

This time it is very hard to report on a race.

Main reason is that I have not understood much of what has been going on since the very beginning.

What I have understood is that the WX has been very constant at times, and very wild at other times.

In the beginning it took me about 12 hours off Beru to understand that the intermediate WP was IRRELEVANT as to the route that would have brought the fleet to the finish line. Some boats did take longer than that, and remained pinching for the WP much longer than me. I must assume that kenza managed to get those 15 minutes that he never lost on me in the very early hours; otherwise I would not be able to tell where it happened !! ;))))

After a long stretch to the south, and very much more south than the WP, it came the time to beat to the east and north east.

Changing WX patterns created some minor change in rankings (behind kenza), giving advantage to some boats at one update and disadvantage to same boats the following update, but in all the race became "boring", also because the boat, although very fast, was not allowing a decent average number of miles per day, due to the constant upwind profile of the race.

2/3 days before the finish, another important event: all of a sudden the usual intriguing 2230 update indicated a way East to reach the finish, whilst the assessed pattern was to the NE for a final turn SE on lay line. Some boats (rafa – bonk) took that chance. I assume it was good tactics, as they were behind the front line at that stage. It did not pay (but not by much)

The final stage saw an un-reachable kenza , a Scarabocchio who claimed to have made very little steering during the race finding himself in second place , and therefore in need to cover-cover-cover to preserve the position , myself only interested to stay close to rumskib for the yearly Championships rankings , and a dozen of boats fighting for the top 10 spots .

The WX was not friendly to us, as even 12 hours prior to the finish it imposed another tack to the NE, as the lay line shifted by a few degrees to the north, the cover-cover-cover exercise became stressful.

At lastwe were on the finish linewith Scara walking on the moon....and myself VERY satisfied to have put some more barley in the storage (for the whiskey distilling at the end of 2016)but I need much more than that ..;))))))....it's a looooooong way

Ciao ALL!!WIN