2.10 Jib Crane

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Preparation before use

- Inspect lifting sling, lifting shackles and lifting points for signs of wear, fatigue, abrasion or cuts and tears.
- Ensure that there is no loose equipment that may fall from the yacht whilst lifting.
- Ensure the lifting area and slewing arch is clear of other boats, vehicles, scaffolding or personnel before lifting.
- Empty water from the bilge and fit the bilge plug.

Using the Jib Crane to launch a boat

- Remove the backstay or necessary running rigging.
- Identify the boats keel lifting points.
- Attach slings to the lifting points. Ensure correct way around.
- Attach athwart ships and fore and aft lines (J24 forward and Yngling aft, E22 & Dragon athwart ships).
- Attach spinnaker sheets to the tweakers either side of the cockpit. E22 and Dragons. (Make sure the lifting sling is centered on the boat).
- Attach a long line to the bow and one to the stern to use as control lines.
- Move the boat cradle to the slewing crane, and centre its keel over the yellow line.
- Check the position of the lifting sling and lines, before attaching the sling to the hook of the slewing crane. Ensure the shackle pins are in and secured.
- A second (or third) person is to gather in the bow and stern lines in preparation for controlling the boat when it is being lifted from the cradle.
- Engage the hook to the lifting slings and slowly take the weight of the boat with the crane. Double check all lifting equipment. Keep hands clear of the contact area between the hook and sling.
- Use the control lines to keep the boat square on to the crane as it is being moved with the crew in close proximity to the crane well clear of the load. Lift till it is clear of the cradle. Slew the boat around slowly (bow first).
- Lower the boat slowly into the water. As the boat nears the water, pull on the rear control line to prevent the mast hitting the crane.
- Remove the sling from the crane hook. Return the crane to its original position and switch off.
- Remove and return the cradle from under the crane to its hardstand storage position.
- Moor the boat in the pond. Remove sling and lines, relocate, and or stow away as instructed.
- Re-fasten backstay and prepare for sailing.
- Vessel must not be lifted more than 300mm above cradle.

Using the Jib Crane to retrieve a boat

- Moor the boat in the pond.
- Empty out water from bilge.
- Remove the backstay.