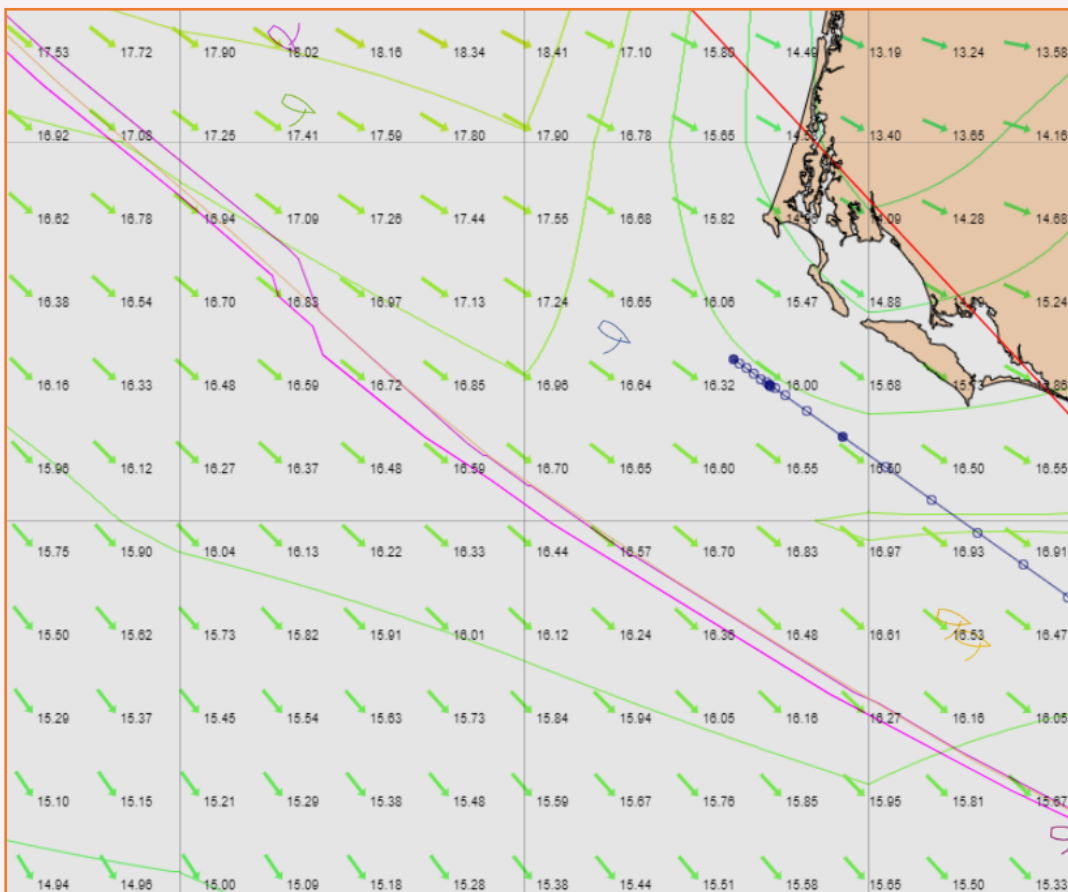


Newport Beach to Cabo San Lucas International Yacht Race 2021

My strategy from the start was to stay as wide (low) as possible to have a better angle at the end of the race. It was challenging at times to not change tactics, and get a stronger place in the standings early, but I have learned (some) patience, and still continue to build on my experiences from other races. This race was particularly challenging because the polar did not show a significant angle to drive in at the end. You had to play it slow and methodical which Chipspitter and WRmerikd did amazingly well. I am sure that they both saw what I call my triple D mistake, when I did a “Dumb Double Drop” at one of the wx updates. I will blame that on a fuzzy sleepy brain, in reality though, I saw the opportunity to drop down and reacted without really thinking through it. I gybed to starboard, and a few minutes later realized I was going too wide and gybed back to port, then max VMG until I was able to regroup and set a solid course before I went back to my bunk frustrated, and of course wide awake!

Throughout the race I was concerned about going too wide, as some other boats did, but as you can see in the one screenshot (I pulled after the race), Chipspitter stayed a little windward of me, with WRmirekd, and they were able to capitalize on my errors. Mirek and Chip sailed a great race, and I am very pleased to finish on the podium with them.



My key takeaways are to stay calm, take advantage of little opportunities, but ALWAYS try to stick to my original strategy, as hard as that may be. Lastly, think through my moves before I make them, especially in the middle of the night or before the brain fog lifts!

Freyja/Doug