

## **Super Mac Race**

Race report from TarassBoulba

### **Memory of an ex SOLer**

To be honest, I didn't win as a super exceptional rookie. I'm not really new on SOL and I don't think you can win your 1st race as a rookie. I used to be on SOL 3 or 4 years ago and "fighting" against Brainaid, ita10267, WINSTON, Rafa, Sassy, UNDERCOVER, zero and many others still on SOL. At this time, AGage was still there so therefore I take this opportunity to give a thought to him and his SOLers' friends.

Between this time and now, I changed life, job, wife and couldn't concentrate on SOL as a big regret.

After starting, the MAUI and be 1st in the morning, I was surprised and saw that I still have good reflex on SOL. I was ahead of ita, rafa and rumskid, "Gods of SOL". My joy quickly faded when I realized that I had to leave Paris for a WE in Normandie without internet connection (or just twice on MC Donald's parking land which is not enough when you race against SOLers). Finally I wasn't so bad because I finished 57.

So, excited by my good come back, I decided to start the Super Mac Race. Before the start I noticed that angle was better on west than east. At the very beginning of the race I was a little worried by my start on the extreme west but after 6 hours I saw that it finally wasn't too bad. I was ahead in this area, in front of Rafa (which is not insignificant. I remembered how good he is). At this moment, I was already just by javakeda which was not on SOL 4 years ago. I didn't know he was going to be one of my future "beloved and friendly enemy".

My first good reflex was to notice that for the first gybe, we could use the specific polar to make a short cut and go straight up with fully wind in back, just before going towards east to get a better angle for the rest of the race. In the morning my surprise was to see my 1<sup>st</sup> place. My programming was almost perfect and Euphoric like an inexperienced rookie I was already thinking of the victory after 12hrs of race in Michigan Lake. "Un vrai blaireau" as we say in French. I just forgot that in Michigan wind always changes and I had javakeda in my back. At this time, I didn't know who he was and after reading SYC ranking I liquefied myself with javakeda, zero, Franci, rafa around me.

The very next weather, it has not failed, conditions were better for western SOLers, Karaoke, xmariner, hmm. Karaoke became 1<sup>st</sup> and I was crying. I was still 2<sup>nd</sup> and kept my fighting spirit anyway until I realized on Saturday night that I have a party night and northern buoys were approaching. I asked for a computer at the party and everybody there took me for a crazy guy. Whatever SOL is more important. After the party I fell asleep around 5am without realizing and woke up in panic at 11am just before the gybe (Really lucky I was). I passed Karaoke and took the 1<sup>st</sup> place, don't know if he made a wrong choice or couldn't skip his boat but I was happy by keeping my fighting spirit like a pitbull. The last night I didn't sleep. When javakeda and rafa are so close from you and you have the 1<sup>st</sup> place, you are too afraid to go to sleep.

Monday, I was working and as I said on the forum I thought I couldn't sincerely skip my boat to keep the 1<sup>st</sup> place. I was in a meeting all day long and programmed my boat. Around the gybe I pretended to have to go to the bathroom to get out of the meeting and verify the good angle of my gybe. Good idea because it wasn't so optimized. Too bad, I didn't see my boat crossing the line.

I was very surprised to win this race, kind of proud like most winners I think, especially after a comeback. I don't know when I will have the opportunity to race again. As many of you know, it's complicated to explain to the person with whom you live, we get up in the middle of the night to follow a tiny point on a screen as big as a pinhead, during many hours, and do not advance. You are a mental patient worse than a Geek!

Thanks all and special congrats to javakeda, rafa, SOLers and SOL Team. Very happy racing again on SOL

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