Oslo to Horten by Faerder Race 2016

Race Report by "zero"

We are now in Norway. Sailing from the capital and the most populous city in the country to the town of Horten. We sailing on the Oslo Fjord under very light wind and shifting conditions.

This was a weekend race composed of several waypoints and relatively short legs in between them. Some of the legs had radical wind shifts which made for a very interesting and demanding race. This was a race for the sleepless skippers. There were some opportunities for sleeping, but mostly you had to be ready to jump to the tiller at all times.

"kenza" was the master of the race. I was right behind him looking for, or waiting for, an error to pass him. Nothing, none, nada, ничего! (That is supposed to be "nothing" in Russian). He sailed a flawless race from start-to-end. If anything, our distance spread kept growing throughout the race.

Congrats to "kenza". Well-deserved gold.

I would like to take this opportunity to write about something else. We have now raced five races in a row that the use of a router was completely unnecessary, yet we had one skipper that claimed on the chat that "he had enough of sol … and is leave sol for good…" because, he said, it is unfair to compete without the use of a router software.

As much as I think the use of a router is necessary (if one is looking to win) on long, open water races; the same router is completely unnecessary in order to finish in the top page on these races with short legs; as many legs as they be. Sailonline has now a very good mix of races of all types, sprints, weekenders and off-course, long blue water passages. Races meant to please the router and non-router skippers alike.

After this last race my beloved "zero" is in $4^{th}$ place in the SYC ranking. A record for me. And out of the 10 races in the ranking, I used a router on only one; the Geraldton to Cape Town race. All the other 9 races were sailed seat-of-the-pants. Furthermore, I am willing to bet money that "Smo" did not use a router to win the last two races he won. Both magnificently BTW.

I would say, as impolitely and as unpolitical correct as possible, dear disgruntled skipper; giving up sailonline just because you don't use a router is RUBBISH. Find another excuse.

Antonio "zero"