

Race report "Agage 50 2019"

I am not a fan of writing and it is for me a real effort to write a race report, especially in English. Nevertheless, as I so very much enjoy the friendship of so many nice people at SOL, I make this effort here to thank you all for everything you do, relying on Google Translate to turn my words into English, with assistance from SOL's editor set in Eras Light IT font.

I signed up for this race because firstly the schedules were nice for a Frenchie like me (departure 18h00 local - arrival around 00h00-00h30 local), but also because this race made me relive a very good memory: the 20th July 2014 (already 5 years old). I won the race "AGage 100", 3 equidistant legs of c 33.3nm each, ahead of bonknhoot (already him) and rumskib. It was my first victory. I still remember the congratulations from bonknhoot for my perfect rounding at the 2nd mark!

To return to the race of 2019, this time I could not do better than 3rd to 8 seconds behind Ricotina and bonknhoot who finished in the same second, separated by the computer.

After a ride north to North Haven, without much interest, we went on for Seacliff Offshore with several options, one: direct spike, another: halfway, the third: a little further offshore and then dive with more speed for the mark. I chose the middle option.

At the mark, from memory, there was Ricotina, bonknhoot, knockando and Winston with very little difference. I had been 0.02 miles behind bonk at the first mark and was now 0.04 mile after mark 2 despite having once again rounded very well. I was disappointed.

Rico was heading north while bonk, knock and winston were following a similar, more direct route, with two gybes to predict. It was there that we should not miss.

At the last gybe, bonknhoot in the lead, knock in 2, winston in 3 who then tries to go up a little further north to surprise us. I thought it would be between bonk and me, we had forgotten Rico, I did not think he would catch us. But at the finish: 1st Rico, 2nd bonknhoot in the same second, 3rd knockando at 8 seconds, 4th Winston at 15 seconds. The end was exciting, as often in these sprints, that require you to fight for a good place till the very end.

Thanks to the organizers of SOL, it's really great.

knockando60 / July 2019