

San Diego Island Race 2019 – report.

You already know the tactics. Two points as in the report from Auckland are Tauranga 2019 Race.

So what's new? A few reflections and comments.

Great regret after the unsuccessful race Round Britain and Ireland 2019. It started very well but ended terribly. Also for many of you, this race was unlucky, Bonknhoot, Sassy63, Kipper1258 also Bimmer and Rafa (basically for all except the podium).

As in the IRL during sailing, a lot can happen. Some things are independent of us, others are the result of our inattention, weak or even bad preparation. Therefore, when the bad emotions related to the unsuccessful race Round Britain and Ireland 2019 fell, I decided to show myself mainly that it is possible to sail well.

I suspect that it was also an important race for the rest of the unlucky ones.

I spent a lot of time preparing for it. We established contact with Wolff and shared the observations and technical notes regarding the software. We agreed that the race is rather short and due to the announced weather conditions at a set route theoretically simple. The order on the first Catalina Offshore N mark will be very important. The last episode from Catalina Offshore S to the finish will be decisive. We have also determined that we will compare the routing we have developed to the first mark based on the last weather forecast before the start. The last forecast from 1630 and the start only at 2110. A lot of time for final preparation. (Wolff, thank you for the joint preparations.)

Of course, a new forecast should have been expected before the first mark was achieved, but it should not have a significant impact at this stage. I did not wait until the day of the start but I did simulations on earlier forecasts. They assumed a start in the W direction and then along the north bank and then turn to the first mark. Everything indicated that the distances between the players will be very small.

Finally, the last forecast indicated the start direction to S which greatly simplified the combinations under the north shore and at the same time required very precise settings to be the first on first mark. It took me a few hours to trim the route generated by qtVlm. Important was, literally, a part of the millimetre in the largest magnification of the map on the screen. Eventually the routing was fine-tuned and sent to Wolff for comparison. His routing showed a slightly worse position, despite of this Wolff was sailing according to his routing.

The plan worked and I was the first at the first mark. Here, unfortunately, I became distracted and lost my guard. I did not control how "Ij" was sailing. A minor mistake, it would seem to be on a banal leg Catalina Offshore N - S, cost me the loss of the position on the Catalina Offshore S mark.

"Ij" jumped forward and I saw his stern. I already wanted to start the engine but it was supposed to be a sports fair play competition.

After making sure that the majority chose the return on W, I focused on refining my route at the last stage, closely watching the actions of the leader. "Ij" sailed like the inspired and carried on the wings. On every course changing, I had a minimal loss for him.

In fact, I have already accepted the defeat. And here the amazing thing happened. After the last course change before the finish, "Ij", he was slightly ahead of me but also was little more to the north.

At first, we were sailing parallel courses. A spark of hope appeared in my heart because the angle of inclination of the finish line was so large that the geometry showed that my path to crossing it was a bit shorter.

I did not know, however, whether the system captures such differences. However, I had nothing to lose.

"Ij" probably discovered the same because he changed course slightly to the right so that he crossed the finish line in the same place as me. Practically nothing was clear until the finish line. Everything took place in the last meters. Unbelievable. For the thickness of the hair. "Ij", it was an amazing experience.

The most important reflection. You have to fight to the end !!!

WRmirekd, very, very 😊😊😊