

I basically lost a lot by tacking about 30 seconds too early on the first tack after start. With these polars (pretty flat on the top) it's very important not to steer below vmg. I was not paying any attention to other boats as this is a fast and furious race and my own decisions would make or break the race.

Also it was very important not to sail "for position", but to plan my sail and sail my plan. Halfway I realized that outlaw had made the best maneuvers and started to concentrate on second. With rafa as a contender for the same position it's an "on the toes" situation. The last tack was crucial – I went about 30 seconds too far NW and halfway to the finish rafa overtook me, but I could counter by steering ca. 2 degrees lower until I was on his course. There must be milliseconds only between us at the finish.

With this type of boat it is quite important to minimize performance loss, for example by not going for two gybes after Oudeschild B, but rather take the speedloss going straight to Oudeschild C.

/Svein - June 2014