

## NEWPORT BERMUDA 2020



As a member of the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club I know how much the Newport Bermuda Race means to both the club and the island. Usually I come to Bermuda to volunteer at the Club during the race. I was not able to come to Bermuda so far this year due to COVID-19 but hopefully that will change soon.

What did it take to finish on the podium in this event?

I just kept an eye on the updating weather forecasts with an alarm set for the updates and then navigated accordingly. We are seven hours ahead of the east coast of the US here in the Middle East but the time zone seem to work quite well for the weather updates. My client here in Qatar was supportive and let me put the track up on the big screen at work (see photo attached).

How might you have navigated differently if you could do it over?

Obviously coming third there is still room for improvement but overall I was happy with my track.

Was this your first SOL race, and what kind of sailing do you do IRL?

When I saw the race was being run as a virtual race I thought I would enter as I have been getting a little bit of training (on the quiet evenings) with my other club, the Royal Thames Yacht Club. I sail on Colgate 26 boats here in Qatar; in the UK a race with the younger members of my club on J70s when I get chance. I might even consider buying one of the smaller Dehler 29's to use when back in Bermuda.

Thanks for everyone who organised this unique event. I will look forward to meeting face-to-face with some of the competitors in 2022.