



Mike O'Donovan

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Located: Hamble, UK

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Weight: 79-89kgs as required

Categorization: 1 (recently recertified)

Originally from Aberdeen, Scotland, I moved to Southampton to study for a MEng in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Southampton. At the time I was campaigning Lasers/ILCAs to a national level and with the Scottish squad, but upon moving to the south coast I quickly moved into yachting and keelboat sailing. Since then I've sailed almost every weekend on a range of boats and in a mixture of positions, now with a specialty in sail trim, predominantly maintrim, but with competence in every role. I learn fast, am very analytical and work well in a team. I also stay fit by climbing, cycling, gym, and more - I do as much sport as my body lets me!

Key Strengths

Specific to Sailing:

- Tactics and strategy, sail-trim
- sailmaking / repair
- in depth understanding of lift/drag and flow analysis from Aerodynamics degree

Traits/Skills:

- Fast Learner & Good Visualiser
- Effective Problem Solver
- Process Optimisation
- Calm Under Pressure

Relevant Education, Qualifications & Experience

- **Trained sailmaker:** 9 Months at North Sails Gosport as a Machinist/Seamster
- **BEng Engineering Degree** (as of Summer 24) & experience in engineering projects and processes
- **Valid First Aid, Offshore Sea Survival**, RYA DI and PB2
- **Scottish Laser Youth Squad** (2017-19)
- UK Etchells Youth Academy 2022 & RYA BKA 2020-22
- Experience race coaching Etchells and First 40s
- **SailGP Inspire Careers Internship** with SailGP Hydraulics Tech Team
- Summer Internship in 2021 at SportsboatWorld as a Project Manager
- Competent in rigging, splicing, and deck work
- Semi Pro eSailor (more info at bottom) and Sponsored by Ronstan

Offshore Racing

Sunfast 3600 Tigris Double-Handed [2H] Campaign

- **3300+ miles** across racing, training and race deliveries
- **2023 RORC & UKDHOS Season** as coskipper
- Responsible for race navigation, sail trim and bow work
- 4th Overall and 2nd Youth at 2023 UK DH Nationals
- Winner of Highwayman Cup 2023
- Current IRC Nab Tower Record Holder [fully crewed]
- **2023 RORC Season Overalls:** 7th IRC Overall, 10th IRC2 & 7th IRC2H
- **2023 UKDHOS Overalls:** 8th Overall, 2nd Youth, 4th Masters (only Youth & Master pairing), 6th Corinthian
- **2024 RORC Season to come**
 - **Main Goal:** 1st in RORC Overall Points
 - **Season Goals:** RORC IRC2 & 2H Podium, UKDHOS Overall Podium & 1st Youth, Ability to sail solo up to 25kts (with kites)
 - **Race Goals:** 1 IRC overall podium, 3 in-class podiums, 1 IRC DH Win, DHREAM Cup Top 10 IRC2H



J121 Darkwood: Nab Tower Race 2024 mast/midbow - 6th Overall of 50, 1st IRC1 2-Handed training with Belino, Purple Mist & Ikigai

Channel 32 Wavetrain: Cervantes 2024

Single Handed Yacht Sailing

- I will be doing pseudo-solo training on Tigris, Sunfast 3600, after RORC races through the season

Carroll Marine 60 Venomous: 3rd IRC 1, 6th Overall in Myth of Malham 2022

Keelboat Racing

Etchells: 2 seasons sailing as a middle (3up and 4up) as a main & kite trimmer

- **Ziggy 2022 Campaign:** Led a team in the UK Youth Academy and awarded boat for season
 - 2nd Corinthian & 2nd Youth - UK Nationals
 - 1st Corinthian & 1st Youth - South Coast Champs
 - 3rd Corinthian & 1st Youth - SKP Trophy
 - Never below 3rd Youth & 5th Corinthian
- **2022 World Championships:** Joined Moonlight (scratch team) as Jib/Kite trimmer - 26th of 42, 6th Corinthian and 3rd Youth with top result of 5th
- **2023 Europeans:** 3rd Corinthian & 2nd Youth with a 1st and 3rd as best results



I70s: Competent in every role with specialty in sail trim

- **EV Experts:** Multiple seasons sailing as kite/jib trimmer, bow and tactician
 - Consistently upper fleet and top 5 corinthian
 - 2022 Nationals as kite/jib trim - 5th Corinthian and 12th of 27
- **Cosmic:** Cowes Week 2022 as jib/kite trim for 13th of 32 Overall and 8th Corinthian
- **Jumbo (rented RTYC boat):** Various events of 2021/22 seasons sailing as tactician and maintrim
- **Offbeat:** Jib Trim and bow for 2 events
- **Academy Trophy:** 2021 Academy Trophy Champion with Uni. of Southampton team

Cape 31: RORC VAC 2023 on Short Echo on Kite Trim

SB20s: 2023 Nationals Helm for Carnage and various 2022 Events on SportsboatWorld as maintrim

Keelboat Match & Team Racing:

- **UK Match Racing Finals:** 4th Overall and 1st Youths on Jib Trim & Pit on an RS21
- **BUCS Match Racing Champs:** 4th Overall on Main/kite trim on an RS21
- **Carmela Cup 2 Boat teams racing:** 6th Overall on Main/Kite trim in Sonars

Channel 32 Wavetrain: Winter series helming, bow or jib trim on Wavetrain

Fareast 28R: Various events on Mako & Assassin (Cowes week); jib/kite trim & maintrim respectively

Corby 33: 1st in IRC3 2022 Easter Challenge with Mrs Freckles as Jib trim

Yachts sailed but not mentioned: J80, J88, J92 (Cowes Week '21), J111, Mustang 30, First 40s, Corby 35, Beneteau 37, First 21.7, Sunfast 3200, JPK10.80



Infiniti 52 Tulikettu (abandonment): First time offshore In May 2022 for the delivery from Cascais to Portsmouth

- Learned a huge amount about sailing high performance boats and the systems they have on board.
- We abandoned ship 200nm from shore (out of helicopter range) and 100nm from the nearest ship
- Even if it wasn't the right decision on board or in hindsight, the understanding was the boat was sinking and from this, I now know that I am very calm, and perform efficiently, under pressure and in an extreme crisis.
- Also gained a great deal of understanding in managing a sinking/water ingress situation, methods of stopping it, emergency procedures & what to check for if on a boat for the first time and other proper preparations.

eSailing Experience/Achievements

I've competed at the highest level in eSailing (as 'Déjà Vu') have achieved a great deal of success in the space. My most notable achievements include:

- **eSailGP World Champion 2020; Bronze 2021**
- **eSailing Nations Cup Champion 2020; Silver 2021** (captaining Team GB in both)
- **eSailing World Championships Bronze 2020**

