

Reporting from under the snow in Rhode Island:

The first couple segments of this race were common fare. Lots of good players doing similar routes and ending up close at each mark. But like most short races some doing just a little better than others. And I found myself in 7th not having done quite as well as I would have liked.

Between Efate and Ambryn the wind just went away. This also means some very strange wind shifts. I notice a period in the wind where if I set up properly I could sail the rhum line for a ways through this maze of winds. I think it was this alone that took me into 1st place barely a few decimal points ahead of rumskib. The whole episode opened up in slow motion as we zoomed towards the next mark at well under 1kt..

During the next segment we were to have a windupdate. As it turned out it forced a change of plans from a gradual TWA change arc to an abrupt change course that contained a hidden morsel for those (insert rumskib) to pick up a whopping 0.2 nm if executed perfectly. So he gybed for a short ways and that was all it took to beat me. I was able to hold off the others who were just that few meters further behind.

The short home stretch at the end was just a parade.

Hirilonde / February 2015