

One of the truest statements sounded in the field of sail racing is: a regatta is a series of errors: the player who makes less of them will be the winner.

And so it was, in this sprint race.

The race had three strategic moments: the first was in calculating well the point for tack in approaching the Eagle Rock mark (following the clockwise shift of the wind). The second was to reach as soon as possible the coast of Balanced Rock to start a series of jibes, holding the shoreline and take advantage of pressure and rotation of the wind. The third, once again, to calculate the exact point of tack for Castle Rock.

From that point on, there was little to do as the leading positions would be difficult to change.

Well, for my part, I made the first mistake on the first leg, sailing without correcting the optimal angle when the wind speed was changing; then soon I made the second mistake: I tacked just a couple of steps late, and I lost 3 or 4 positions, including rafa and Hirilonde; in the leg toward Balanced Rock instead I sailed very well, I guess: fast twa with just 2 dc's and I've reached the shorecoast as leader.

Then I made the third mistake, trusting on my resistance to sleep, I did not put any "safety" dc for jibes ... so I managed to do just the first jibe and then I fell asleep and I kept going straight ahead...

But the clock-alarm in emergency, fortunately, it worked just in time, even though I could not take the mark in vmg, but at max speed.

Anyway, I now had lost 5 or 6 positions there.

Rafa returned me the favour by going bbq before Balanced Rock (otherwise, to be honest, I think I would never have passed him) and, risking scratching the boat on the whole coast of the island, I did not lose contact with the leading group.

At this point, finally, I have to praise myself because I calculated the exact point of tack for Castle Rock, to be fast without adding distance, and so I grabbed the rank #3.

Once turned Castle Rock, as expected, there was little to do.

So, Bravo and Bravo to Rhoderunner and Hirilonde who sure have made fewer mistakes than me!