

Race Report

Singapore Visit – 2018 40' Series Championship – Race 5

This is the Singapore race. Here on Sailonline we have sailed this same circuit once in the past. In 2009, 'brainaid' won the race in just over 22 hours on a Volvo-70. This time around the wind was so light that it took 'rafa' over 3 days to win the race on a Class-40.

Right out of the gate we all knew that this was going to be a slow race and the Class-40 indeed turned out to be the best choice. It should be mention that a few Soto-40 sailed well and with a chance to win as well. The mighty Farr400 was dead in the water and as I write this report none of them have finished the race.

The bulk of the fleet started the race heading south in search of wind. 'rafa' was one of the first to gybe west, 'Zoe' a few minutes later and the rest of the group kept heading south much longer. By the time we got close to the "Pulau Tioman" island mark the wind pretty much went from light to very-light.

As the wind started to fill back in 'rafa' pulled away and extended his lead. The group that went deep south were now coming up with a relative good breeze, led by 'LastCall' and 'Kipper'. I was in an odd position at that time; rafa's breeze hadn't fully hit me yet and the southern group were closing in fast near the island where the wind was stronger. I gybed away from the rhumb-line to cover, just in time to pick up some breeze and cross in front of 'LastCall' and 'Kipper'.

From there to the end the race was pretty much a parade, with few opportunities to pass.

The race was decided at "Pulau Tioman", and 'rafa' played his hand there extremely well and finished with a commanding 25 minutes lead. 'Zoe' crossed the line second, 'LastCall' and 'Kipper' next.

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

Antonio / Zoe