

This was a race of a few subtleties.

The north route was faster and the decisions that separated the top 20 were minor. It all boiled down to precision rounding the points of land in the first half of the race and hitting the north end of the finish line with minimal tacks and max VMG in the second half of the race.

The decision for how to handle the last 5 nms. was viewed to be key as well. But as it turned out either tacking at the last minute as GREATSKUA and svein did, or tacking early for a long starboard last tack as I did finished the 3 of us pretty much as we stood before this last part. I passed a couple boats during this last part. I took the full hit on the second tack performance drop, but making a very precise landing on the north end of the line turned out to be a fraction of a second faster than a couple of the boats who tacked similar to the leaders. The performance hit for the 88s is minimal compared to other boats we race in.

It was a very exciting finish for many boats and goes to show that if you want to place in this crowd in a short race, you aren't allowed any mistakes.

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