

The competition is so stiff these days that in shorter races such as the Baltic 500 you need to stay on the ball for the duration. From the start I was within one tenth of a mile of quite a few other boats, in particular calmxy, jawz, starship and mirek. I have begun to find a way to get a route out of qtvln which is very close to max vmg when required and it was interesting to test it out in this race. I found that mirek was generally sailing a little more loosely and managed to eventually get the lead that way, whereas the rest of us were sailing on max vmg a lot more of the time...(tell me if I'm wrong guys)..just my observation.

Calmxy unfortunately fell by the wayside along with a few others who missed marks. I generally try to be a bit conservative with roundings and noticed that generally my DCs fired a bit early throughout this race, so conservative helps in those circumstances. However, approaching both Laeso W and Kiel Leuchtturm, my early-firing DC when already sailing max vmg meant I had to pinch to both marks letting jawz get very close.

Then, approaching Kiel I was inattentive and forgot to update my approach, which was a safety first conservative one. I came back to the computer to polish up the approach just in time to watch my DC fire whilst the others sailed on into better winds and angles, so there was no undoing that unfortunate tack, but I had just enough time to hold jawz out in the beat to the line. Mirek was as usual uncatchable for me! Thanks all for the close racing.