

The set up was fairly normal:

All the data were similar...boat size and potential speeds, race length, wind speed. All in the "low" end of choiceThe only characteristic out of standard was the race course. For a PYOC this one is really full of rocks as well!!! ;)))))

The HIRES wind pattern played the "lion's role" once again. It is really fascinating to see such great difference in TWD in so relatively small area. Apart that in Sprints routers are useless most of the times, it was clear in front of our eyes that we had gone back to the days of our dinghy inshore races, where we knew that along the coast the wind direction tends to parallel the coastline for reasons to do with fluid masses compression and deflection.

Just looking at the screen it was clear that the wind (well an exaggerated word but still wind) was coming from the following directions in general:

Upper left = from south east
Upper right = from south west
And (more importantly):
Lower left = from south west
Lower right = from south west

This meaning that even accounting for better breeze at times, an eventual easterly course would have had to deal with lousy wind direction when approaching the finish line.

The westerly pack had been farer away from the finish line than the easterly one for 90% of the race time, but it was clear not long after the start that it was the other way around.

WIN took the lead of the westerly pack at the tack due south in front of land after the first stretch , and maintained this lead through a number of tactical positioning tacks that were needed to approach the layline to the final corner .

Just before the final approach rums kib decided a really daring attack, as he realized that there were no other passing lanes, and tacked to the west, anticipating the rest of the lead group, and undertaking a risky slalom through some small islands. We were all preoccupied of course, as HE is HE , and by doing so he remained in better breeze, that was falling where we were heading.

I did not cover because to me it was indifferent to see WIN and rum, or rum and WIN on the line (in light of the long term goals). I decided to stay with the majority and therefore control them.

In the end rum lost a few positions, but his attack was 100% tactically correct, and for that: CHAPEAU!!

There were no further surprises until the finish line, as usual for me, after 01:00 in the morning. (I won a lot of races in SOL , but I think the really VAST majority of them finished in the middle of the nightPerhaps there is some logic behind this ? ...who knows ...;)))))

Ciao ALL!!WIN