

## CUTTING DOWN SAIL BATTENS

### Tools Required

- Marker pen
- Hacksaw
- Flat file or sandpaper

### **Step 1: Lay out the sail and identify the battens**

Lay out the sail on a flat surface or on the boat's side deck with the batten pockets facing up. Find the correct battens for each pocket by determining the closest length.

If you have tapered battens, always insert the thinner tapered end first so the taper is at the front of the sail.

### **Step 2: Insert the batten into the pocket**

Insert the batten into the pocket and push it all the way in so it is firm. Make sure the sail is flat when doing this and there are minimal creases which may stop the batten from going in all the way.

If you have any full-length battens, ensure they are pushed all the way into the luff receptacle.

### **Step 3: Mark The batten for cutting**

Hold the batten firmly in the sail leech pocket and mark the batten 10mm forward from the leech of the sail. This will be the cut mark.

10mm will allow for the black batten end cap

### **Step 4: Cutting the battens**

Remove the batten and use the hacksaw to cut the batten on the mark. After cutting, give the batten a quick clean up using the flat file or sandpaper.

### **Step 5: Fit the batten end**

Once cut and cleaned up, put the black plastic cap on ensuring it's on all the way. You can use a hammer to help make sure.

Note: For full length battens, there is only 1 black end cap on each batten on the aft or leech end. The forward end of the batten where it goes into the batten receptacle does not have a plastic cap.