

Santa Monica Ron Miel Regatta 2015.

I will start by telling you that I am quite new here on SOL, I have been racing here for about 3 months. So I have a lot to learn.

The start of the race was good for me, helped lead the field, even though we were very close. The first night came, so I headed for the night, I also set the alarm clock to wake me 15 minutes before I had to turn at Hierro, this was that the last night of regular sleep for the next five days, I was excited about that! Something happened during the night, it was not there. I was number 3 in the morning, I was very happy with this, even though we were still very close. The next day, I used to figure out which was the best angle to the wind, the best pressure and the best direction to the next mark, which I got to spend a lot of time in the next 5-6 days.

The next days, the weather forecasts made it hard work to calculate angle to the wind direction and speed to the next mark. I had many reflections on why the competitors in front of me did something different than I did. I also knew that I would not beat them, by sailing after them, so I had to use my time to do something else.

After a few days I could see that the distance to Peskasail and Rumskib was larger, so I decided that if I could not catch them, I could see what they were doing and learn from it.

Rafa took 3rd place from me, so he was now the main goal for me. On the leg from Alegraza to Selvagen-grande, Rafa was 0.4 nm in front of me, but the wind shifted slightly in my favor, and I had taken 3rd place again with 0.2 nm in front of Rafa. When we came out to Selvagen-grande had Rafa again took 3rd place, with a lead of 0.3 nm, I do not know how he did it, but he did it, it was a clear fact, and it was really nice sailing by him . I planned to spend the last night to see if I could get past Rafa again, he led with 0.3 nm, which he increased to 0.5 nm, and when the night was over, Rafa had a lead of 0.7 nm to me. In front of me now was peskasail with about 8 nm, Rumskib 4.5 nm, Rafa 0.7 nm, and 2.5 nm down to the competitors behind me, so I began to prepare myself for that I would be nr4 for this race, though there were still 50 nm to the finish line, and the location I was really happy, my best the result so far. Unfortunately, it happened that Rafa went aground at Las Palmas, and I took over again 3rd.

It was a highly informative sailing for me and I learned a lot, but also know that I still have much to learn.

Wolff - April 2015.