

My original plan was to skip the race entirely and go get my boat out of water. Came Saturday morning and nine o'clock and I was still sipping my coffee and my teenager son who was supposed to help me with the boat was fast asleep so I decided to start the race as it seemed to allow for also other activities than just steering the boat. And I did manage to walk our dogs (two mini-sausage-dogs) on the way to Vajava Strait and visit the grocery store on the way to Fagatele Bay. I took the last turns in my car en-route to my boat, my son was keeping watch and I just pulled over to make the turns as he called the times.

After I decided to start I took a look at what was to be expected. One tack, one gybe, how hard can that be? But the trick is that so few maneuvers make the race extremely tight. Because the wind was shifting at the time of the tack and the nature of the polar of F18 I thought the short upwind leg after Vajava Strait would be decisive, but the differences after the upwind leg were very small. The gybe would decide the race. And it did, sassy63 and I managed to time the gybe perfectly whereas others missed it by a server jump or two. The race was so close that that was enough.

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