

# SoCal 300 2019 – Report from outlaw

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This year's SoCal 300 turned out to be a nice cruise with conveniently timed waypoints, so I decided to give it a go. It started with a short upwind leg where I made the effort to tack closer to the coast, even if for a very marginal gain. Next came a 20nm stretch to Santa Cruz Island. I seem to have rounded in the lead, maybe a little later at night than ideal, but all going well.

On the overnight stretch to the NOAA buoy I started a little closer to VMG than most of the fleet. By going slower first I stayed in strong wind longer and was able to start the last leg with an okay lead. The last leg was a bit of an unknown with wind dying down later, but ultimately settled on a fast and straightforward finish. Unfortunately with a very early morning finish.

Miraculously I woke up within 5min of the final mark. Minor panic gybe aside - which honestly didn't cost much - I was down to third and 5 minutes behind. The time loss puzzles me tbh, probably a reverse of the previous leg, running too hot too soon and having too little wind later.

Congrats of course to SKOVSER and the winner ij, who was on my heels all the way and evidently spot on in the final night.

Outlaw /June 2019