

My euphoria at actually starting on time (a very rare event indeed) was short lived as I saw most of the fleet heading South. How could this be? The wind forecast showed very little change over the course of the race so gauging the best route seemed somewhat straight forward with the Northern route finding favour – Northern was primarily a close reach with a final, single, tack (almost!) vs. the Southern option which involved sailing in the wrong direction for a while!

How could I have got it so wrong? Best see who else was with me. Flicking around my close rivals revealed names I wasn't familiar with, then I found rafa. If rafa was heading North I knew I'd made the right decision!

I won't comment on the server outage as it worked in my favour! What happened next was a lesson learned. Er' indoors had insisted that I paint a window so I set a DC for the final headland. I should have trusted my judgment but added an extra 30 second 'just in case'. In the event I lost out to second place by just 1 second and on first place by 9. Next time she can paint the window and I'll go sailing!

The outage means the race doesn't count but I'm delighted to have made my first podium and thank everyone for letting me come 3rd.

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