



Topper



- There are four club toppers, two red tops and two purple tops. All go together similarly but have slight differences. There is no specific 'set' of spars or foils for each boat but some do fit better than others!
- Toppers are made of durable construction but you should be mindful of common weak points.
- The boom with the control lines and mainsheet is normally in the boat, with a constructed mast and sail set plus the foils kept in the shed.

Pre-Launch Checks & Rigging Ashore:

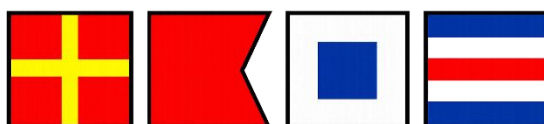
1. The Topper may have a self-bailer, ensure this is closed if fitted then screw in the transom bung tightly.
2. You can fully rig the Topper and reef ashore. It may be difficult to launch if windy with the sail up, if so you can leave it furled and rig (or reef) while launched.
3. Open the mast gate and walk the mast up into an upright position. Ensure the foot is seated into the hole and the collar below the mast gate, then pull the string to close the gate and secure it with the peg. **If unsure how to rig, check the guide poster or ask a member for help.**
4. If rigging ashore, turn the boat head to wind and fully unfurl the sail. If reefing, you need to tighten the downhaul first then wrap the sail around the mast twice neatly (one wrap will come undone).
5. Ensure all the lines and sheets are loose, attach the sail to the boom then tighten the outhaul fully.
6. Attach the kicker but don't tighten it and enable the mainsheet to run freely. Check for a 'figure-of-8 knot' in the end and that the blocks on the traveller are attached and not twisted.
7. Tie the daggerboard retaining elastic around the mast, below the kicker and attach the rudder with the blade up. Make sure the tiller goes under the traveller and that the rudder retainer is tied on.

Launching:

1. You need to make sure the boat will be as head to wind as possible when launching. See the poster on different techniques you can use.
2. If tying up to the jetty, make sure the boat faces head to wind, and carefully climb into the cockpit.
3. Put the daggerboard in and ensure the retaining elastic is tight. Lift the tiller and push aft to pivot the rudder blade into the down position.
4. Begin rigging if you were unable to do so ashore. Putting the foils in first before rigging makes the boat more stable and less likely for things to fall overboard or become tangled.
5. Enable the mainsheet to run freely, make sure it's not stuck around the transom corner or wrapped around anything. Tighten the control lines for the prevailing conditions and untie from the jetty.

Recovery and Storage:

1. Moor up to the jetty, making sure the boat is able to face head to wind.
2. Derig the sail, loosen all the control lines and detach the sail from the boom so it can flap around. Keep your head down and watch out for the boom falling!
3. Pivot up the rudder blade by lifting up the tiller and pulling forward, then take out the daggerboard but leave the retaining elastic attached. **THE FOILS DO NOT FLOAT!**
4. Pull all trailing lines into the boat and lay the boom down on the boat carefully, making sure it cannot fall out when you pull the boat up the slipway.
5. Furl the sail as neat as possible if dry by wrapping it around the mast. If wet roll it more loosely instead of letting it flog in the wind!
6. Once the sail is furled, carefully take down the mast and return the boat to the condition it was found. Secure the cover, ensuring all straps and clips are done up.





Scan the QR codes or click on the links below for more information



https://www.cautionwater.com/uploads/PDF/cw-topper_rigging_guide.pdf - TOPPER RIGGING (article)



There are many different variations of the Topper rigging as it has changed over the years. The Topper is one of the most popular dinghies for youths!

<https://itcaworld.org/the-topper/topper-history/>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiGjRRE-lw8> – TOPPER RIGGING (video)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UX8kV7eYxE> – Topper RIGGING (video)



<https://www.cautionwater.com/article.aspx?articleid=9> - TOPPER RIGGING (article)



Once you get a 'Racing Set Up' for your Topper, you could try these more advanced techniques.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pYagowNwowk> – Advanced Topper Rigging & Tuning



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaAGxqL-Voo&t=7s> – Advanced Topper Control & Tuning