

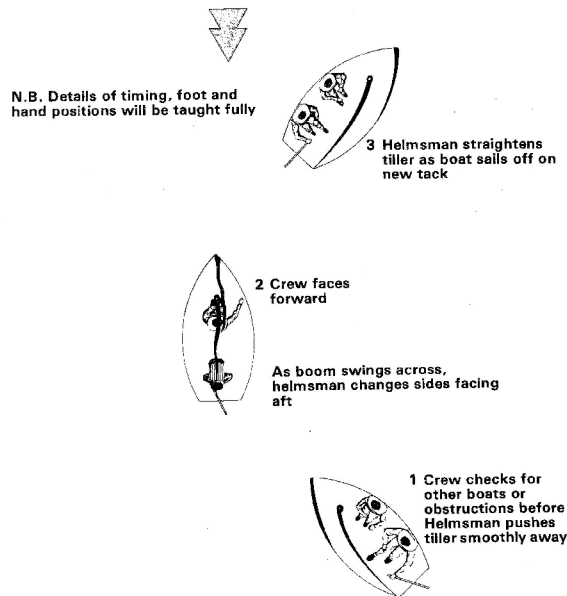


Lilongwe Sailing Club

Tacking and Jybeing

Tacking

From this the next stage should be clear. If we want to reach a windward objective, it will be necessary to zig-zag up towards it, changing direction each time by *tacking*. Once this technique of changing direction is mastered—by demonstration, land drill and practice afloat—you have the basic knowledge necessary to sail off, turn round and return.



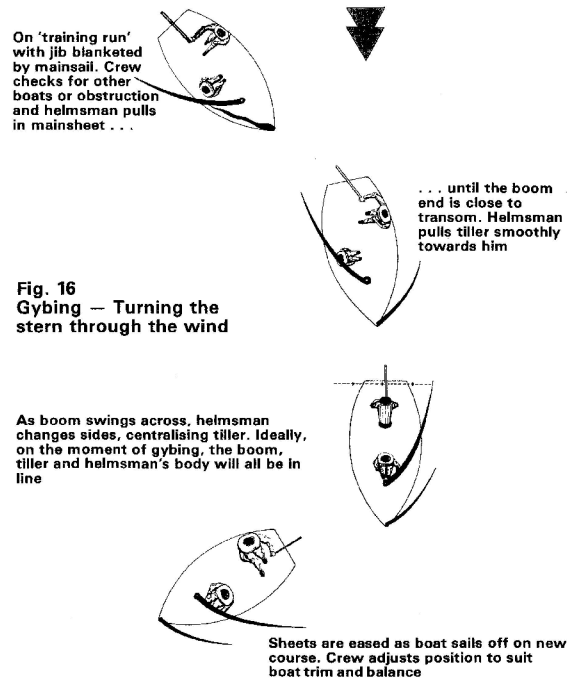
Tacking—
Turning the bow through the wind

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Gybing

Having got this far, there is only one more new technique to learn. So far you have changed direction by turning *into* the wind, but you will, no doubt, have thought about the alternative. What happens when you turn further and further away from the wind presenting the stern of the boat to the wind?

The answer, if you try it too soon or in strong winds, will be unnerving or possibly extremely wet. The gybe is a manoeuvre which, properly done, becomes another part of your sailing repertoire. The important thing to bear in mind is that, unlike



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tacking, when the boat passes through a point of stability, there is always a lot of drive in the mainsail when the boat is being gybed. Get it wrong and you'll know about it, but get it right in anything of a breeze and you can really call yourself a sailor.