

The thing with timed races is choosing the right time to start. I'd already started two other rounds, both times coming in around 5 hr 15 min. Enough to give me a top 50 spot. After the last run I was ready to hang up the virtual sails on this one, but the next day I was looking at the weather (this was around the 6th) and noticed a good starting wind, and a tight reach on the 2nd leg and big quick shift around Iceberg giving a good angle to the finish. I kept watching this window change over the next 2 1/2 days and was about to give up on it because the updates kept showing it getting weaker. But the 16:30 update on Fri the 8th morning (for me) showed it back. I was looking at a start around 00:00~00:30. I wound up busy IRL and s didn't get back to the confuser till after 6 PM PST (01:00). By the time I fixed some dinner and went to check in on the timed race it was 01:30. After some quick calculations I decided the time was ripe to start.

Actually , at the time, I thought I was ~20 min late at the start. There weren't very many boats out on the course. So I decided to go for it. After all it wouldn't keep me up much past midnight at worse. It was a quick run to the first mark (~1 hr 15 min). I noted Varmint and Henrys in front of me. About 15 minutes later karriv and rafa came out, and I thought, "here come the big guns, maybe I'm not late after all---just too early". I kept waiting for Winston, outlaw, et all to come out. After I made the first turn (a bit sloppy--mainly because a server jump put me .1 mile past the turning point) I realized that anyone who hadn't started would run

On the leg to Iceberg karriv, rafa and I had to contend with being headed and had to head up a bit in order not to slow on the approach to Iceberg. karriv and rafa more so. By the rounding of Iceberg, I could see that Varmint was a bit ahead, but I was hoping the shift would give me just enough speed to catch him. But he was too good, as was karriv. I wound up 9 seconds behind Varmint and 7 seconds behind karriv.

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June 2014