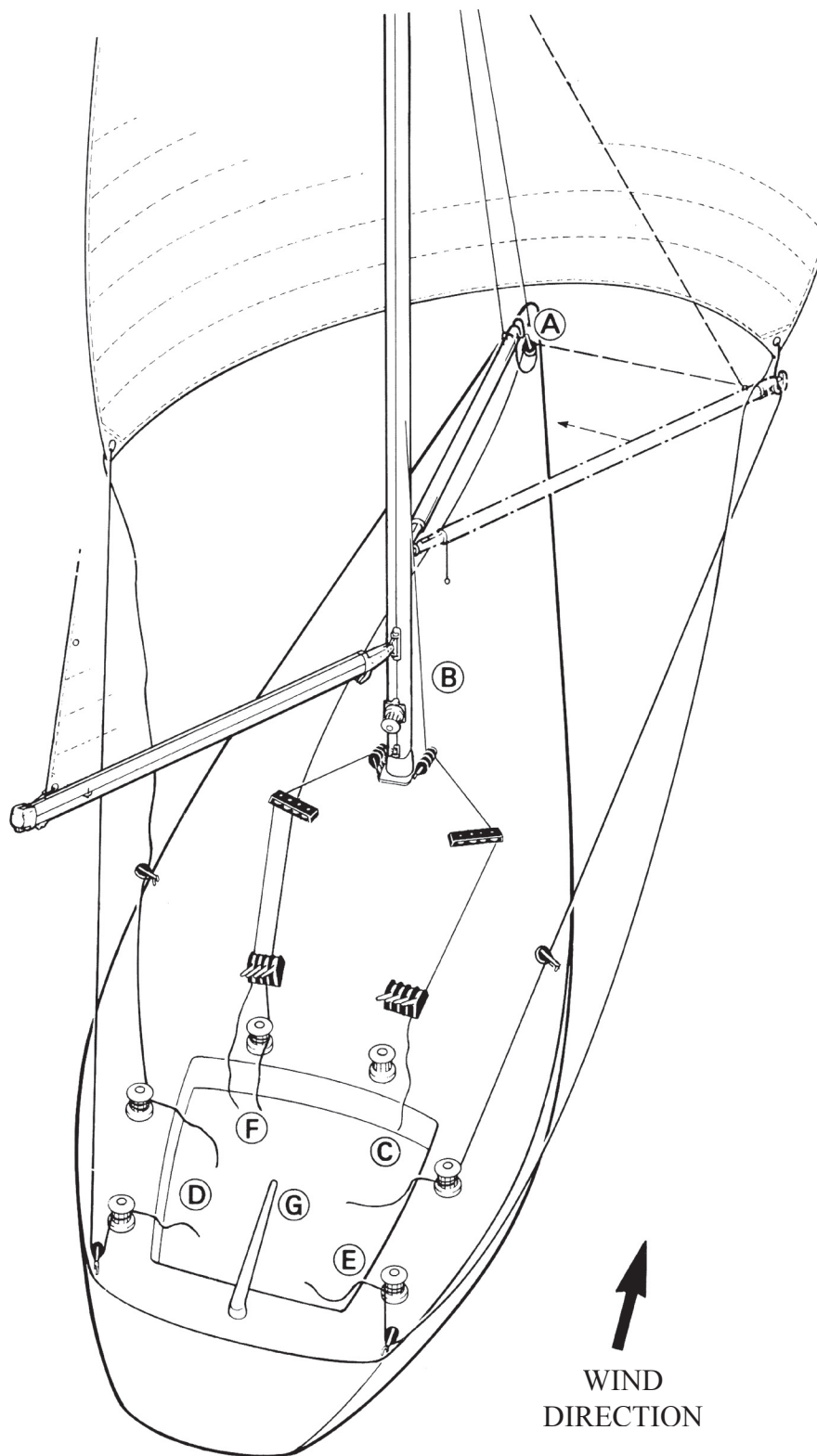
Keep the pole horizontal and at right angles to the apparent wind.

Spinnaker pole height should be such that the clews are at approximately the same level.

The spinnaker sheet should be eased until the luff of the sail is just about to break ("curl").

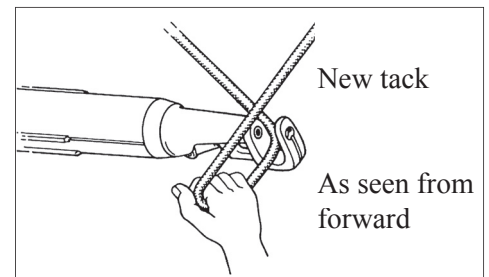
Gybing

Method 3. Spinnakers over 80 m² (850 sq.ft).



3.4 Gybe

1. ⑤ hauls in the spinnaker guy to take the strain off the pole guy. ⑥ releases the inner forestay.
2. ⑥ triggers the outboard end-fitting of the spinnaker pole to free windward pole guy, and takes the slack leeward pole guy forward of the forestay, where the sits. The guy is held as shown.



3. ⑦ lowers the pole by easing the topping lift and taking in on the fore guy so that the pole end can swing under and past the forestay.
- ⑥ opens the end-fitting as it passes him. (If the end-fitting is of the "Trip Trigger" type the fitting will remain open from the time it has been released from the "old" windward guy until ① reactuates the mechanism by inserting the "new" guy)
4. ⑦ hauls on the topping lift while easing the fore guy ④ simultaneously hauls in the "new" windward guy to reposition the pole.
5. ④ takes up the slack in the "new" spinnaker guy.
6. ③ gybes the mainsail.

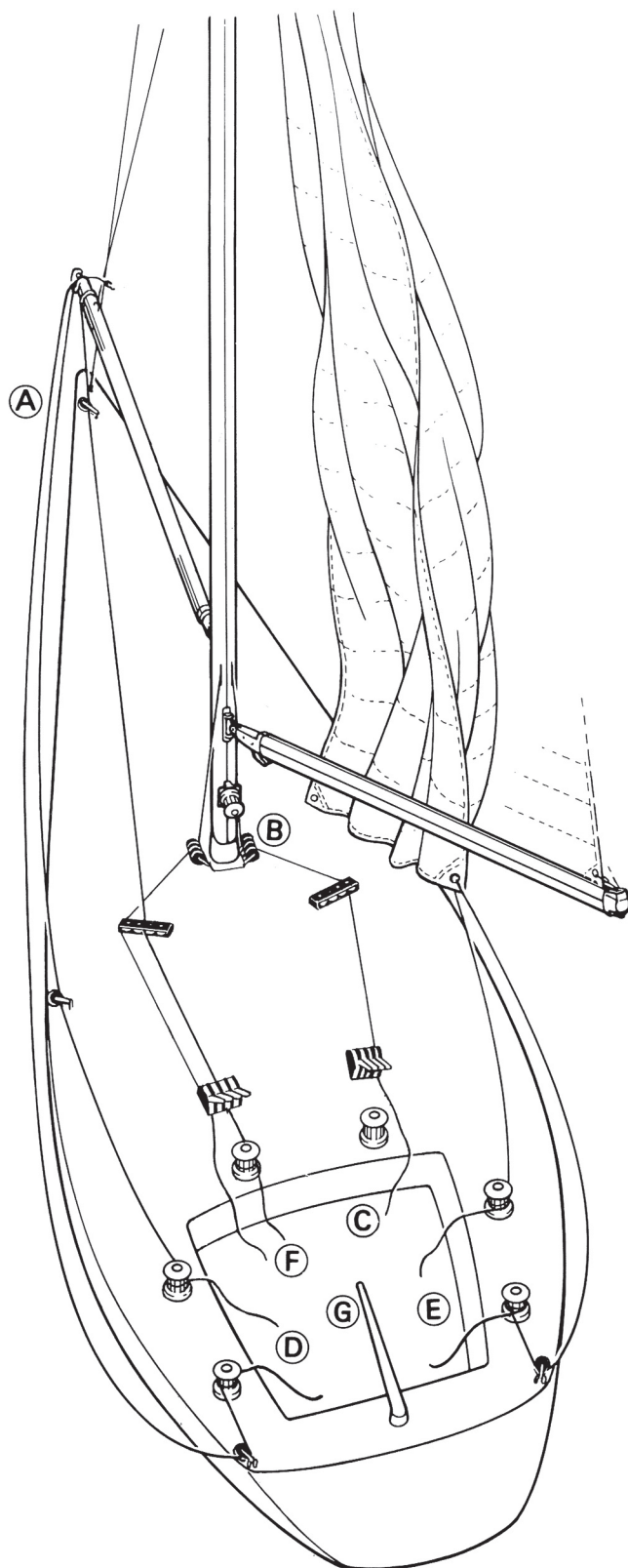
NB. In *ghosting conditions* keep the mainsail amidships in order to keep the spinnaker filled during the entire operation.

The helmsman's main duty is to keep the boat as *dead before the wind* as possible.

NB. It can be very difficult to execute a gybe in *heavy weather* as the spinnaker is flying during the operation. It is advisable to use two poles under such conditions, and thus avoid having to 'dip' and undo the inner forestay. Pole guys can be permanently reaved.

Lowering

Method 3. Spinnakers over 80 m² (850 sq.ft).



3.5 Lowering

1. (A) and (C) set the genoa.
 (F) and (D) lower the pole-end and guide it to (A) who is standing by the forestay.
 (E) hauls in the leeward pole guy.
2. (A) unhooks the windward clew. He must stand to leeward of the spinnaker pole in order to avoid possible injury when it recoils.
3. (B), (F) and (D) gather the foot of the sail.
4. (C) eases the halyard at the same rate as (B), (F) and (D) draw the spinnaker in under the lee of the mainsail.
 (E) and (C) sheet in the genoa.
5. (A), (B) and (C) tidy up.

The spinnaker should be properly stowed without undue delay.



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