

## **The Tall Ships Races 2020 – Race 2 – Cadiz to Sagres**

This was an interesting race to sail in my time zone with a start and finish, as it turned out, in the middle of my night.

However the light breezes at the start left plenty of time for resetting once I was awake, and I could sail north west with the fleet towards the first major course change near land. Dikke was already out to a good 2 minute lead so I was focussed on those around me, and had the Aussie daylight to try to gain some time back whilst Europe and parts of America were asleep.

Twenty four hours later and by the time it got to the final tacks near shore before the windward leg out to the finish, night time was again approaching but I could see I'd need to set some maxvmg DCs to fire while I was asleep. I don't usually like to do this with DCs especially in light variable breezes as things can go drastically wrong. On the other hand, not sailing to maxvmg through the tacks would certainly have lost me ground.

I woke up to find that they had worked and luckily I had held off nacrr and picked about the right spot on the finish line to gain a few seconds back on Dikke. A very well sailed race from Dikke with never a wrong move, so congrats and sorry I wasn't there at the finish to congratulate you then.

Well sailed too nacrr and all in the top 10.

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