

Sincerely, I must say that I was undecided whether to do it or not; Hamletic doubt! These "spike-barges" in general don't run at all and their upwinds with 60° of angle are a really torture for me. But looking at the weather in preview, I saw that there was nice wind and good pressure on the race course, a right shift in the first part of the race and then to the left, in the second part: it's intriguing... I said to myself; let's go... and so I decided to take the start.

I've planned the race considering two strategic points:

1) you had to reach as soon as possible the right side of the course for tacking in the best rotation of the wind

2) you had to go wide and far from the coast of Lindesnes Fyr, to grabbing the best wind angle and pressure, for the long leg towards the finish.

...And so it was.

Unfortunately, once we've reached the right side, I have preferred to stay tacking in the open water thinking that too many closed tacks would be paid in loss of performance. I didn't calculate the great advantage that could result, standing very closed to the shoreline, from the best angle and windward position even though having less speed,.

Great, very great tacking-series for PetrM between rocks and cliffs: on each tack he was gaining and gaining bow-angle and upwind; and so for rumskib, who seemed to be a bit 'late at first, but then, sailing and tacking very well, he recovered nearly a mile.

Trampantojo too did a good job, taking the lead at the end of the tacking-duel just before going offshore.

At the end of tacking-series, rafa, a couple of tacks less, ran away southwards and gaining both bow angle and pressure in advance of all of us.

Thus, in practice, the group has outlined the top 5.

Well, once we've got the new wind with left rotation, all we needed to do was always going in max vmg, making some hop on the polar's humps (when we had 3-4 knots of wind and just for not stay too far from the rhumbline), controlling constantly each-others, of course, and than reserve and play some aces after the last wx.

Trampantojo probably has lost a little 'street in the last 100 miles, on going to seek the proximity of the coast making some jibe too much; But good, because he tried anyway an attack.

And so, at the end, PetrM gained a position control and masterfully managed the lead, increasing it too.

Well sailed to rafa, who went to look for more pressure and angle to the west of all of us, imposing himself in 2nd place.

And it was a tight final, played on the edge of vmc/vmg, between me and rumskib.

In truth, on the last crossing at the mark, if we were IRL, I would have to give him room and thus lose the third place, but ... eh eh eh, we're not IRL,I'm sorry, dear rum.

Thank you and good wind all.

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