

Race Report

Strutton to Cape Hope PYOC Sprint 2018

It's been a while since I last finished in the podium, let alone at the highest platform. The competition gets better every race, and no one can take for granted a win, I certainly don't.

This was a sprint. Straight line, pedal-to-the-metal type of race. No tacks, no gybes, and little course changes. Usually I don't do well on these situations. The reason I haven't done well in past sprints was, I believe, me constant rough change of course direction.

On this race, I changed my style! I set my game-plan just before the start and executed it to the 'Tee' regardless of what the other sailors were doing.

I have used routers for the last few races, and I was missing simple times. For this race, I fired up my laptop, clicked on the race and that was it. All I used was what you see on Sailonline graphic-user-interface. So, I needed a game-plan.

To me, it was clear that the fastest way was to go slightly East and arrive at the Northern island with tighter angles than the guys who went straight. So, I planned an arched path slightly East. The key word here is 'slightly'. Evidently it was hard to figured out how bent east I should go, but my guess was good.

When I checked the fleet, 'rafa' was even a bit east than me, and 'bonknhoot' was about in the same path. The leaderboard was showing I was at 26th place, but given who was around me, it gave me hopes.

Sure, and behold, 'rafa' and 'Zoe' got to the Northern island side-by-side, ahead of the fleet. From there, it was just two straight line paths. We both crossed the finish line virtually at the same time. The server decided that today it was my turn to win! 'Sadlersailing', 'NED_Arthur' and 'bonknhoot' crossed next.

Thanks to all sailors who participated. See you again next time.

Antonio / Zoe