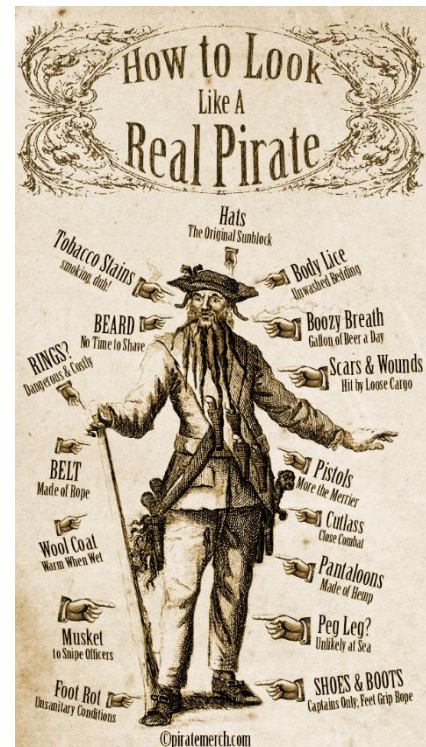# Carib Rum Run 2020 - Race report

By Davy "Scoundrel" Dankin

10 – 25 (and more) September 2020

For two weeks I have been dressed as a pirate, people on the street point their fingers at me, the police check whether I have a gun permit. It's good that the race is over because rum has finished in my harbour (local store) and a trip to another harbour will take too much time. 😊😊😊😊😊

Just like last year, the race had a few surprises.

The beginning did not predict any surprises and everyone took the right course. After the first WX change, my AGL unexpectedly lost the ability to connect to the server. Unfortunately, no one in the chat answered my query. 🙁 I was very seriously thinking about withdrawing from the race.

The next two changes of WX I sailed as SOPOT.

Unexpectedly, I got two free hours and took a careful look at the problem. It turned out that suddenly my firewalls were blocking responses from the SOL server.
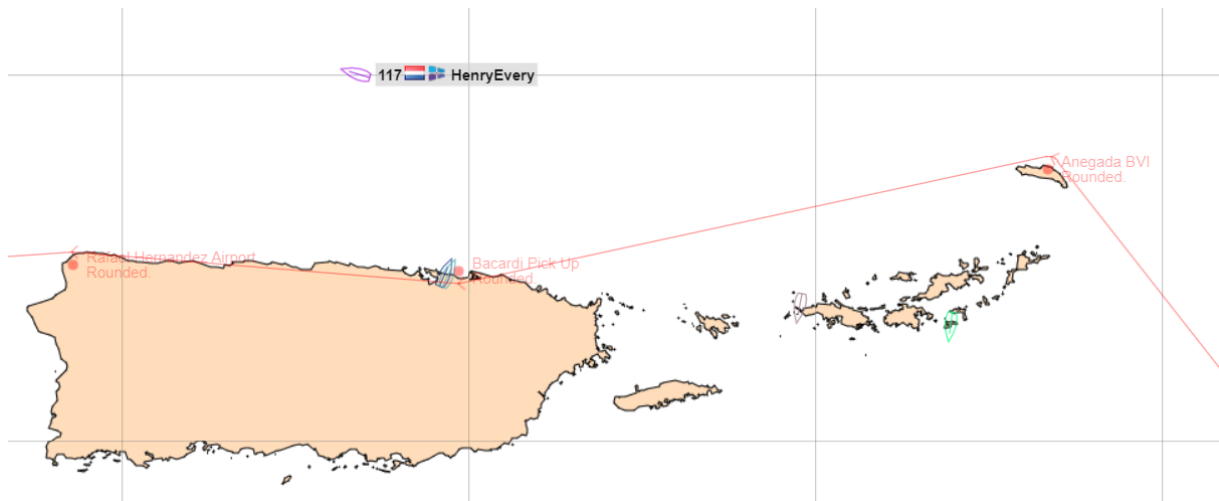
I regained the benefits of using AGL.

It was the first good news and the second was that I was 3rd or 4th in the race rankings.

For sure there was **Aner59** (later renamed Trapelicino) and a very dangerous pirate **Henry Every**, better known as **Bonknhoot**.

Subsequent changes in WX indicated high stability of forecasts, which explained my good position.

Henry Every left "Bacardi Pick Up" and decided not to repeat the manoeuvre, retiring from the race after a while.
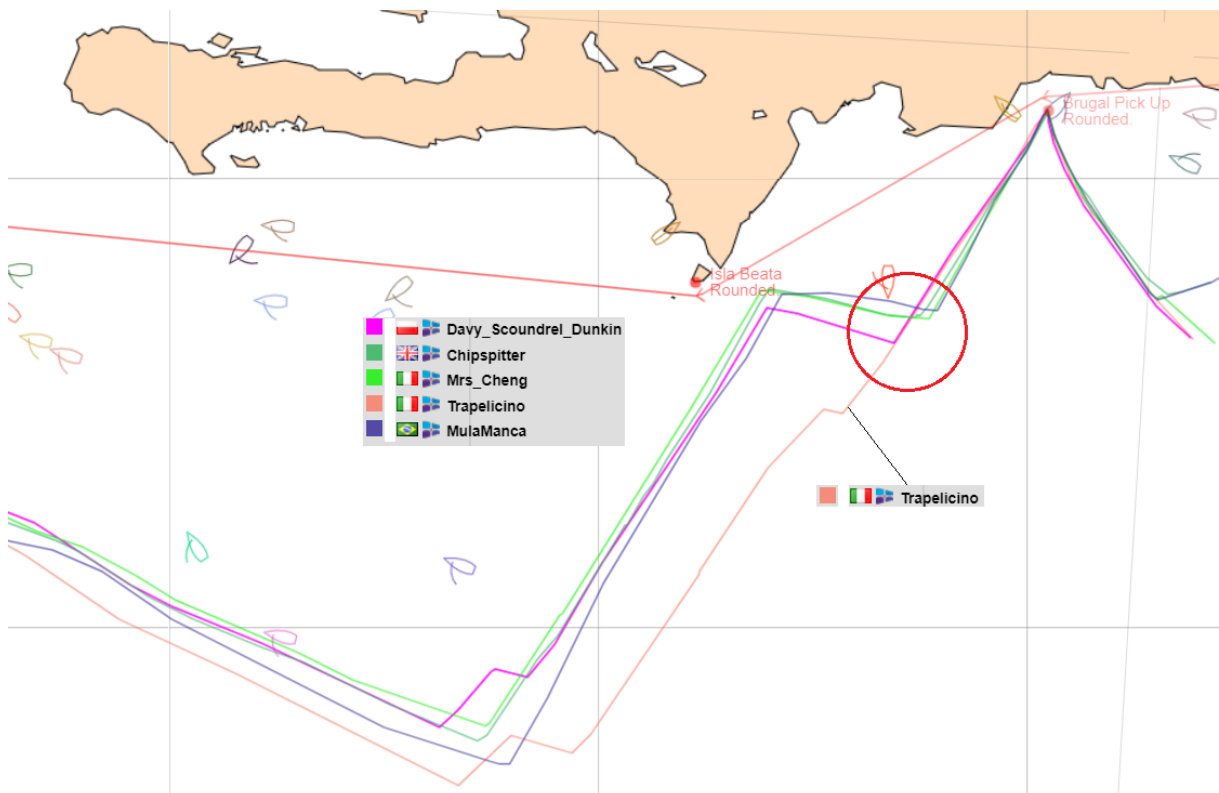
Maybe if he noticed his mistake earlier, he would decide to continue participating in the race.

This is how I became number 2.

Nothing special happened to „Brugal Pick Up" and there were practically no opportunities to overtake the perfectly sailing **Aner59** (Trapelicino).

As a well-known scoundrel in the world of pirates, I offered **Trapelicino** (Aner59) a deal in exchange for the first place at the finish line.
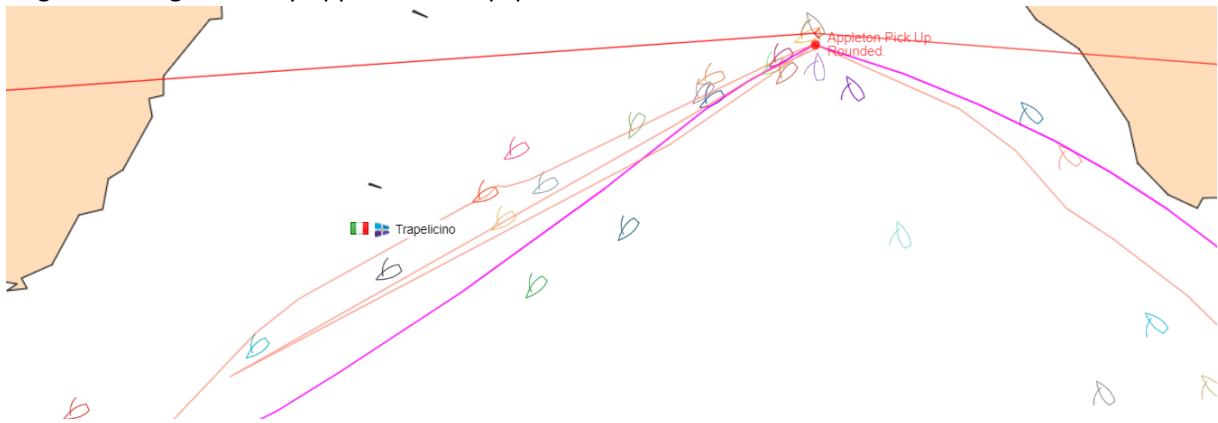
Strange things were already starting to happen behind the „Brugal Pick Up". The QTVLM router starts to be crazy. I wasn't paying attention to it because I was busy fighting **Trapelicino** (Aner59).

When he didn't turn west, I thought this was a chance to take the lead. Subsequent changes to WX gave very different results. Even **Trapelicino** advantage of up to 2.5 hours on the „Appleton Pick Up". Finally, I was at „Appleton Pick Up" a few minutes before **Trapelicino**.

These drastic changes in the calculation results during the next WX started to worry me a lot. Not plus or minus 10 minutes but a few hours !?

It was going to be an interesting race. And here an unexpected thing happened. **Trapelicino** turned too early on Appleton Pick Up, losing a chance to continue fighting for the win. I was left alone with a huge advantage over my opponents. Chipspitter came in second.

Already in Cancun, I found out that he had problems with the discipline of the crew. It is punishable to sleep on watch and additionally avoid the designated navigation sign. There is also a question what was the Captain doing not to allow such terrible neglect? Too much of confidence for the first officer and the debauchery on board, don't be afraid to say it. (I speak now like a maritime chamber court).

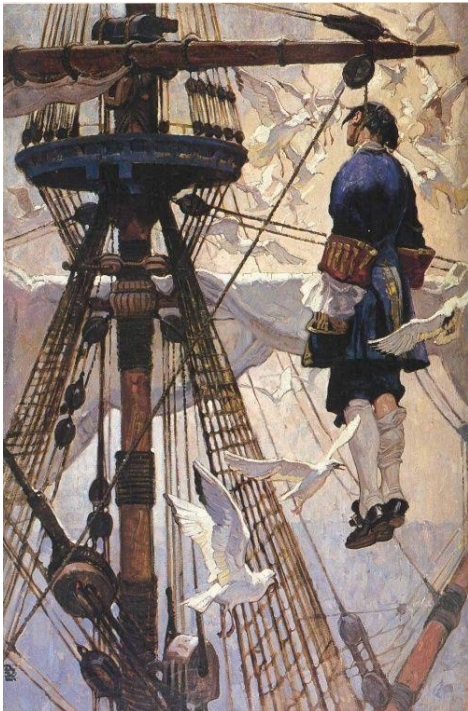After all, we have excellent methods of disciplining the crew:

1. Whipping

2. Keelhauling (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keelhauling)

3. And for reluctant, especially officers - hanging in the yard.

The crew will happily accept the order to hang the first officer, because he is not Captain yet, but already a pig.

Since we have already explained the matter of command, it is left for the captain to make the right decision, often involving a very high risk.

If it will be good, everyone will admire it. If it turns out to be bad, there will be many advisers and wise men.
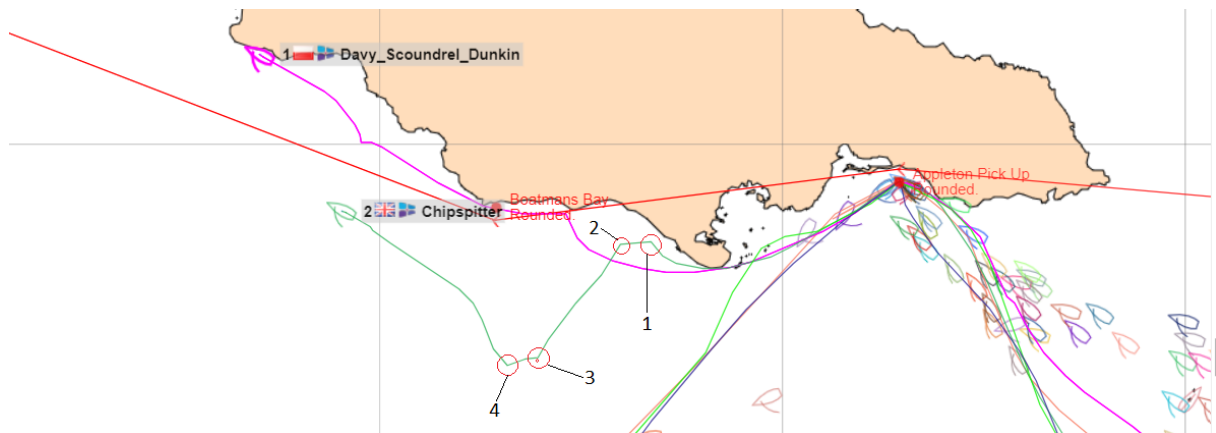
It's easy to judge after the fact, having all the information.

Hope you know what I mean.

That's why I don't judge Chipspitter and others. It's their decisions.

I really wanted to say something to Chipspitter but I abstained. What if my predictions turned out to be wrong?
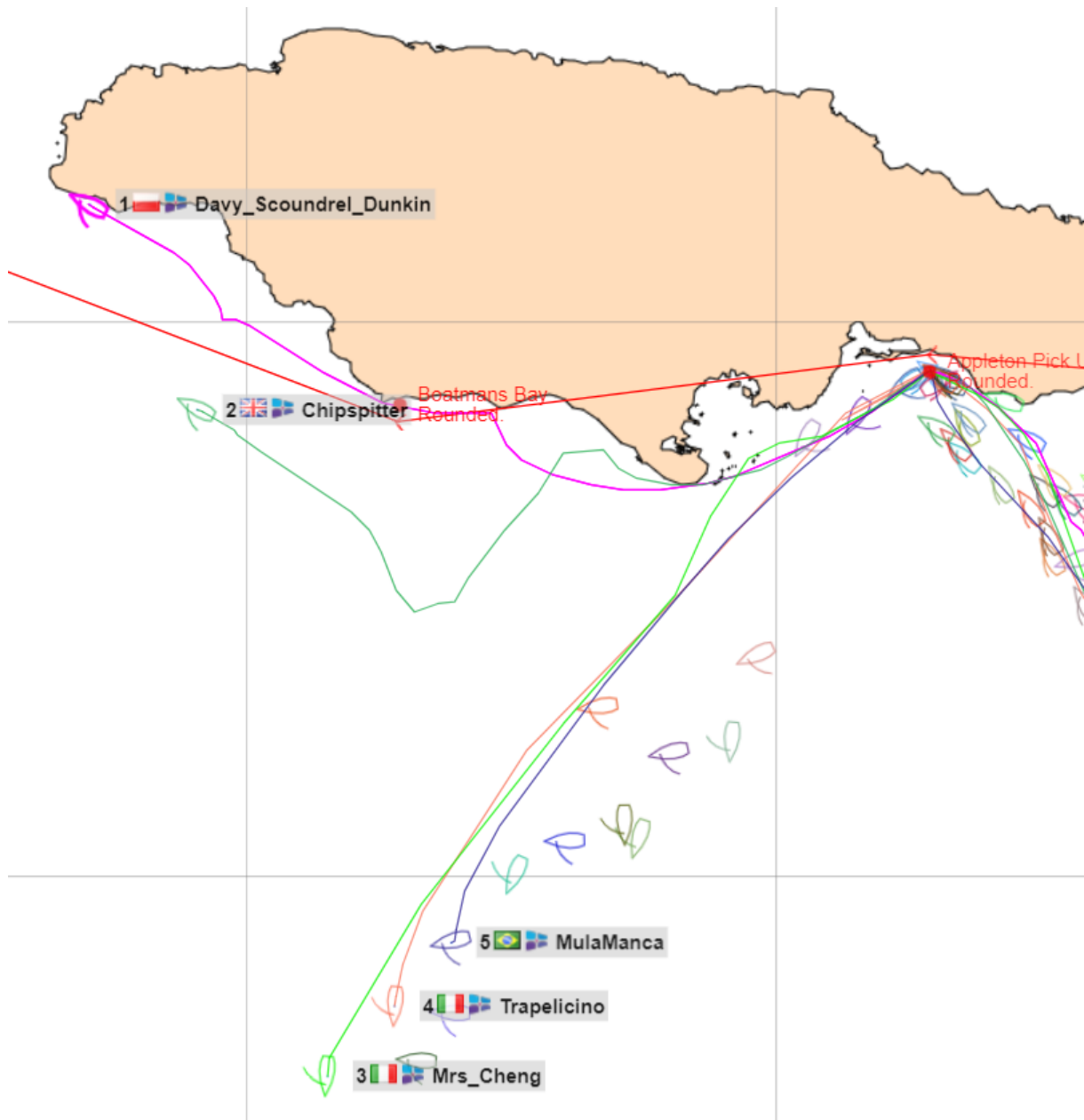
I watched with heartache as he struggled with the decision for North or South.

1. Likely abbreviation route according to sytuation (acceptable).
2. This is a strategic point. **Chipspitter** decided SW.
   My router told me to go south. When I did the simulation, **Chipspitter** and others were ahead of me at the finish line by several minutes.
3. I do not know. No final decision.
4. Final NORD decision. Should be taken in step 2.

Chipspitter, I am very sorry if I misinterpret your decisions. That's how I understood them. Only you can explain it to us. Hope you will write your report. I really respect you as an opponent and I regret you left me alone 😊.

Coming back to point 2.

Changing the course to SW only made my situation worse.

Here, the pirate **Henry Every** probably helped me unknowingly. By writing in chat for the Silverrudder 2020 race.

I got a sudden revelation. I remembered that a year ago, in the same place, the fleet had problems choosing the next route. In addition, I was writing a report then.
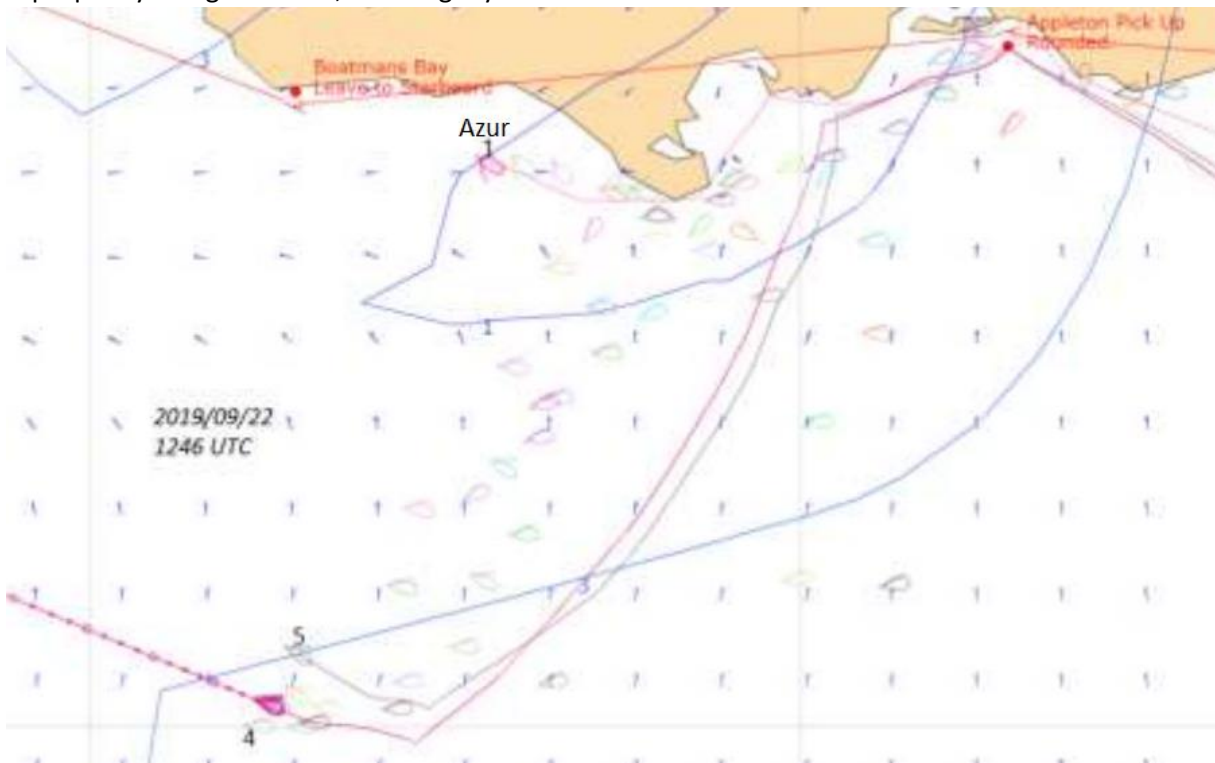
I found it in the archives and everything became clear.

I decided to take a risk and put it all on one card, **NW**. In spite of the router's indications.

It was this strategic decision for which the crew will love you even if you apply drastic penalties to the rebels as mentioned above, or hate it for the same if the decision turns out to be wrong.

And here my story actually ends. The decision turned out to be right, which was confirmed by the next WX.
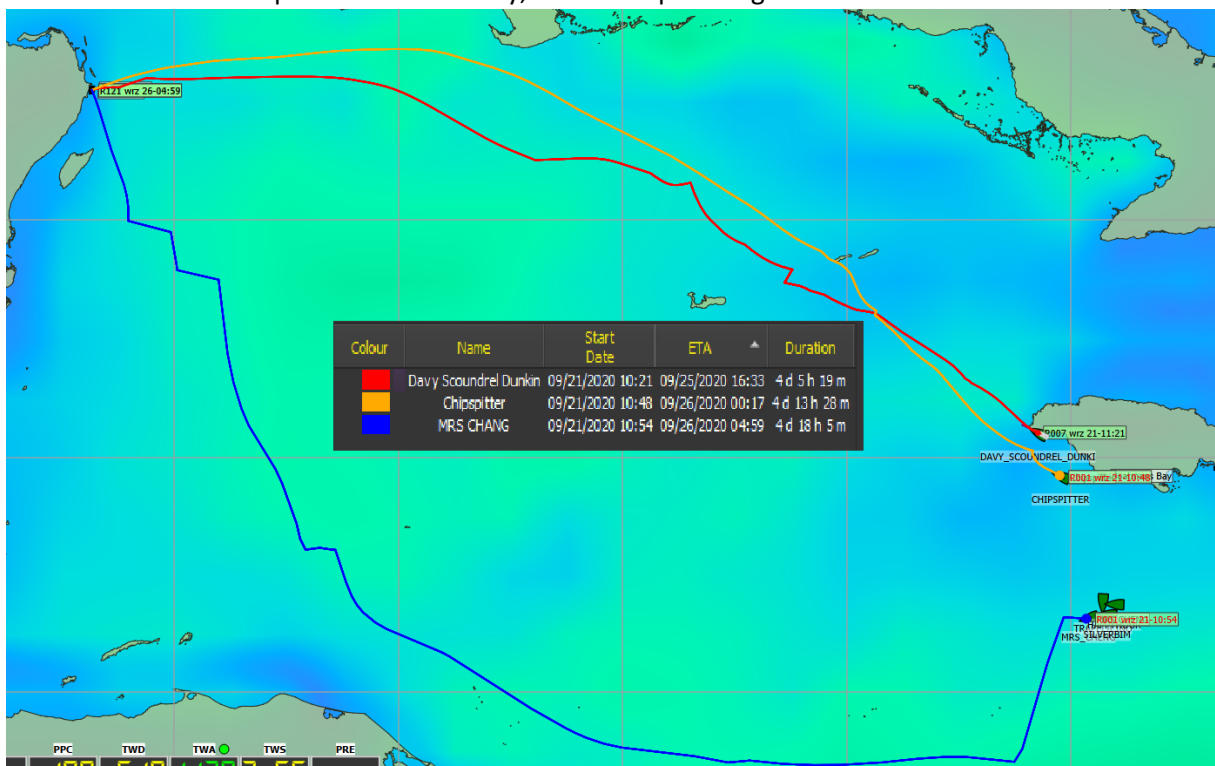
I will mention one more pirate from last year, **AZUR**. See the report from the 2019 race, there he slips quietly along the coast, arousing my concern.

Thanks AZUR, your decisions also convinced me to choose NW.

You know what happened. A huge advantage confirmed by subsequent simulations when WX changes. The crew carried me on hands. I ordered to open one barrel of rum but reminded of the penalties. The steersman was so excited that he did not drink any quarters.

So it has to be. The ship is not a democracy, and the captain is god here.

It was already boring. The advantage was so great that I stopped worrying about the little things.

Colour	Name	Start Date	ETA	Duration	Ortho distance	Sailed Distance
🟥	Davy_Scoundrel_Dunkin	09/22/2020 16:20	09/25/2020 01:04	2 d 8 h 12 m	373.09 NM	416.50 NM
🟦	Chipspitter	09/22/2020 16:33	09/25/2020 18:55	3 d 2 h 21 m	427.60 NM	442.10 NM
🟨	Mrs_Cheng	09/22/2020 16:41	09/26/2020 06:34	3 d 13 h 53 m	503.58 NM	586.45 NM

Amazing race. When I think that I wanted to withdraw at the beginning, one thing comes to my mind

We fight to the end.

Thanks all SOL'ers for racing, and SOL Team for their work.

Davy Scoundrel Dunkin/WRmirekd/Mirek/Miro 😊

26 września 2020.