

A little before crossing the finish line, well in front of everybody else, I said in chat:

UNBELIEVABLE!!

And I was very serious about it ! ...It is well known that dealing with millions of rocks and zillions of corners is NOT my territory. In Sprint races I usually lose positions when turning corners.

I had to rewind and think back to understand how it happened and perhaps why.

It all started at 06:00 local, when between snoring walls and ears obliterating alarms I did fall off the bed, kicked by my number 1 supporter with the usual encouragement: "GO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!.... (Omissis) ".

I did not want to race this oneI could afford to for annual global goals purposes.....and to me this course was and is the journey of nice combination between craziness and total masochism.....But my heart is loyal to my boat at least as much WIN is loyal to meSo ...it was a needed sacrifice.

Then I decided that the only way to do it was to create a special boat list with only WIN in it , and shut the visibility of all other boatsrun with good concentration but with enough relaxation from point A to point Z , without caring about routes and tactics , and close the file . (Whatever the result may be ...A TOP 20 was likely to preserve the podium in the annual COGC ...)

Next decision , upon better zoomed look at the course and the wind direction, was to dismiss ALL the good technical knowledge about sailingforget VMG.....forget the perf loss (to an extent).....forget the competition and try to get there !! ..:)))

Off I gomanaged to avoid BBQs by jybing conservatively in front of walls.....actually intentionally jybed once or twice taking a greater hit than what the recently learned techniques would suggest , in order to stay longer in the "no further penalty zone" and be able to further jybe two or three times in succession without additional hits.

About mid race , along one of the only two short stretches free of minefields , for the first time I looked above on the screen , and I sawWINSTON_4 ...ranked 1 !!! ...Nooooooooowayyyyyyy I said to myselfI must be closer to the finish line than the leading boats, and we know how that is worked out by the server.

It was a moment of relative rest, so I went to the full fleet visibility just for the curiosity of ascertaining why the server was saying such big stupidityI WAS STUNNED !! ...I was really leading.....AND ...whilst the others were packed one on top of the other, there was nice separation between WIN and them !!
....GASPED.....

The immediate reaction was to go back to the one boat list, and close my eyes on the fleet !! LOLLLLLL

The rest is only a story of resistance, heart beating faster, and usual rumskib recovering a bit of the distance, but at the end the victory was powerful as rarely in Sprints or Supersprint races in SOL.

Last remaining question: HOW?

Answer: I do not know, as I have seen NOTHING !!!!

I guessonly guessthat my tactics of sailing lower when it was good to do so to avoid an extra jybe (in other words not caring at all about VMG)and the idea of ending up on 88/90 perf at times to enable further maneuvering without hits could be the reasonbut it is only an educated guess

I am very pleased with this victory, as it demonstrates to myself two things:

- 1) That the impossible can (only at times) be possibleand
- 2) That when wife says "GO + (omissis) "obeying is ALWAYS convenient! ;))))))))))))))

Ciao ALLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLL

Piero

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