

Recipe ingredients for a Timed race with one zillion tacks and jibes

- Zero ounces of router ( totally useless )
- 1000 pounds of concentration ( each BBQ takes away ranking spots )
- Just a drop of good assessment for start time ( between pressure and angle )
- 1 zillion tons of LUCK .....The most important ingredient!.

With no availability of decent pressure at reach angles , I decided , like all other top ten boats , to start with max possible pressure ( upwind and downwind ) , in hope to be able to do well ( at least ).

Upwind leg needed no particular tactics, (other than ingredient N.2), and, in one short instance, to go slightly below max VMG to avoid two tacks.

The downwind leg saw a couple of tactical decisions:

Firstly I decided to steer a little west after the upwind mark, in order to be able to make the longest possible leg downwind entering the strait.

Then very close to finish, I decided to navigate 3 to 6 degrees beyond max downwind VMG, to eliminate two jibes. I do not think this made the difference , as I noticed that the three boats who were contending victory , and were navigating close behind me by 10 to 20 minutes ( MM , rum and rafa ) had done the same after me.

When I saw rum making second I still feared that rafa would take the race. In fact he got a better time than rum. Finally, when I saw that Henrys nearly made it, navigating almost one hour behind the four of us, I was sure that the most important ingredient for my victory was N.4 and I was thankful for investing so much of it in this race!! ;)

I SAID TO MYSELF: nice to win at least one Timed a year!! ....after rum winning three in a row ☺

Ciao ALL!! .....WIN

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