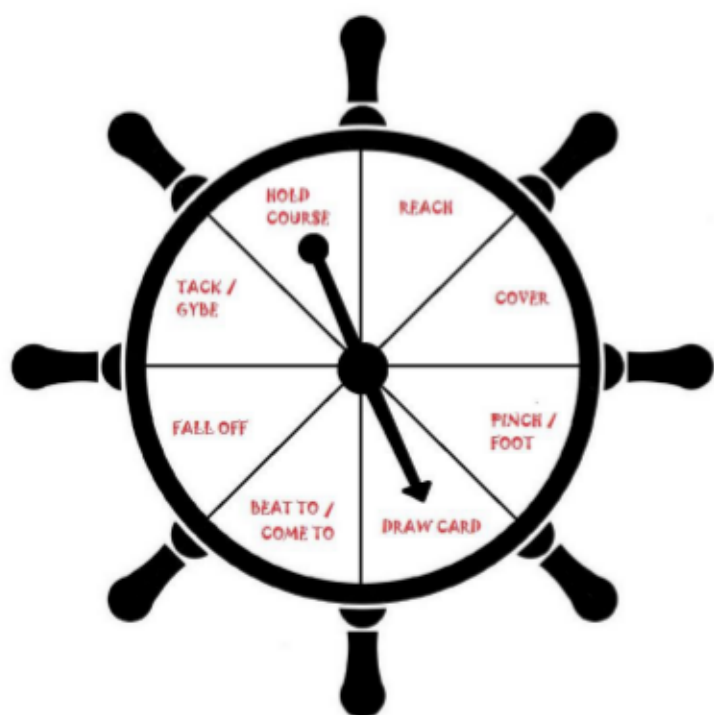


Cape Town to Hobart 2015

I just want to say I don't use routers, and am often very busy IRL. So I really enjoy the long ocean races where an overall strategy is more key than being on deck and steering the ship actively. So this race fit the bill.

I viewed the race in three stages. Safely exit Cape Town via DC and Go South, Go East Fast on the winds, Go North to Hobart. I thought it was a brilliant strategy, except others seemed to be of the same mind. So much for that.

My DC start from Cape Town was decent, and I found myself slightly east of the main fleet, so I eased a bit to go SW faster and cover the fleet. It worked reasonably well for not much effort. However on the 6th I missed something and ended up not getting enough easterly movement. Found Renegade on the west of the fleet by some 30 NM at that point. After that I realized I had missed a window to get some east in my sails and headed a bit more south hoping to catch the winds and catch up. By the 8th Renegade and the fleet had settled into a line heading east on the big winds, and I had not made up any ground. I realized this picture might not change until the north leg so opted to pull out the "Spin-Ache-R" and give it a try. It told me to draw a card.



The card I drew from the deck of fate was "NEPTUNE'S FAVOR". Very rare apparently, I had never seen it before and had to look it up in the manual. I was shocked!

Congratulations!

You have won Neptune's Favor!

Neptune will guide your boat and up to 50 others at maximum speed for up to 5,000 NM or to within 10% of your destination, whichever is farther.

Relax sailor, you are in Neptune's Favor.

HOT DIGGITY!!! Totally Amazing. I had no clue such a card existed. I resolved to try the "Spin-Ache-R" in more races soon. I was giddy, and a bit dizzy I must admit. At least I didn't have to do much for the next week. This was awesome!

Barely 5 days later and Renegade and the leaders were heading NE to Hobart. I was glad and found Renegade in better position than before, although not leading, in the same NE line as the leaders. Even though we had split at one point with leaders going NE more and Renegade going more SE, but I couldn't complain. It had been the fastest, most trouble free leg of the race, and I was in great position.

The final leg was relatively uneventful and Renegade was a bit more East again of most of the fleet. I was climbing the ranks as the boats more W or NW were moving slower. I found myself setting a nice arching move into Hobart, and glided in to the line finishing in 34th position. Big shout out to Neptune!

Renegade

July 2015