

My last four starts have been disastrous, due to power cuts, interruptions, mistakes, sleep and travelling. These things are the bane of sailing on line. The best sailor is the recluse type, or at least this will help sailing. Then on the other hand who suffers if you sail well, your family, home maintenance, personal life, you name it! But I love sailing, it fits me.

So, how I planned for this one is: I sort of categorize this type of race as "fast-tack" type. The wind is not changing much so the straightest line will be best and Tack as little as possible and take the wind swing into account. I chose the middle line and expected the wind to do a little more.

Here I lost a bit of time to the Guys who said the wind was going to do more and took the left lower route. That was the first leg, the last leg I thought the wind would do more as well so I needed to swing starboard immediately after the waypoint St Lokolmen to pick up better wind strength. Not too much because you need to come back portside at the top again.

As it turned out I needed to tack twice to correct my VMG. This is where I lost the pole, as I moved over too much. (This brings up another point, if you want to move to gain speed make sure you have space to use it. No rock in your way.)

Henrys / April 2015