



SNIPE CLASS INTERNATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION

Fleet #7 - Miami, FL

TOWING INSTRUCTIONS

The Old Man prepared this, with assistance from Peter Commette:

A towline of 15 meters (50 feet) minimum length, and 6 mm (5/16") minimum diameter **MUST BE CARRIED** under Class Rules.

This is strongly recommended for Snipe Ocean Regatta in Ft. Lauderdale. We may have to tow the snipes. The recommended method for towing:

First you secure your towline to your mast with a bowline knot. Then you throw it to the boat or snipe that is going to tow you. When another snipe throws you its towline, you tie with a bowline to the loop on the mast of your own towline. That way, your boat never is under load with more than one snipe, yours!

Also, you tow with your board halfway up. Otherwise, the boat could “trip” over the board and capsize you if you steer too far off a line directly behind the boat in front of you.

In big seas, towing through anything in the front of the boat stresses that point too much; better to just lead directly from the mast. Be careful to stay straight behind the boat that is towing you, if you get distracted and go far from being in line, the towline may capsize you pulling from your mast, even if you have your board up part way.

Remember to sit far back. The boat will not "track" as much with the pointed bow out of the water, and the towline of the boat you are towing has the best chance of riding above the tiller.

Finally, whether you tow out with your sails up or down is a matter of choice. If you choose to tow out with your sails up, you need to lead the tow line under the jib sheets. That way you can always trim your jib so that it is backed on the tow. That way, it does not “rag” (luff) and reduce the sail’s life. With your main up, so that it does not “rag” on the tow, always trim it, so it’s not luffing.

Smooth Sailing!