

This is the kind of leg that I like.

Ocean race.

You don't have to deal with the coastline (well, just a little) and this means that your personal life does not suffer too much.

The leg usually takes a week or so, another positive point.

I don't keep a log of the things that I did, but I will try to remember parts of it. The start was ok, I was inclined to go to the north. When the weather confirmed that north was better than south, I felt ok with my decision. I checked the south group for a while, but after a while it became clear that their route would not work. I made some mistakes and as the group was close it was easy to see the mistakes.

Then, one night I was sailing close to ita and we had to turn in order to avoid the coast. I turned and he did not. It is horrible when you see this happening with a boat that you know will have a good performance.

After that, I crossed with kenza and he was like 0,3nm in front of me. I made a note of the distance because we would have a coastline zig zag and I was not planning to stay awake the whole night. So, I knew I would have to use a more conservative approach in order not to hit the coast. After the zig zag, we crossed again and he had doubled the distance. :-)

But this leg was a nice one and forgave the mistakes made in its first part. Well, the crossing was normal, some boats went farther to the north. I decided not to follow them and, as the high pressure behaved well :-), my route worked fine.

Then we got to the gybe to Lisbon. Some did it earlier (me), others later. And then I was close to ita again (he had managed to recover from the coast stop) and kenza. Aner was in a good position too. The arrival in Lisbon was full of maneuvers. We were really close. Kenza won by a small margin and aner passed ita in the last second of the race.

I would love to redo the last 6 hours again, if possible. Just to try other maneuvers. The leg was great and fun to participate.

Thanks to all and thanks to sailonline.

See ya.

bigbull / May 2015