

Pacific Ocean Christmas Island to Indian Ocean Christmas Island, C2C race 1413,

Reporter wsguerin finished 101st but led the Southern fleet to the line ahead of Davidsailor26, Scuppers and a host of others.

I haven't done a report in quite awhile feeling I had little to offer from my too inconsistent finishing positions. The reports of others are often intimidatingly stellar with notes obviously kept, synthesized, and analyzed. They kept me thinking why didn't I see that? Am I following qtVlm too slavishly and not going SOP "rogue" enough? And while my results don't dramatically show a talent for routing or SOP, I nonetheless truly enjoy the camaraderie, knowledge, and tips that many offer.

So, in the spirit of the holiday, and with Rainbow Chaser's encouragement, I expanded my mid-race doggrel into a report of sorts.

To the tune of Jingle Bells

Dashing through the sea
In a carbon-fiber sled
O'er the waves I'll be
Is that blue-goo up ahead?

Boats with polars tight
Can I ever be as bright
As Bonk-n-hoot and all the rest
Sing a drinking song tonight

Oh... S O L, S O L
Racing all the way
Oh what fun this maxi is
If I only knew which way, hey

S O L, S O L
Staying up all night
Oh what fun this big boat is
Qt tells me what's right

The start was weeks ago
Routings said "go north"
I saw the crowd there go
So South I sallied forth

Mire-kid was a-long side
"I'm right, ok" I sighed
But he peeled off and left me 'lone
A drink now we imbibe

Oh... S O L, S O L
My routings gave me hope
South-ern fleet was right on track
But Qt then said "nope"

S O L, S O L
Noumea passed at night
20 knots for days on end
Then 'cross Australian Bight

While far to north winds blew
And boats fought for the lead
The Southern fleet got goo
ETA's began to bleed

From east and north boats chased
T'ward the line, who had the pace
To beat Nordee ('twas not to be)
She won the Christmas race!

Oh, S O L, S O L
Podium is now complete
Nordee, Aner, Dicky-henk
'twas really quite a feat

Oh, S O L, S O L
It takes a lot of time
To write reports that are not dull
So I wrote this as a rhyme!

Fairer winds in the New Year all!

*PS: Wikipedia has an interesting article on the song Jingle Bells https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jingle_Bells
Written in 1857 in Boston, there are many versions including a French take on it called "Vive le vent"
("Long Live the Wind")*