

## Sailing tips for your Catalina 38

1. When sailing in light air
  - A. Loosen aft lowers to allow the middle of the mast to go forward.
  - B. Apply 3,000 pounds backstay pressure to pull the masthead 3" aft.
  - C. Retighten aft lowers, as required, to stop any pumping.
2. When sailing downwind, let the masthead forward by easing backstay tension.
3. Cut the headsail hollow at the top of the leach to allow the sails to clear the top spreader when sheeted in and going to weather. This will help the boat point 2ft – 3 ft higher.
4. The mainsail telltales should be placed near the top. Keep the batten, parallel to the boom.
5. The traveler should be kept on the centerline when tacking. Ease a maximum of the 4" to leeward. Mainsheet tension is required in heavy air to flatten the sail.
6. Use of the outboard genoa track in heavy air is good with a 150% genoa. It keeps the slot open in choppy water. The sail can be sheeted to the inboard track in smoother water.
7. A headstay sag of 8" is the maximum acceptable. The sail should be cut to accommodate sag.
8. Handling characteristics generally:
  - A. Avoid sharp turns, they will stop the boat. Make large gentle turns to keep up speed.
  - B. When the boat is luffed, the bow goes down. Keep in motion to avoid this.
9. Chutes;
  - A. A ¾ oz spinnaker is recommended in flat water with 13 -14 knots of wind.
  - B. A 1.5 oz. spinnaker in 15 – 17 knots of wind is recommended. The 1.5 oz. spinnaker is usually faster and should be used whenever there is enough wind to support it.
10. Mast pump;
  - A. The use of the vang will dampen mast pump. G:1 Ratio minimum.
  - B. The vang pad eye must be on top of the mast, not on the deck.
  - C. Lighten lowers as required to stop pump.
11. The use of a 1" I. D. P.V.C. cover over the forward lowers for the jib sheet rollers is helpful when tacking.