



MARK LEES

DOB: 12/01/92

Place of Birth & grew up: Poole

Currently Living: Poole

Occupation: Sailmaker

Sailing/ Yacht Club: Poole Yacht Club

Position on Boat: Helm

First sailing experience: I have been sailing as long as I can remember and have always been around the water but first remember racing my mum's laser when I was 7 and spending a lot of time capsizing!



Greatest sailing goal: Helming a victorious America's Cup team.

Greatest sailing achievement to date: Winning the RYA Youth Match Racing Nationals.

Most memorable sailing experience: Winning the Junior Oppy Nationals when I was 12.

Meet the Sailor...

Greatest strength you bring to the academy? *Desire to win*

Most influential person in your sailing career to date? *My Dad because he has always helped me and never given up on me.*

What do you hope to achieve from joining the Keelboat Academy? *Meeting new coaches and exposing myself to new opportunities to learn.*

If you could compete in any Keelboat event what event would it be and why? *The America's Cup because it's the toughest match racing event in the world and I think it would be awesome to sail in an event with so many world class sailors at the peak of their game all focused on winning one old trophy.*

Top 3 career sailing results:

1) Winning the RYA National Youth Match Racing Championships

- 2) Coming 4th overall in IRC in the round the Island race
- 3) Winning the Junior Oppy Nationals

Other notable achievements away from sailing? County Rugby player

Other interests away from sailing? Rugby, Tennis.

Who is your hero and why? Dennis Conner for his attitude and ability, and for proving that everyone's human.

Any famous relatives?! My great-uncle has acted in an Australian soap opera!