

The Second race of Tasman Double promised a bit different challenges than the first one:

1. Upwind navigation in the channel to Iron Pot, the key challenge being the timing, at 4 am Finland time. I put in some safe DCs, which seemed easier to calculate than I had thought. As the start was after WX update, the DCs were not to be trusted. Nevertheless, I decided not to put an alarm for the start, but to get up if I happened to wake, which I did. And had a short but nice BBQ right at the first tack. Classic TWA sign error, and I also timed the tack a bit too tight to be able to correct anything. In retrospect, I might have done better with my DCs;) Knowing that we would be heading to increasing winds I thought that was the race. After careful sailing I rounded Iron pot around pos 15.

2. The next leg to Cape Raoul, still early in the morning, offered a small possibility to improve my position. The leg looked like it could be sailed almost straight with just one pair of tacks, but it also looked like sailing lower and doing a couple more tacks would be faster. I took the faster option.

3. After Tasman Island it was a reach to the end, a matter of going more out for better pressure and angle = speed, or deciding for a shorter route. I dediced to head more out than the competition as it is very difficult to pass anyone if you stick to their wake. By Saturday evening things looked good, I was in more pressure and better angle making good gains. It seemed like I could fight for a position on the podium.

In the end, kenza, longreacher, and rafa just sailed perfect and I had no chance whatsoever.

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