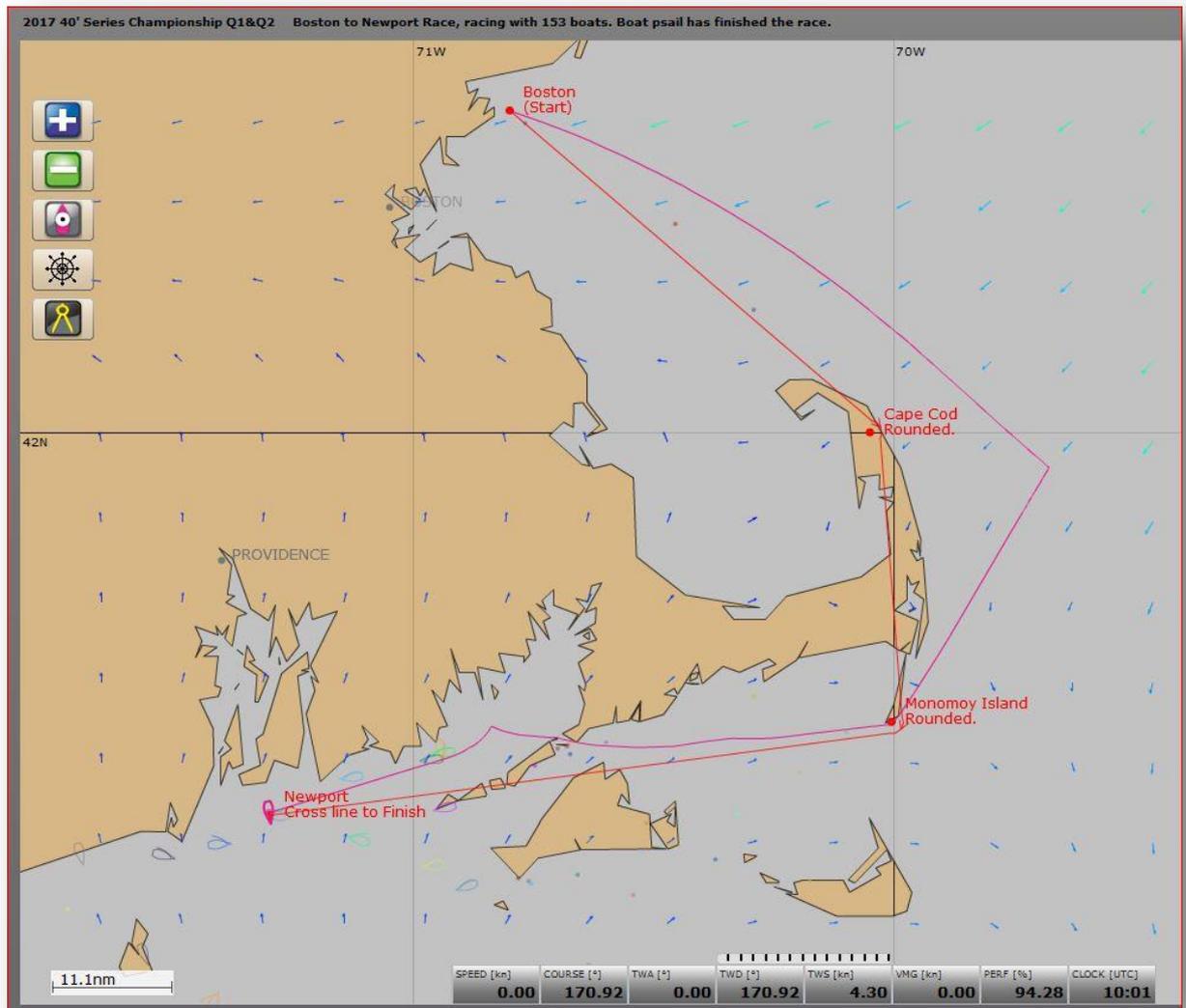


## 2017 40' Series Championship Q1&Q2 - Boston to Newport Race

In this third act of the 40' Series was the first time I was SOL racing with the Ker 40. And it confirmed the *downinder* characteristics she has.

I remember on the first Leg down to the South tip of *Monomoy* (National Wildlife Refuge) Island to take a snip on the provisional leaderboard and see the SOTO + Class fleet under the #30. As usual, on this wind conditions the Ker went smashing the competition. Another story was to be written near the Finish Line (FL).

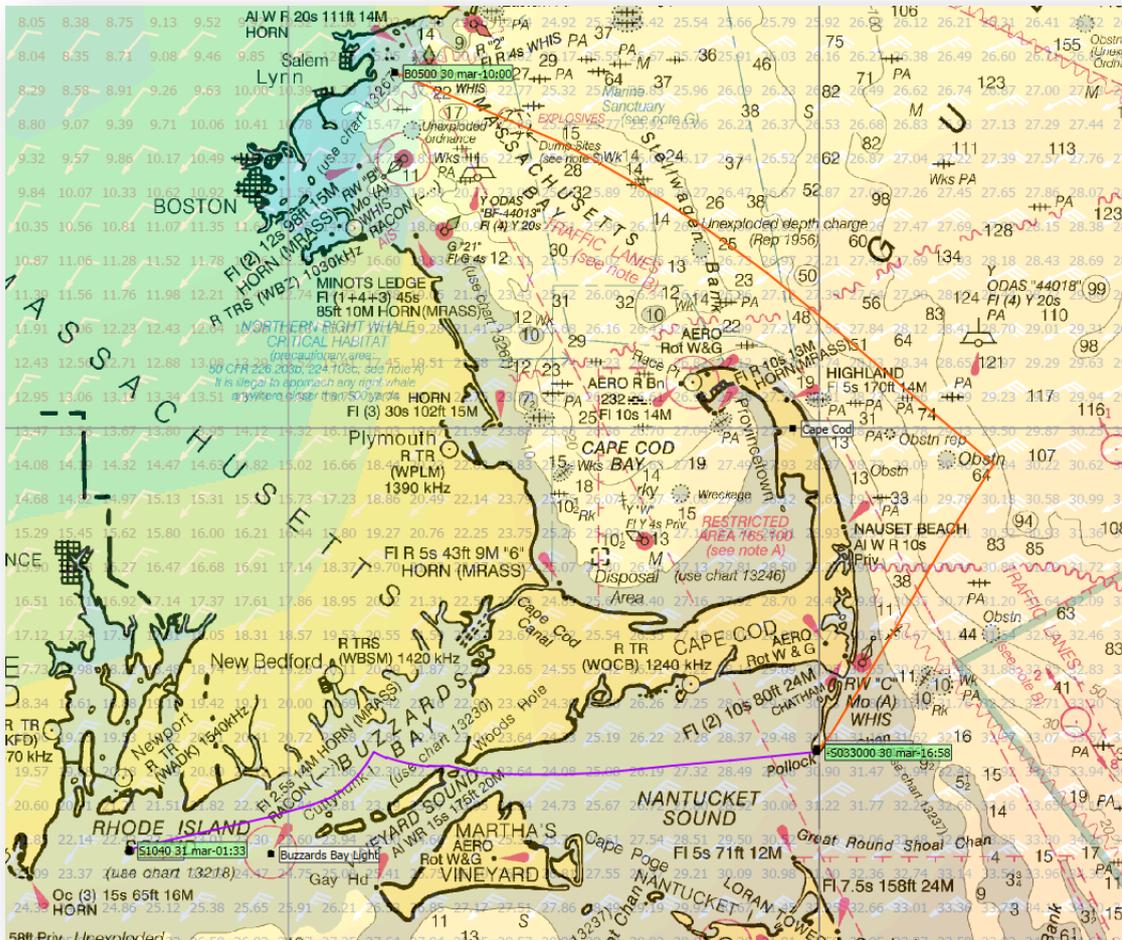


This first Leg went quick for a gybe out of land, slightly under the latitude of *Cape Cod Mark*. During pre-race preps I never got a routing solution that brought psail to gybe on the “geometrics” near *Cape Cod*. So, to some surprise, and for the sake of the overall Series points, I saw quite a lot of Ker’s making the SOTO’s and the Classy’s race near land.

The question with this kind of wind conditions sailed with a Ker or other boat, is how far have we to sail off to find out the right gybing mark?

After some tweaks, qT gave me a solution, the one I followed and proved to be correct.

Franci went for the “geometrics” and rafa to soon for the gybe SW, paying later both the price, one for the extra LP and the other for some “anticipation”, when crossing Monomoy behind.



NOAA Chart 13003, Scale 1.200.000 ( <http://www.charts.noaa.gov/RNCs/Agreement.shtml?13003>), Cape Sable to Cape Hatteras, courtesy of NOAA.

Just before the SW gybe, bonk was already in the would be front position, I remember commenting to Jan “on the radio”, and the top place was somehow quietly waiting for him, in spite of making the maneuver almost at the same time and, theoretically, on the better side.

The *Monomoy* geometric rounding was made in the final limits of the Ker VMG, Down target, leaving the remaining wind conditions some relief to try a last attack on bonk from the North through the TWA curve as the wind was veering clockwise till the next gybe, this one to be made already inside *Buzzards Bay* (after and NW of Uncatena Island). In this process I lost two places to jovi and Franci to regain it latter just before crossing *Timmy Point Shoal*.

But reaching Mr. Downwind Demon transom wave, aka bonk, was again Mission Impossible.

Helm on hand from *Monomoy* till the FL and, after the second gybe SW/W, an unbelievable "Samsung mistake" - off course the fault was only mine - leaved me out of position #2 while ruining my beautiful "curve" to Newport (jovi is the green path).



Yes, the final delta to jovi was a mere 16 seconds, the ones I lost previously in the forced "Zorro".

Congratulations to Jan and *jovi* because, not only they sailed faster but, didn't make any mistakes in the critical moments. The good'old "PRESSURE" I can hear Carlo saying with a smile.

To the remaining 40' Series fleet again my words: Huge Fun!  
Let's enjoy it.

O&O

João/psail