

TEAM TRICKY WINDS



<p>Name/Occupation</p>	<p>For those of you who don't know my real name is Andy. My VSK name came about as a nickname given to me by my local pub landlord when I was 17. I spent most of my working life as motorsport engineer and team manager in rallying, from national championships to the world championship. I currently work for Jaguar Land Rover as a developer and global trainer for the technical apprentice programme.</p>
<p>Did you sail when you were younger, do you sail in real life now?</p>	<p>I started sailing with my father when I was 8 years old in a GP14, then into Toppers and Lasers. I have since sailed fast Cats and 49ers but have decided I am too old for that now and have just purchased a 'Narrow Boat' for the canals of the UK. Max speed 4 knots!!!</p>
<p>When did you start playing VSK, how did it happen?</p>	<p>I started playing in 2011 when I came across the game by accident when looking for sailing simulators.</p>
<p>VSK - just a game? How do you see VSK as part of your real life?</p>	<p>Many people say to me when I tell them I play this sailing game assume its just a game. The fact for me is its more of community and has developed into a big-time consuming hobby. To the point that I am part of TTW's Sailing Committee, help with the website, captain one of the teams in big events and am I member of the MLS Race Committee and Protest Committee.</p>

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<p>Can you remember your best moment and your worst moment in the game? (no need to say names)</p>	<p>The worst moment for me was the news that Camster was retiring form VSK. For me he backbone of the game for many years and is missed by many. The best moment really is not one thing, but the fact that now I can compete with he best skippers in the game during major events. Along with the fact I have got to know many good people who I have fun talking too most evenings.</p>
<p>Who has influenced you the most in VSK?</p>	<p>This is a hard question to answer. Firstly, it would be Ben - 'Jammin'. All those years ago when I was a Nadeo newbie, he took the time to give me advise. Without that help I would not be doing this interview now. There are so many others that the list would be so long. But I am still influenced by some good friends and top skippers in VSK. Never stop learning.</p>
<p>What does Tricky Winds as a club mean to you?</p>	<p>For me I was honoured to be asked to join TTW about 3 years ago after my previous team disbanded. I was made to feel extremely welcome by the existing members. I really enjoy the company of the members on TS or Discord and also the club's ethics and drive to do the best job to continue to be a force to be reckoned with in major events.</p>
<p>What is your vision for the future of the game and for Tricky Winds?</p>	<p>The game is at a difficult point in its history. Players are leaving for various reasons and there seems to be a split between the 'top skippers' and the rest of the general players. We as TTW members and other clubs need to try to encourage the some of the other skippers to join their team and help them to develop. One idea I have would be to set up a 'novice team' with an experienced captain as a mentor to help them develop more and faster. Who knows one day it may happen?</p> <p>As for TTW...I would like to keep TTW as one of the best consistently successful race teams in VSK. This is becoming a harder challenge due to the many top skippers in other teams.</p>
<p>Anything else you want to share with us?</p>	<p>To be good you must practice, practice and when you feel your at your best, practice again.</p>