

The Corsica Sprint

Well, at the end, I opened on the Corsica Sprint, I saw the course, ...no tack or Gybe, I saw the weather,it was quiet, I saw the TP52's polar,already known, and I realized that, trusting again in DCs, it could be done, and I joined in the race!

I put 3 dc: departure time, Capraia, Elba and arrival.

And now, let's go to the real boat! They are waiting for me!

....Almost noon (local time), according to my account, I would have to pass the Elba island. At that time I was IRL quite in the pre-start of the first race of the day. Light genoa and mainsail on a First34od, IRL 9 knots of NE wind, little unstable, in the Bay of Naples. But my mind was there, on that south cape of the Elba island! So I made up an excuse and I left for five minutes the helm to someone else. Secretly, under the deck, I turned on my cell and I connected with the Corsica sprint. The server put me 8th in the ranking, but just where I had expected to be.

Elba had passed without bbq! So the SOL predictor's is very accurate and also I've appreciated the good work done by Zappe with the new application for Android. At that point I got the predictor in the middle of the finish line, there were about 4 hours, and the wind turned to the left of only 5 degrees decreasing by about 1 knot.

The polar of TP52 in those light wind conditions is quite flat, I thought.... and so I didn't want to sail longer by inventing routes to navigate always with the best VMC. On the other hand, with a direct route for so long, I risked suffering too much for the low speed with the angle not quite optimal. What to do, what to choose, mumble mumblemumble.

"Ready all...!! 6 minutes!!!! Ready! Answering pennant down!" They shout-out. "We must start at the mark! Hurry-up!" They call me! "Daaaamn, what are you doing over there? Want you to ride up?" They call me! Damn, I must go up

Ok, I have to decide quickly: two corrections each of half a degree. One dc only. Not suffer too much on the shifting, but sure to be still inside the southern pin of the finish line eh eh ehyou never know! And let's go now!

I cut the link, I turn the cell off, I get up, and I take the helm again.....

Are you ready to tack guys? Let's take a stop in the wind! Ready to tack? (IRL of course!)

Well, once at home, I have to be honest I was not obsessed by the Corsica ranking, I did not think I took the podium. Then, very quietly, with calm, around 16:30 UTC I looked on the Corsica sprint and see..... Wow!

Then I saw the arrival times and gaps Wow, Wow, Wow!

Thus, in trusting on you: Congratulations to the top-10 ... I am sure you have done a great job and a very tight race.

And just for WINSTON: How did I finish IRL race? 2nd of course!