Racing Kit list

Remember when racing it’s eat, sleep, and sail. You’ll find out quickly there’s not much time for anything else so leave the books and magazines behind, unless it’s an ocean race then maybe one book. (If each person brings a book, that’s ten books!) You should also bring two pairs of sunglasses, especially if you wear prescription ones. If you only bring one pair and you lose them, you’re handicapped for the rest of the race.

Of course, every race is different. Know your weather—an early year race event is going to be much colder than a summer one. Check the weather before you arrive! And, know yourself. If there’s something you need, like a second set of underwear, bring it. You’ll race better if you’re comfortable and feeling good. But if you can live without it, leave it at home.

Essentials:

• Carry-on size, water-tight bag. No wheels so can be easily stowed
• Sleeping bag - three seasons for colder months, two seasons for summer
• 1 pair padded shorts
• 1 set fleece underlayer
• 1-2 pairs thick, breathable socks or seal socks
• Rubber sailing wellies/boots, non-mark soles with good grip
• Deck shoes
• Warm hat/sun hat
• Hoodie/fleece
• 1 long sleeve technical t-shirt
• 1 short sleeve technical t-shirt
• Mid-layer sailing jacket and trousers
• Off-shore foul weather jacket and trousers
• Gloves: one set for using with ropes and one set for helming (thicker and warmer)
• breathable underwear
• 2 pairs sunglasses
• Digital watch with light – something you won’t mind losing
• Headlamp with red light
• Tube of Chapstick,
• Knife with a serrated edge purely for cutting away lines in an emergency - no need for a multi tool.
• Small water-tight box for personal electronics and chargers
• Small wash kit, think airplane size

This is the bare bones of what you will need. For a weekend race you should come in at roughly 10 kilos, for the Fastnet race 15 kilos and an ocean race 20 kilos at the most! On most long races there is transport for shore clothes to the finish. Think what you would pack as carry on luggage for flying and you should be in the right limits.