

# *the Fife classic*



*The Fife Classic by [www.go.spectre.com](http://www.go.spectre.com)*

*the Fife classic*



### Gaff rig model

If you have either rig and want the other, you can buy a new mast and mainsail to convert your yacht, it just plugs in!

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### Bermudian rig model

If you have either rig and want the other, you can buy a new mast and mainsail to convert your yacht, it just plugs in!

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This Fife shows under the water line painted with matt grey anti foul paint, other color schemes had black hulls with red under the water, green with black under the water and others.

But for me as I was growing up, the old timers used to say ‘boats are colors and yachts are white’!

So my preference is a classic white yacht.

Many people restore real boats today and varnish the hull, saying painted is not the classic look, little do they realize that yachts began as working tools, the ship “CuttySark” for instance was launched as a oiled wooden hull with copper sheathing beneath the water line to discourage weed growth on the hull. She was never varnished, indeed she was painted white some years later when the paint was invented!



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## *Fife Classic*

Welcome to the Fife Classic experience!!!!!!

The Classic kit has been designed as a model version of real yacht by William Fife from the late 1800’s, now you can sail like they did over 100years ago!

William Fife (1858-1944) is one of the most famous yacht designers ever, his more noted designs include - Susanne , Shamrock 111 (the Americas Cup boat of Sir Thomas Lipton), White Heather and Twelve, Eight and Six Metre racers famous worldwide.

The hull lines of William Fife ‘bring a sense of peace and harmony, and just to gaze at them is to feel contented, for they are the work of a great artist’, penned designer and writer Uffa Fox in his 1937 book, ‘racing, cruising and design’, try to find a copy it is truly inspiring!

Traditional Pond yachts had wooden hulls, your Classic is a modern yacht and uses modern materials as the great designers would have if they were alive today, with remote control equipment you can sail her and change direction!

Choose a wood stain and varnish to finish your Classic, add a sail number and make her your own modern classic.

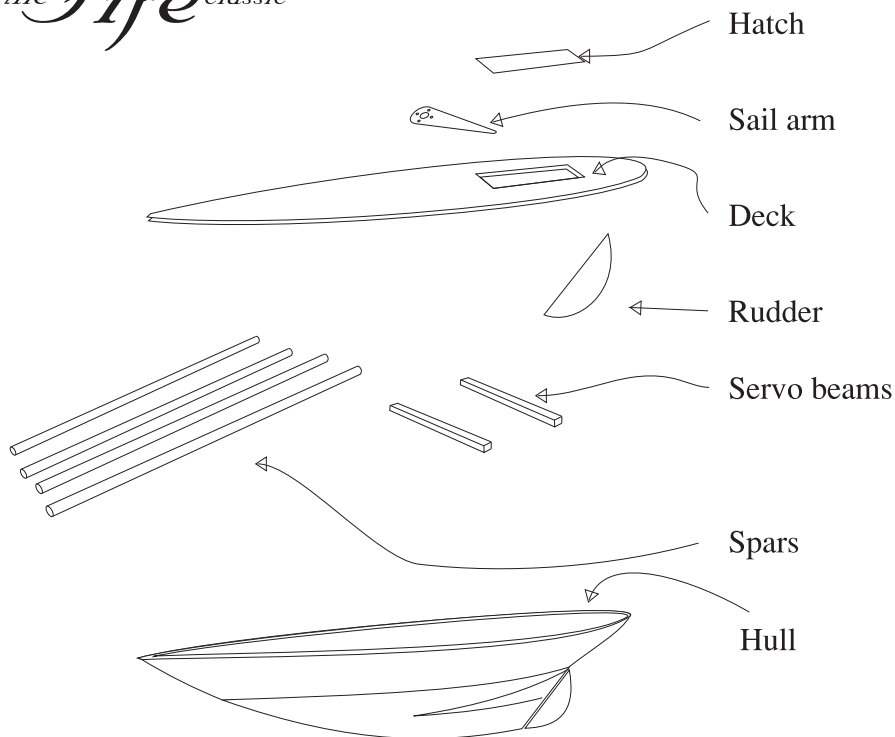
Take care, read the instructions and build a classic, then sail her!  
Race her even, but above all, enjoy .....

# *Your Fife Classic*

*The Fife Classic by [www.gospectre.com](http://www.gospectre.com)*



*the Fife classic*



### Tools needed

- Drill, drill bits 1,3,4,9mm
- 5 minute epoxy
- Sandpaper
- Varnish (i use maple color one step stain/varnish, one wiped on coat for a light deck, or 2 painted for deep rich color)
- Super glue
- Screw driver
- Hack saw or tube cutter
- Tape measure
- Marking pen
- Masking tape
- Sewing needle

*Hull* **Bits**

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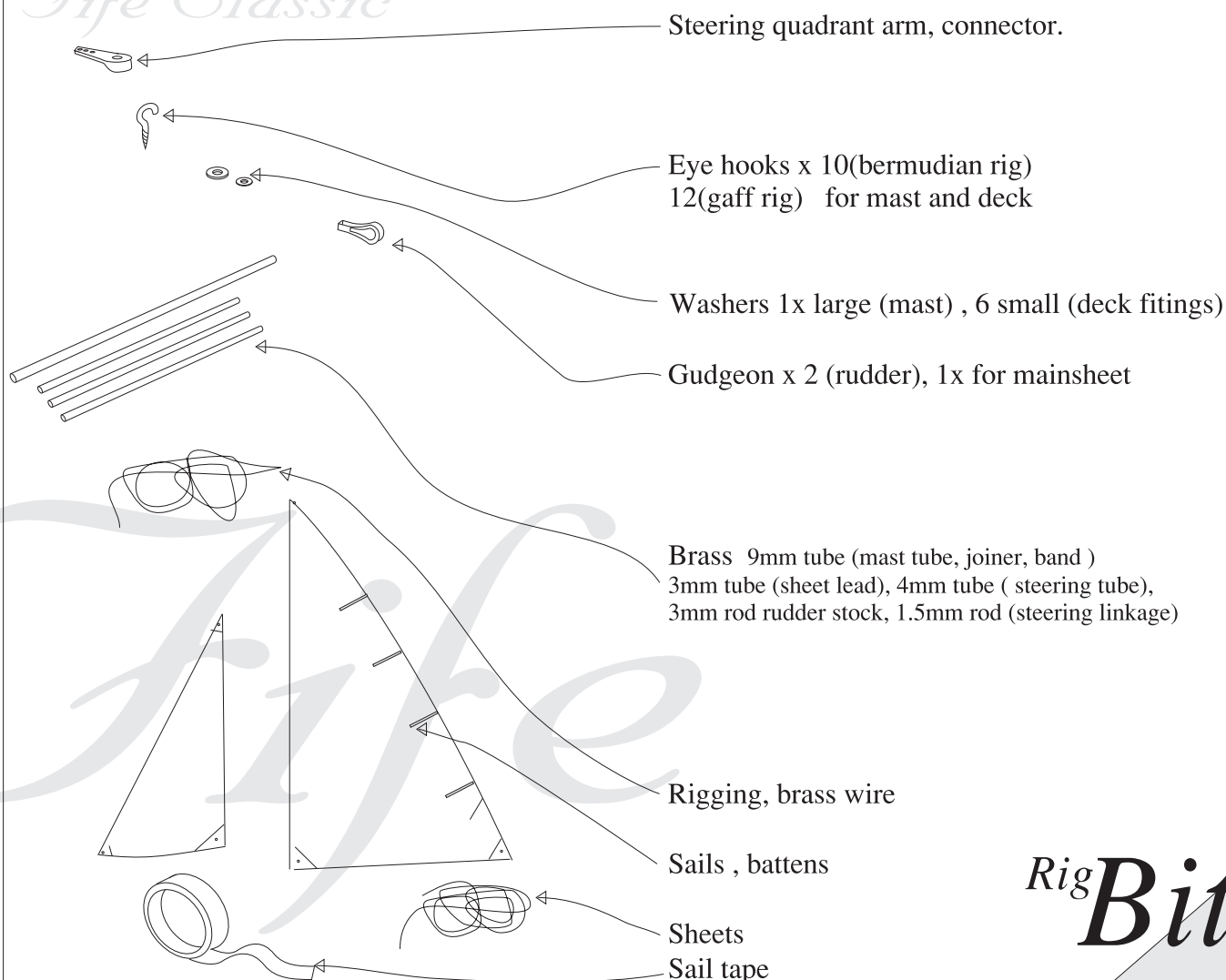


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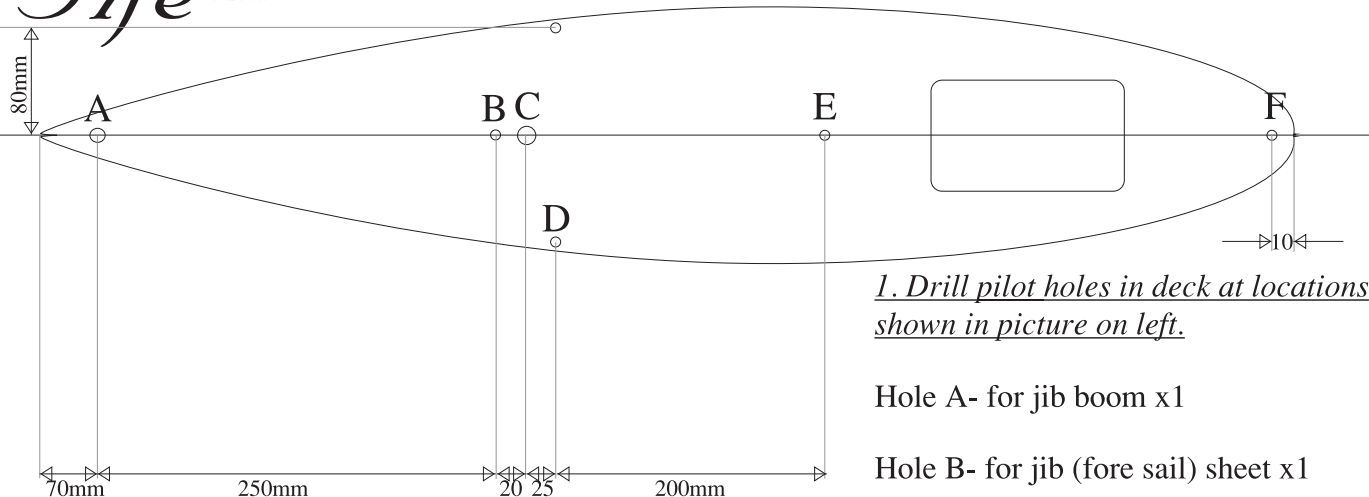
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*Fife Classic*



*Rig* **Bits**

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1. Drill pilot holes in deck at locations shown in picture on left.

Hole A- for jib boom x1

Hole B- for jib (fore sail) sheet x1

Hole C- for mast tube x1

Hole D- for maststays (shrouds) x2

Hole E- for mainsail sheet x1

Hole F- for backstay x 1

1

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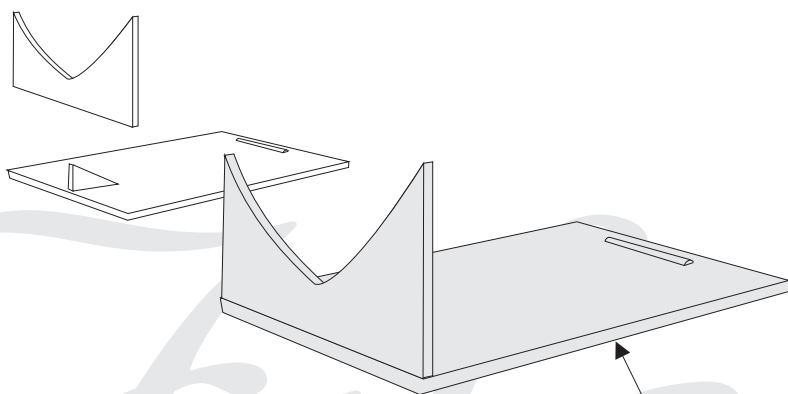
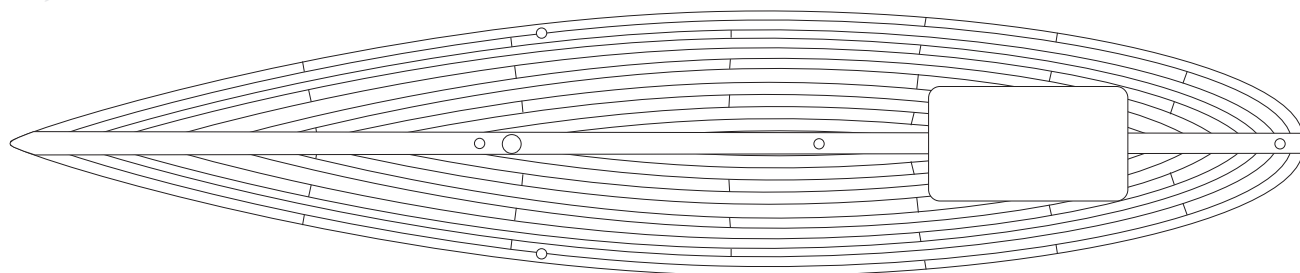


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2. Depending on the deck planking 'look' you want, use a fine black pen to rule lines!

You may choose to leave the deck unplanked in its appearance or copy a classic boat from a magazine, just use a thin black marker pen and a ruler or sweep curve, after you have sanded the deck!!

Be sure to use a permanent marker though!

Varnish over the lines to finish the deck, sealing it to protect the wood.

I use a maple color 'one step' stain/varnish, one coat wiped on with a cloth for a light deck, or 2-3 painted for a deep, rich color.

Assemble the stand as illustrated, sand and varnish to match deck and spars.

2

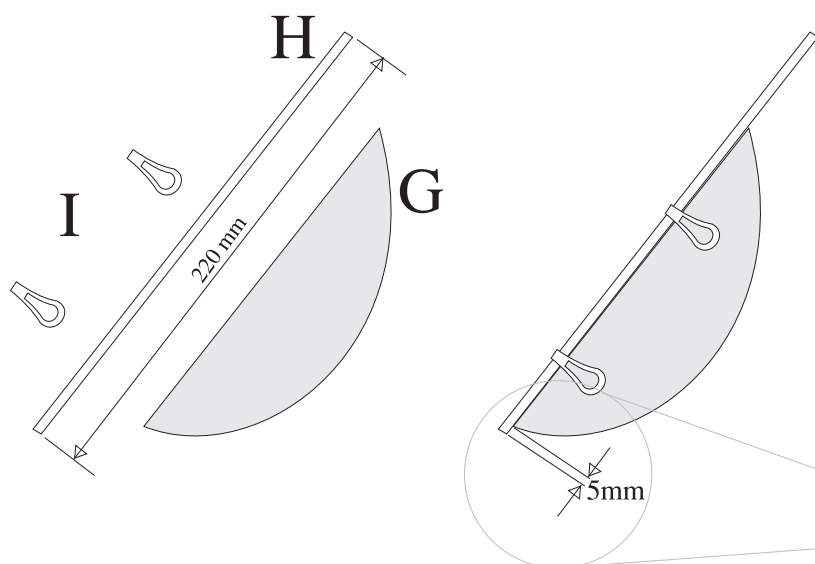
Sailing terms:

Hull - the main structure of a yacht, sits in the water.

In this case the white fibreglass molding!

Deck - the top section on the hull, where you walk around.

The wooden part of this kit you stain and varnish!



### 3. Assemble the Rudder

Sand the rudder blade (wooden part G), so as to prepare for glueing and painting. (You might like to stain and varnish it for the over all look?)

Cut the brass 3mm brass tube to a length of 220mm.

Epoxy the rudder stock (the rod (H)) to the blade and then position the two fixtures (I) and glue them to reinforce the rudder blade from turning on the stock.

Note: the stock should hang down about 5mm from the base edge of the rudder, as it locates to the yacht (in step 4) via this area!

3

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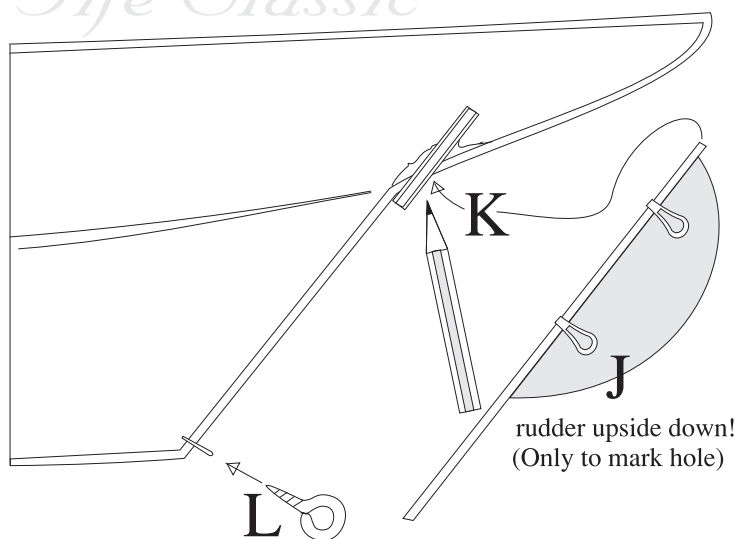


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### 4. Fit the Rudder

Turn the rudder upside down (J) and place it parallel to the back edge of the keel. Use a pen to mark the hole centre for the rudder stock where it goes through the hull (K).

Then trial fit the brass tube for the rudder stock, into the hull.

Turn the rudder the right way up and trial fit it.

Push the bottom edge of the rudder towards the hull and mark a centre for the eye screw (L) that fixes the rudder stock.

The eye screw sits at 1/4 turn different from the drawing and the stock rotates in it!

Note:- Be careful to leave about 5mm float so the rudder can be moved up to disengage from the eye hook. This is so you can actually fit the screw to the hull, push the rudder up into the tube then sit it back down in to the eye screw.

Then glue the tube in position.

4

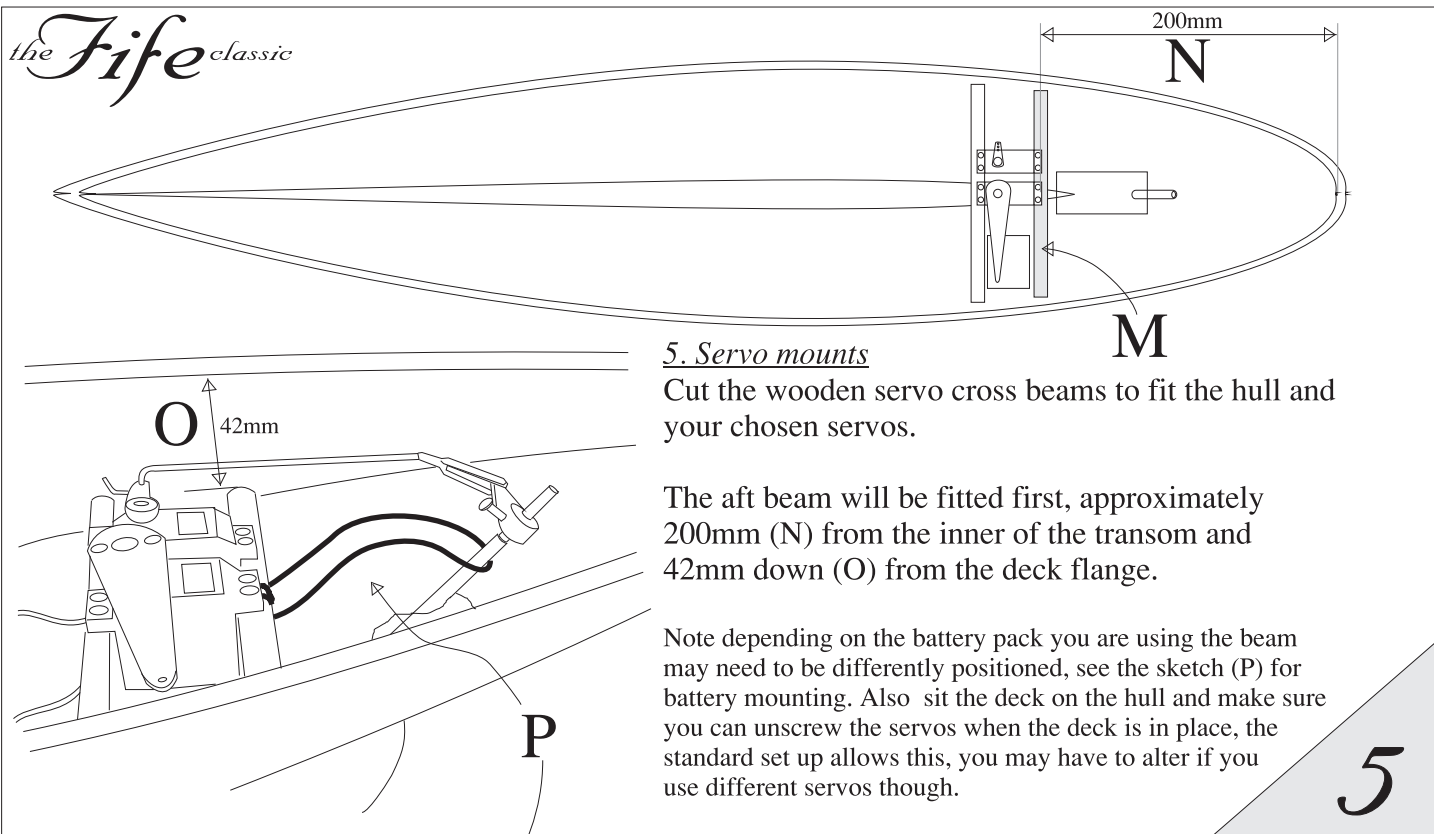
Sailing terms:

Rudder - the big board that steers the yacht!

Normally attached to the yacht owner.

Tiller - the steering stick that the owner holds on to to try and control the rudder.

Nut - the bit connected to the tiller, see owner.



### 5. Servo mounts

Cut the wooden servo cross beams to fit the hull and your chosen servos.

The aft beam will be fitted first, approximately 200mm (N) from the inner of the transom and 42mm down (O) from the deck flange.

Note depending on the battery pack you are using the beam may need to be differently positioned, see the sketch (P) for battery mounting. Also sit the deck on the hull and make sure you can unscrew the servos when the deck is in place, the standard set up allows this, you may have to alter if you use different servos though.

5

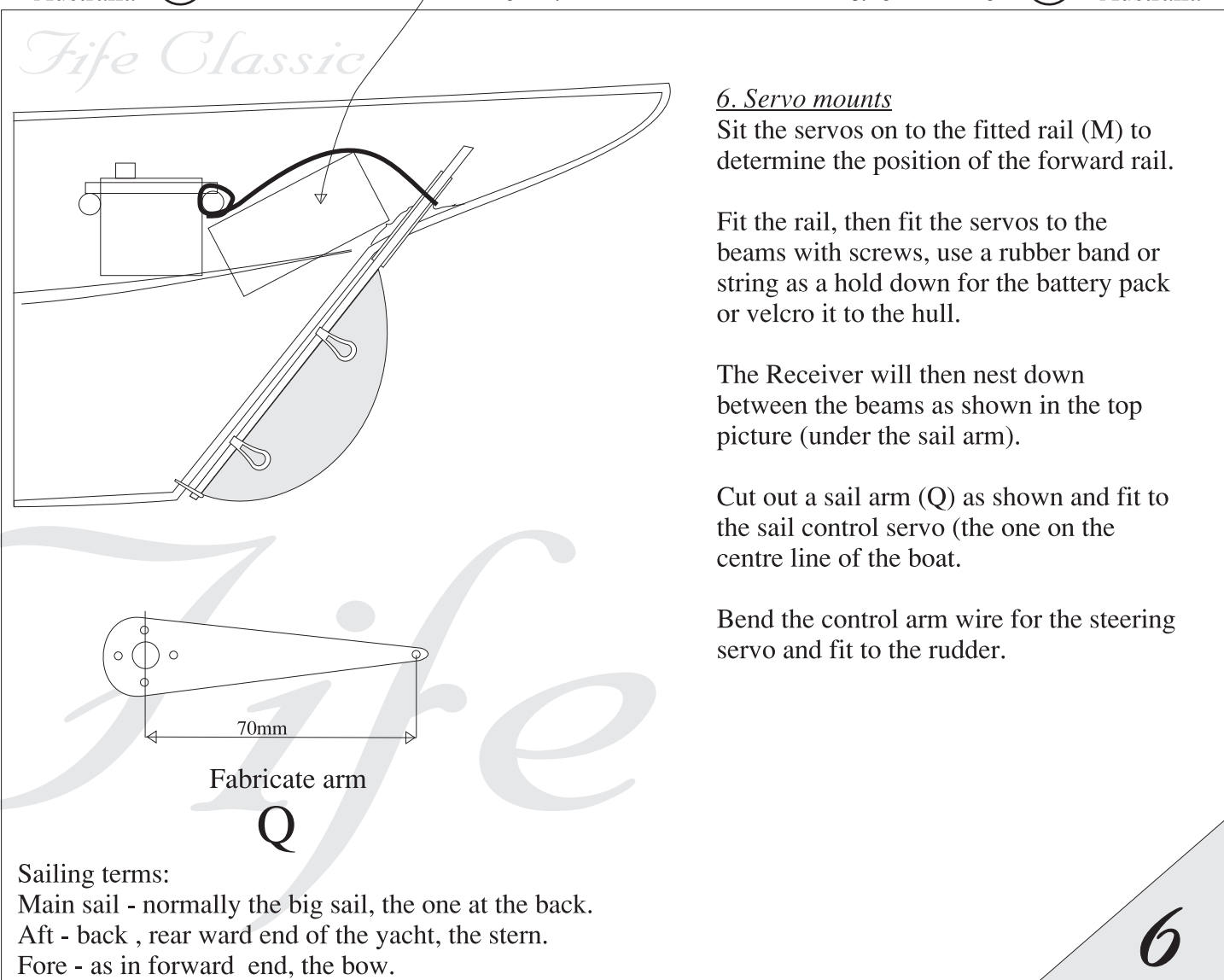
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### 6. Servo mounts

Sit the servos on to the fitted rail (M) to determine the position of the forward rail.

Fit the rail, then fit the servos to the beams with screws, use a rubber band or string as a hold down for the battery pack or velcro it to the hull.

The Receiver will then nest down between the beams as shown in the top picture (under the sail arm).

Cut out a sail arm (Q) as shown and fit to the sail control servo (the one on the centre line of the boat).

Bend the control arm wire for the steering servo and fit to the rudder.

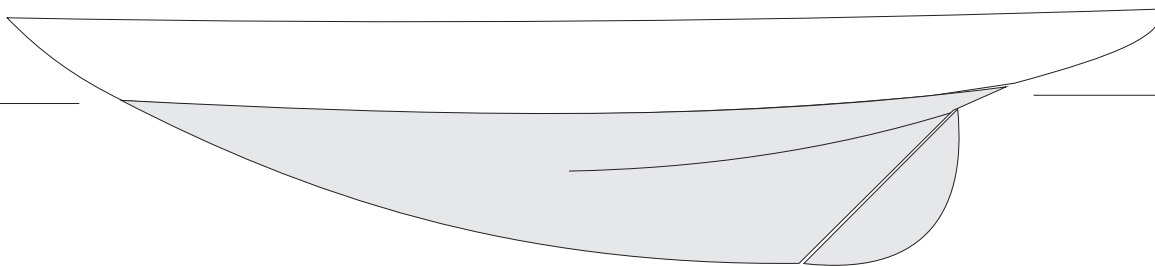
6

Sailing terms:

Main sail - normally the big sail, the one at the back.

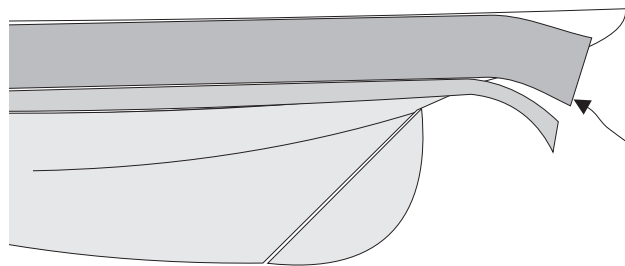
Aft - back, rear ward end of the yacht, the stern.

Fore - as in forward end, the bow.



### 7. Marking the waterline

The top edge of the under the water “anti foul” (anti weed paint) is normally where a hull floats to.  
This ‘waterline’ can be raised or lowered by more weight in the hull sitting the yacht on her new lines.  
To mark the waterline you can use 45mm and 20mm masking tape.



7

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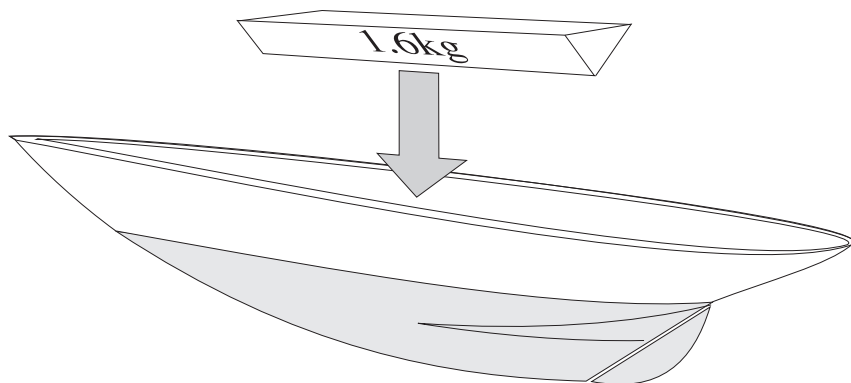


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### 8. Ballasting the hull

To give the yacht stability, weight in the form of lead is added to the hull as in real yachts!  
With servos, batteries and receiver installed, fill your bath with water and place the yacht in it, hold on to the side as you will notice she will want to fill with water and tip!  
Now using the 1.6kg of shotgun shot, lead sinkers or other lead you have chosen, place it bit by bit into the hull.

Notice as the weight goes in, the hull sits upright and gains stability?

The aim is to get the weight in the correct position so as to have the boat float with the water parallel to the waterline, then glue it in!

With the weight positioned, try pushing the hull sideways, push down on the bow or stern and see how well she floats.

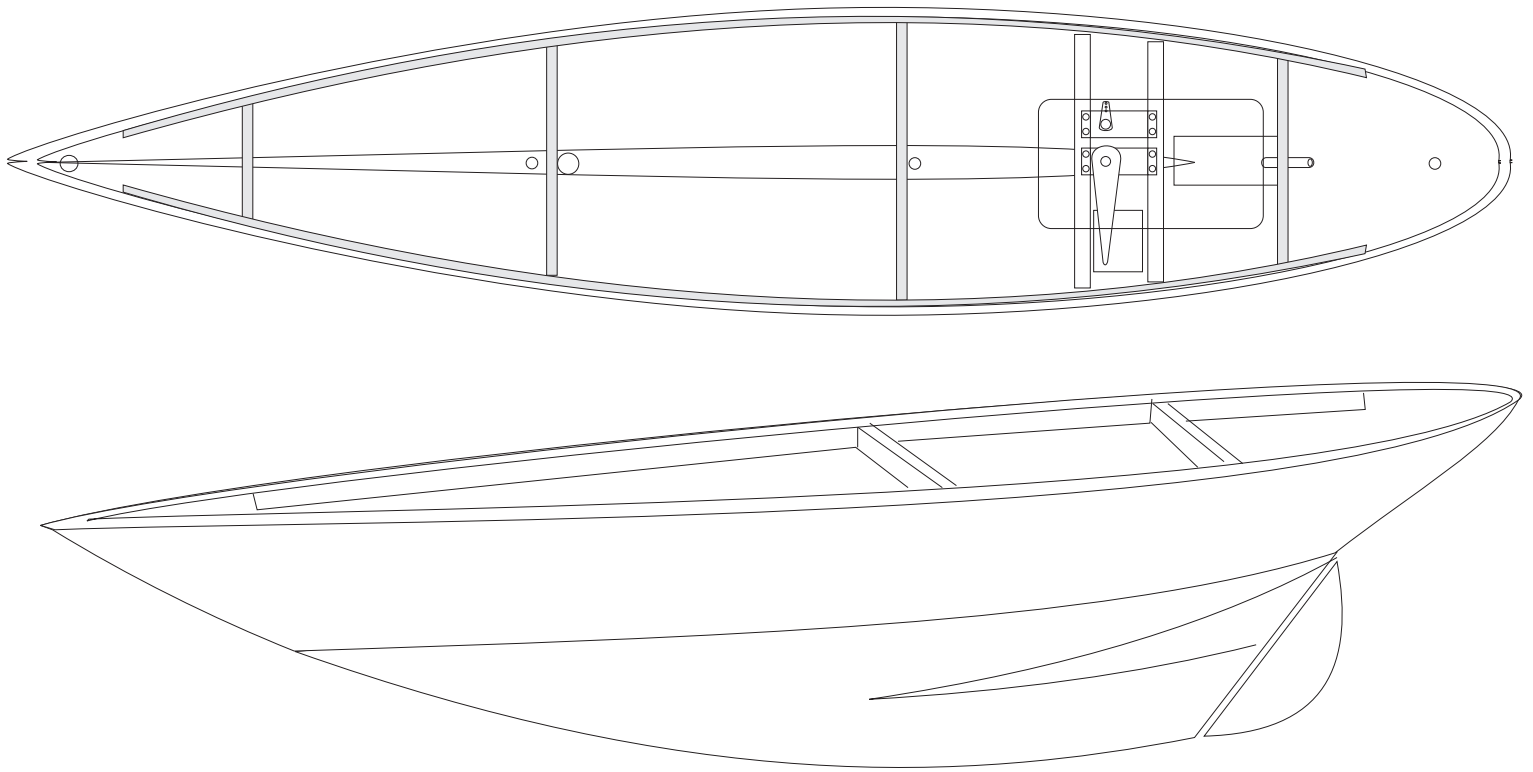
This type of hull is called a displacement hull, as the hull displaces more water the shape becomes more stable!

Sailing terms:

Keel - the big board that hangs down from the hull.  
Provides stability to stop the yacht drifting sideways when sailing.

8





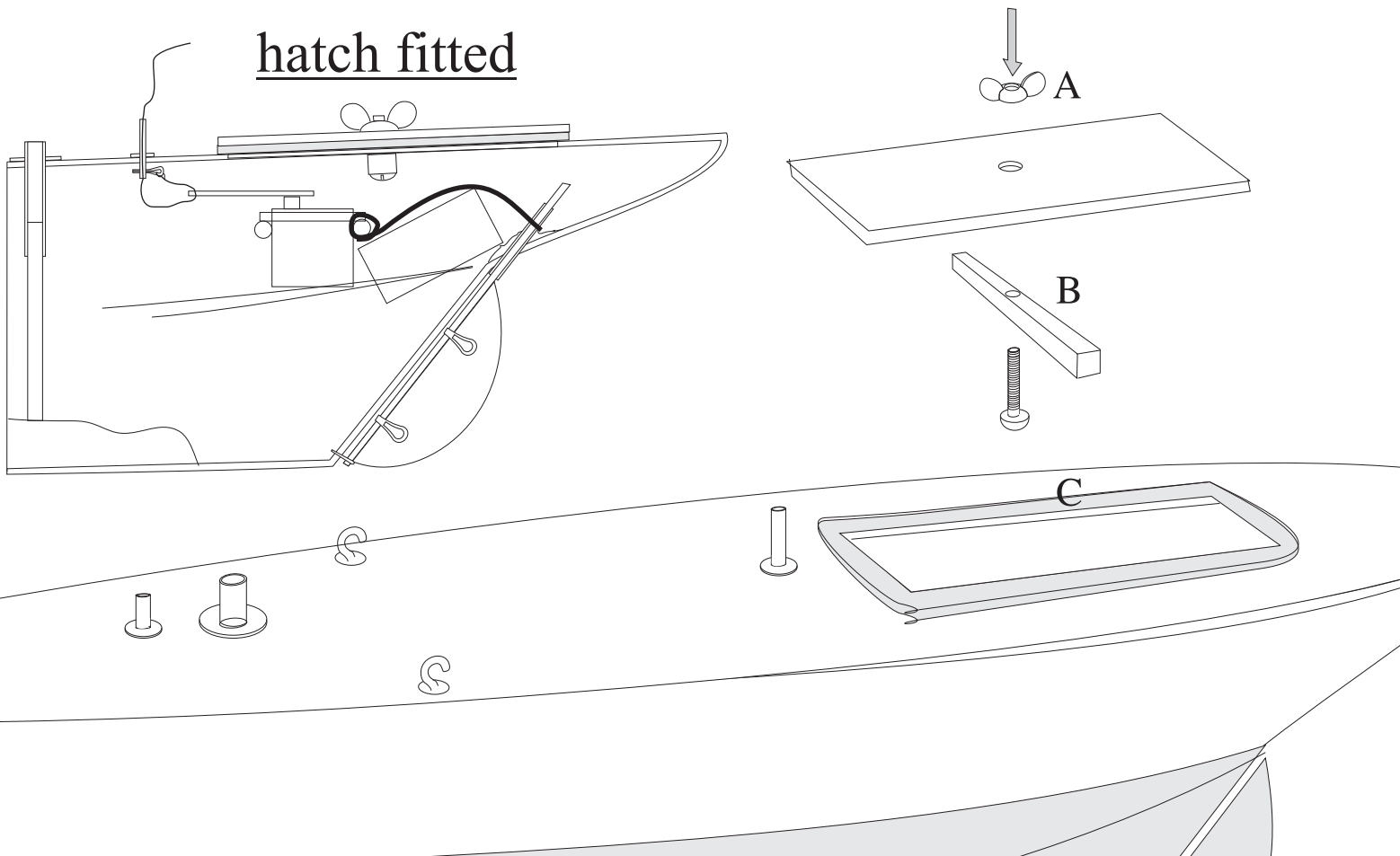
### 1. hull inwhales

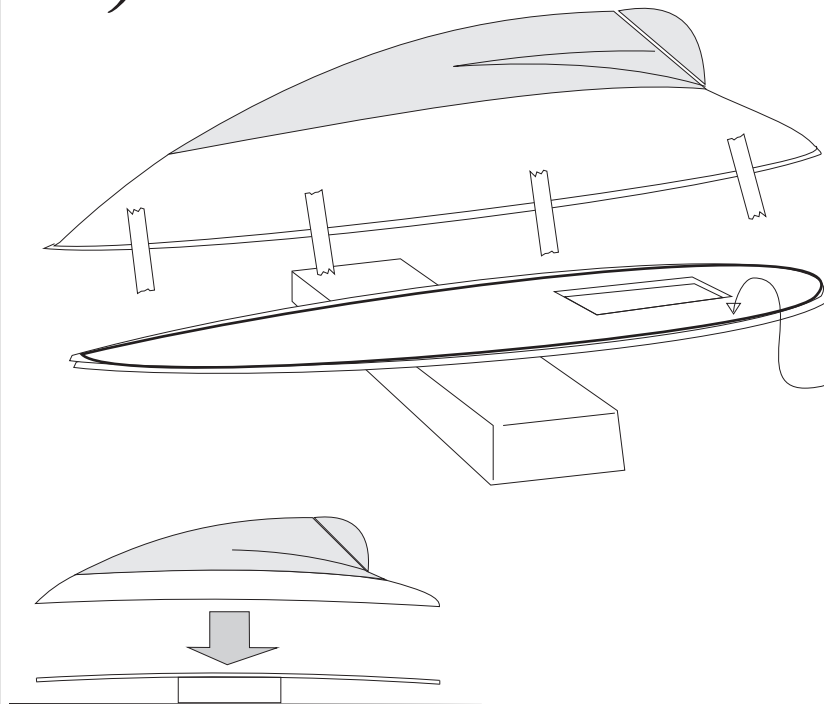
strips of wood are used as inwhales, these strips glue to the inner sides of the hull for the deck to later glue to. positioned across the base of the mast area and other areas, you must be careful when aligning them so deck will later fit. the optimal way to fit the strips is to 5 minute epoxy the strips, position by hand and clamp to dry with mini clamps or clothes pegs! once the deck is glued to the hull, then tape the hull with a tape to protect it as you sand the deck back flush with the hull to suit. be sure sail sheet leads are not interrupted by cross beams.

### 1. Deck hatch

the wooden deck hatch is secured by a wing nut (a) to a bolt through the hold down beam(b). to remove the hatch , undo the wing nut and the hold down beam can be rotated 90 degrees and the whole hatch assembly removed! the hatch clamps down onto the sealing tape (c) to minimise water ingress.

### hatch fitted





### 9. Fitting the deck

Sit the deck on to a support so the deck is raised in the middle, as the hull is arched this allows the weight of the hull to press down the plywood when glueing.

Tape the deck in place and sand to match the hull shape.

On the underside of the deck, apply a line of 5 minute epoxy around the edge about 5mm wide.

Sit the hull onto the deck and hold in position with masking tape.

Remove the tape when finished and epoxy the outer edge of the hull and deck to neaten and water proof.

9

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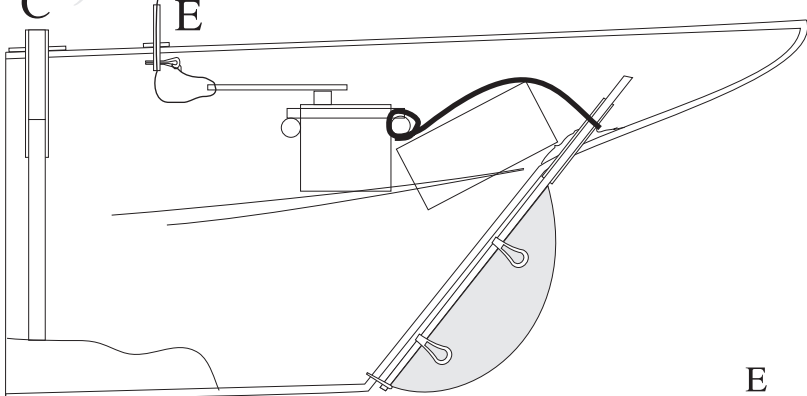


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### 10. Through Deck fittings

B - Jib sheet lead.

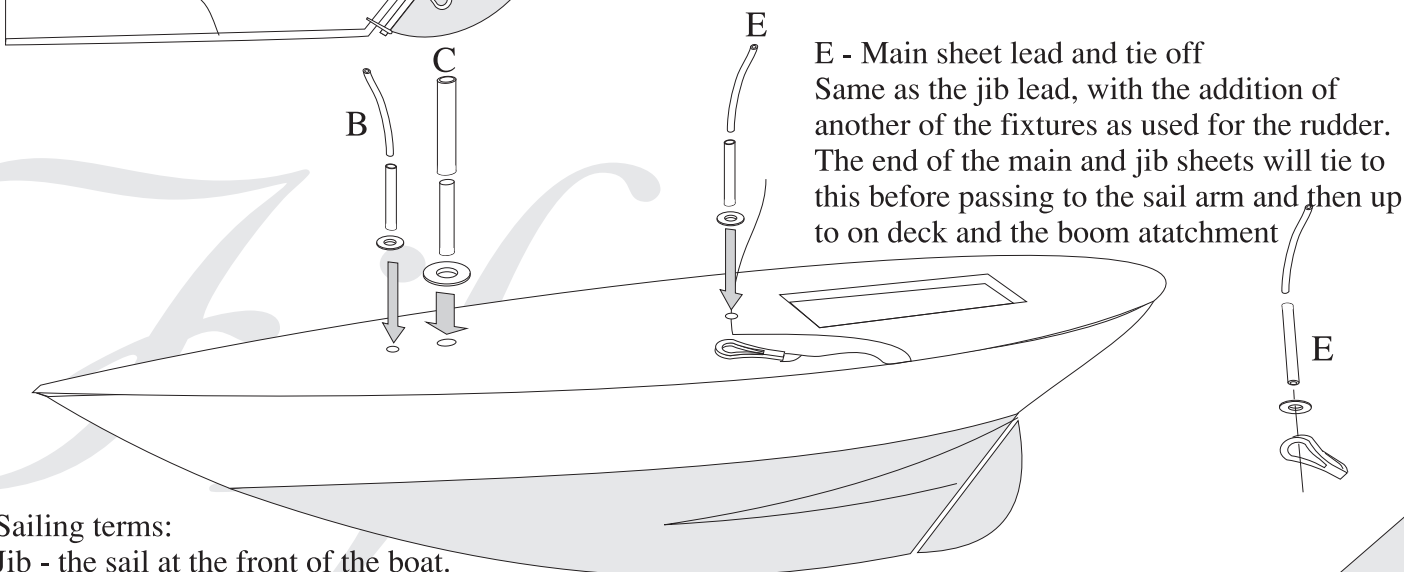
Black plastic tube goes through the centre of 15mm long small brass tube to reduce friction, a washer on deck finishes the look.

C - Mast Tube.

Cut a 50mm long piece of 9mm tube for the mast tube, when fitted it will be about 10mm higher than the deck, a bit of mast off cut can glue in to it and connect to the hull to adjust the correct length.

E - Main sheet lead and tie off

Same as the jib lead, with the addition of another of the fixtures as used for the rudder. The end of the main and jib sheets will tie to this before passing to the sail arm and then up to on deck and the boom attachment



Sailing terms:

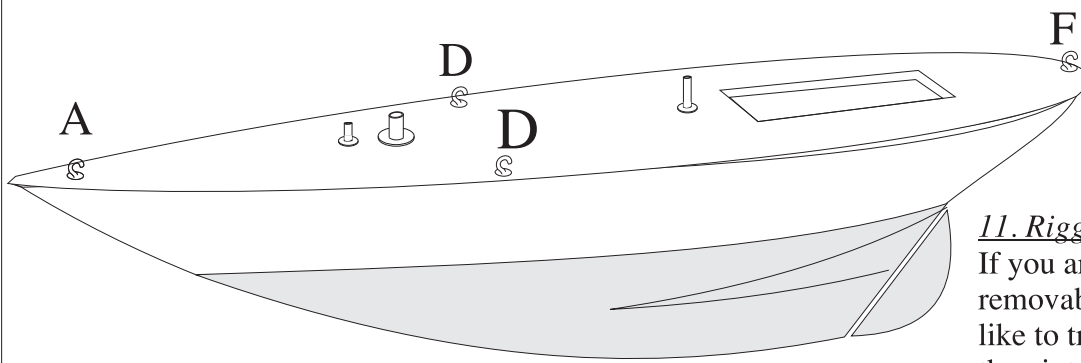
Jib - the sail at the front of the boat.

Mast - the vertical spar that holds the sails.

Sheet - a rope, eg. Jib sheet, the control rope for the jib.

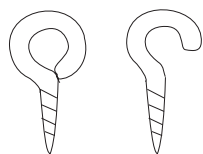
Stays - hold up the mast, side ones are called shrouds.

10



### 11. Rigging fittings

If you are wanting to make the rig removable for transport you might like to trim the eye hook to make then into mini “cup” hooks, see drawing. Or bend open!



Cut or bend slightly open



Fit 4 hooks, with washers, one for the jib boom (A) , one for the backstay (F), and two for the shrouds to connect to (D).

11

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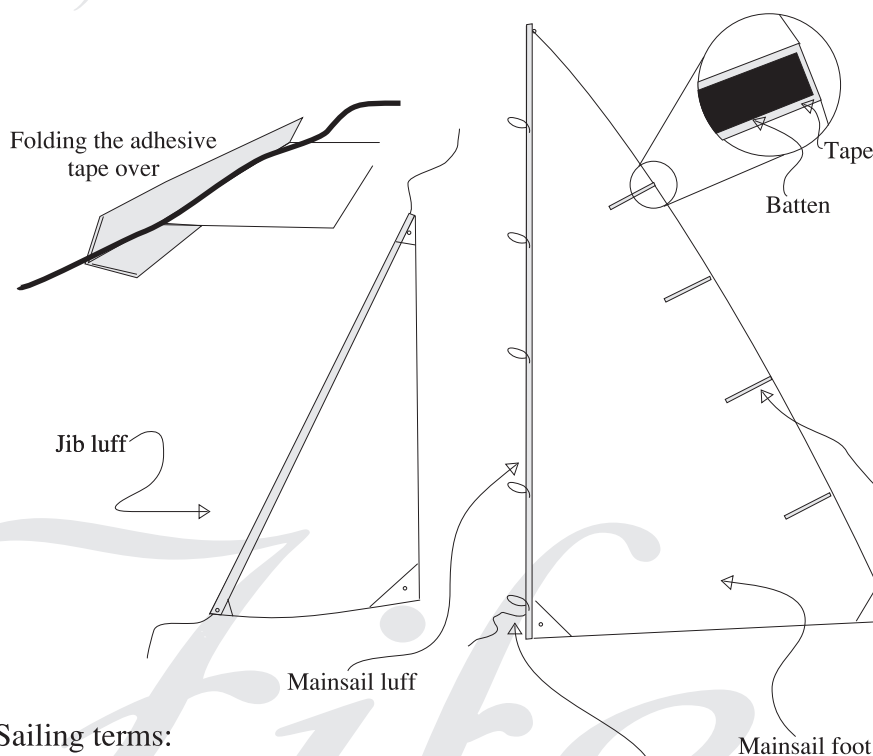
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### 12. Sails



Fold the white self adhesive sail tape length ways and stick it along the luff and foot of the main sail so that it sticks to both sides of the sails (see inset pic.). Then attach the main sail onto the mast by using a needle to pass the thread through the sail, around the mast and tie off with a reef knot . Space holes about 12cm apart, or further depending on the classic look you wish to achieve.

With some of the tape attach battens to the main in the shown positions. (Always 90 degrees to edge of sail!)

Use tape along the luff edge of the jib and enclose a piece of the string before folding it over, this will be used to tie the sail on to the eye screws top and the jib boom at the bottom.

Sailing terms:

Luff - the front edge of a sail

Foot - the base edge of a sail

Leech - the third edge, normally the back edge.

Tack - the front corner of a sail, where it is tacked down to the deck.

Clew - the outer corner attached to a sheet

Head - the top corner of a sail , also the term for a toilet on a yacht.

A reef knot is like a shoe lace bow, without the loops! One end in each hand, then right rope over the left and twist, then left over right and twist!



12

## 13

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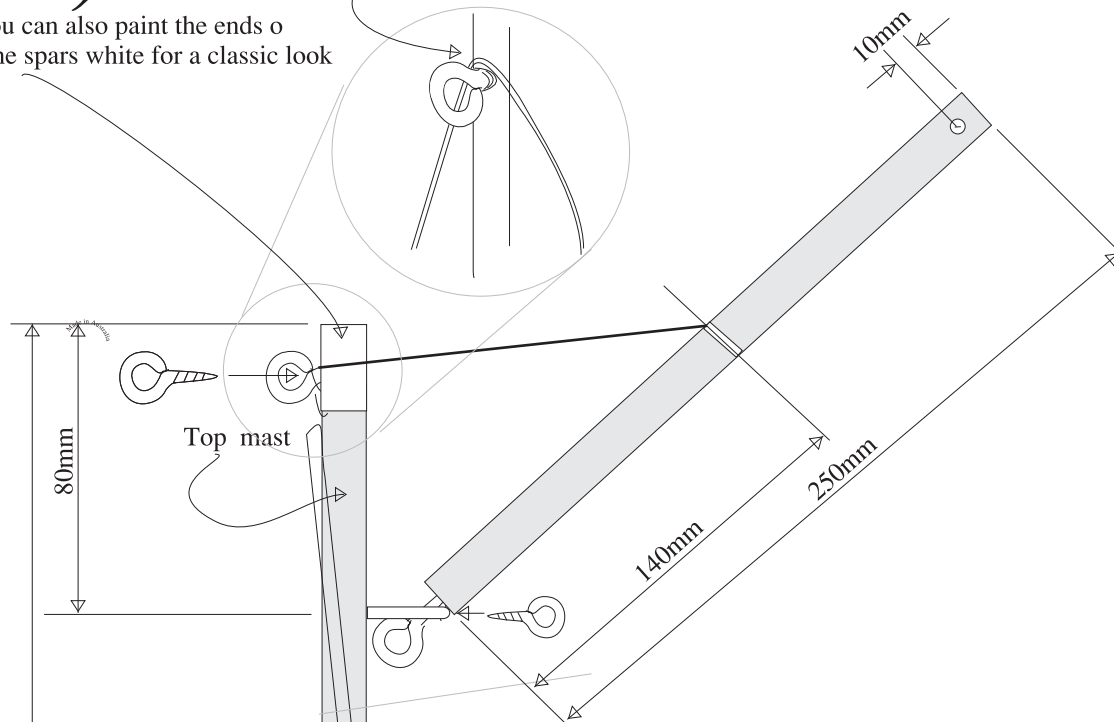
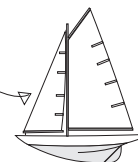
## 14

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You can also paint the ends of the spars white for a classic look

## Gaff rig



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### 16. The mast and rigging (gaff rig)

Top mast section is 300mm long

Bottom mast below brass joiner (30mm long) is 500mm long and the main boom is 470mm long.

Jib boom is 270mm long.

Connect wire shrouds at a length that is tight and bends the mast aft slightly. Make a bowsie for an adjustable jib halyard if you are making the rig removable.

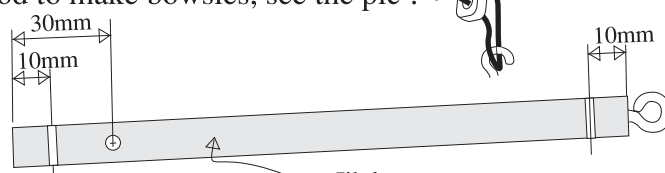
Use scraps of wood to make bowsies, see the pic !

Cut Mast joiner  
30mm long

Bottom mast

Shrouds  
(wire)

Cut Brass tube 30mm long



Jib boom

Main boom

Position above main traveller

Sailing terms:

Main boom - the spar for the mainsail, normally near your head, makes a boom noise if you do not duck.

Gooseneck - the joiner between main boom and the mast that allows movement.

Rope Boom vang holds boom from lifting

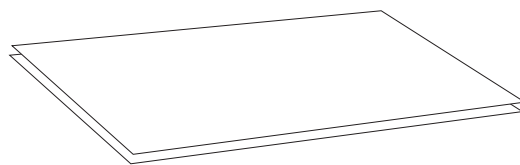
16

# the Fife classic

To set the trim, i find that having the jib boom pointing at the shroud connection point at deck level while the main is on the centeline is optimal, try it as a starting point!!!

We race a model called the Victoria, a great plastic 'modern race' boat, as i sit here we have launched our 216th Vic, but last Saturday racing the Fife classic, Fife number 1, beat the Victorias around the course and scooped line honors!

Very happy!!!  
We shall start racing the classics now!



Cut a rectangle of self adhesive cloth for the hatch cover you can use boat sail number material off cuts, clear book covering film or even make a wooden hatch with a dinghy or rowing boat on it!

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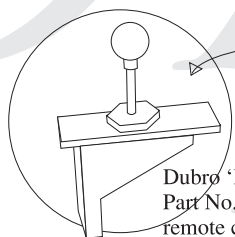
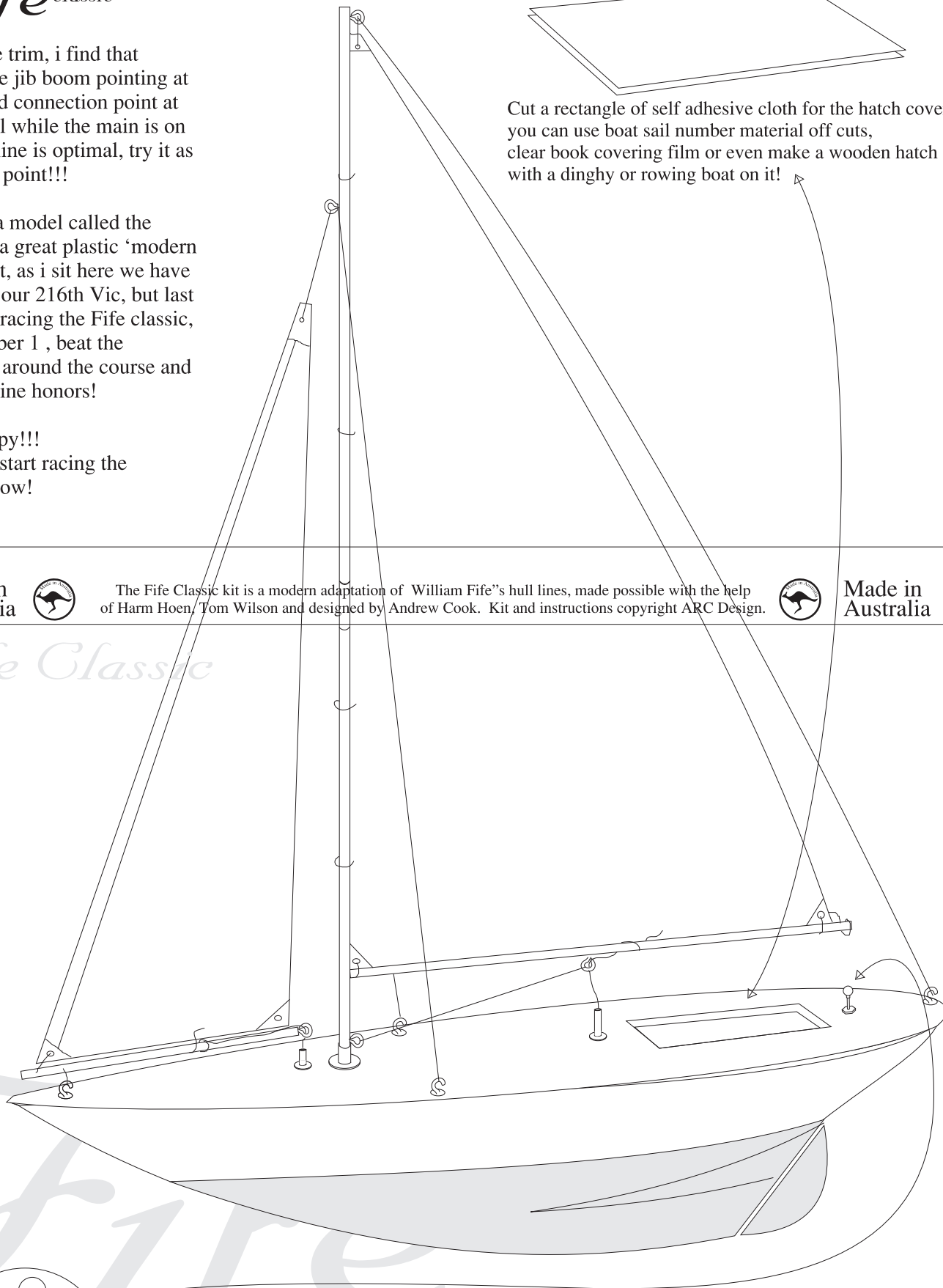


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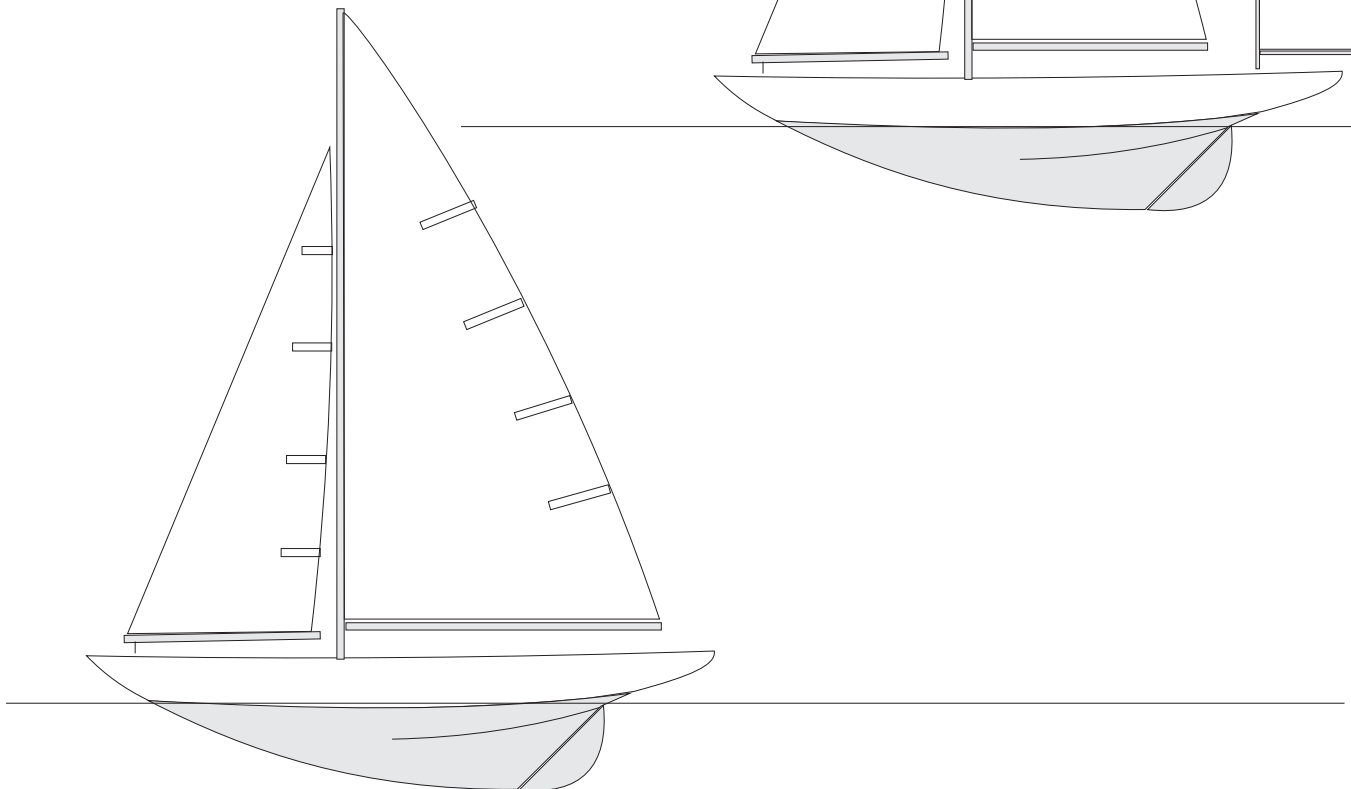
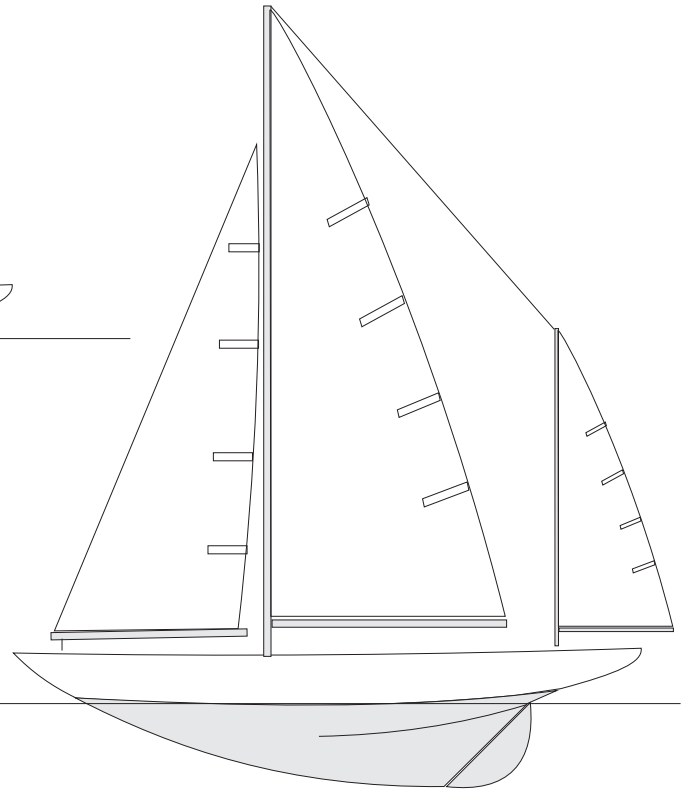
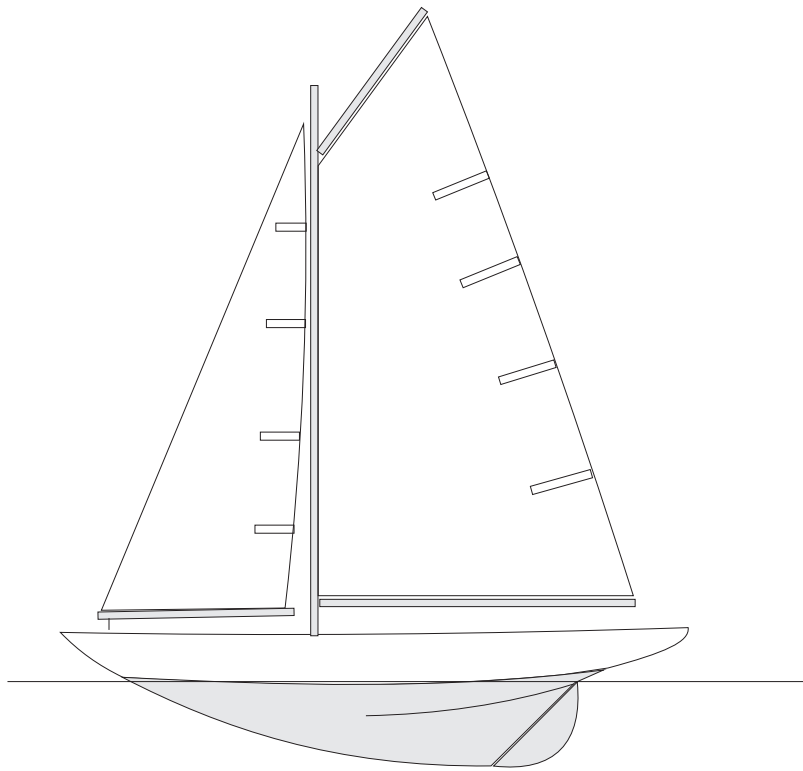
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## Fife Classic



Dubro 'Kwik Switch Mount'  
Part No.203, use with standard remote control on/off switch for above deck power control.

Tie the sails on as shown here and then adjust the sails and tie on the sail sheets!  
Or use fishing clips to make the sheets removable.  
Build a cabin even and guard rails along the side?



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