

Red Dot Leg 2 Nuuk to Barrow

Designing this race series has been interesting, and Leg 2 is the leg I was most anticipating. I tried hard to not put any required way points in any leg that would restrict a course, in my view the ocean is the course and winds are our guide. The artic is a place we rarely go and with no waypoints to restrict course I wanted a wide open artic to navigate.

I had ensured there was ample room and routes to choose from. Deliberately I left the start in a position for a possible route south of Nunavut, and ample room for a sail north of the Great Circle rhumb line. I was very pleased to see boats taking both options. Sadly both extreme routes were only flirted with in qTVLM routing as feasible with the winds. At one time it seemed the middle channel was good, another detouring North around some islands, but eventually it was decided and the middle was the way to go.

For Renegade the passage north from Nuuk up the Davis straight, to Baffin Bay was key. I had used a Wx the evening before (2 Wx before start) to set initial DC's and ended up heading a bit NE of most boats that choose that route. Then disaster approaching the channel, an hours long BBQ, the mid-channel passage was just as bad. Another BBQ on a SLI. Oops, should have checked for those, they always get you when you don't expect it. I was not the only one that had that same BBQ. There is definitely no advantage to designing a race and sailing it. Fortunately I was able to patch the hull in time to recover some positions and end with a decent 33rd.

All in all this was a great leg and I enjoyed it a lot. I hope whichever route you choose was a bit of an adventure and a lot of fun.

See you in Leg 3 when we begin the romp towards Panama via San Francisco.

Renegade
May 2017