

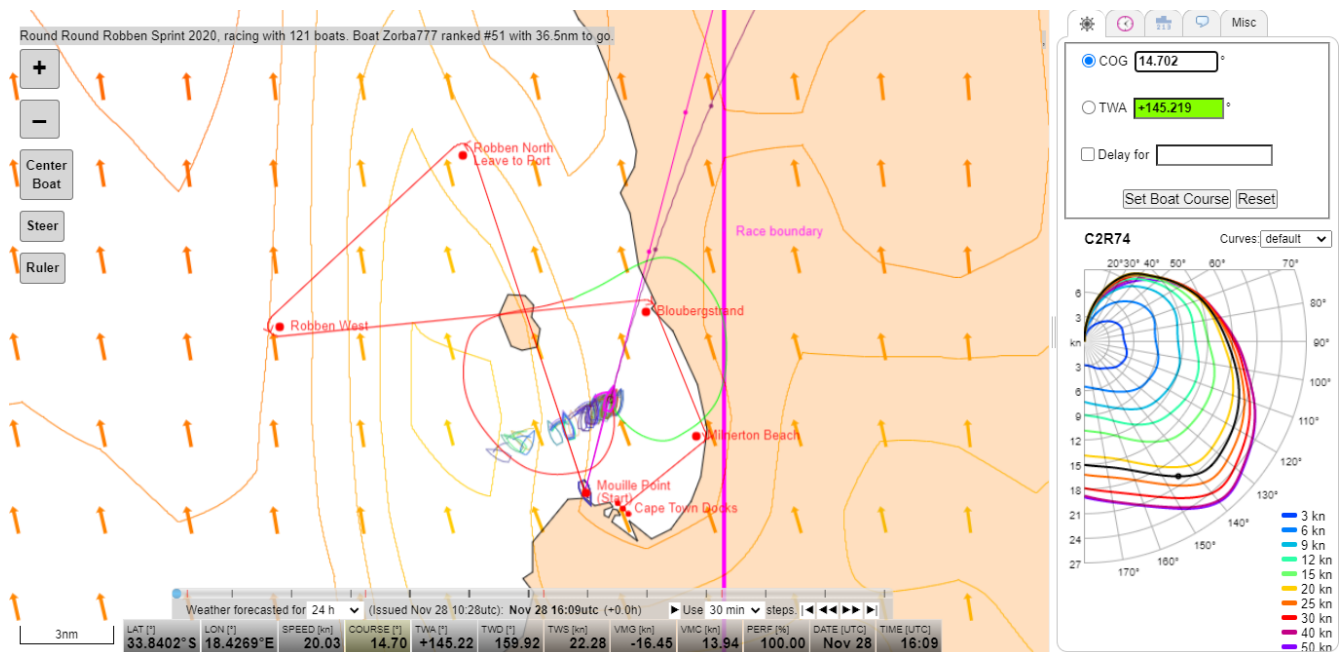
# Round Round Robben Sprint 2020 – Report by Zorba777

A nice 26Nm sprint race in which we got to test the new C2R74 boat polar that will be used for the upcoming Cape Town to Rio race that will be held next year.

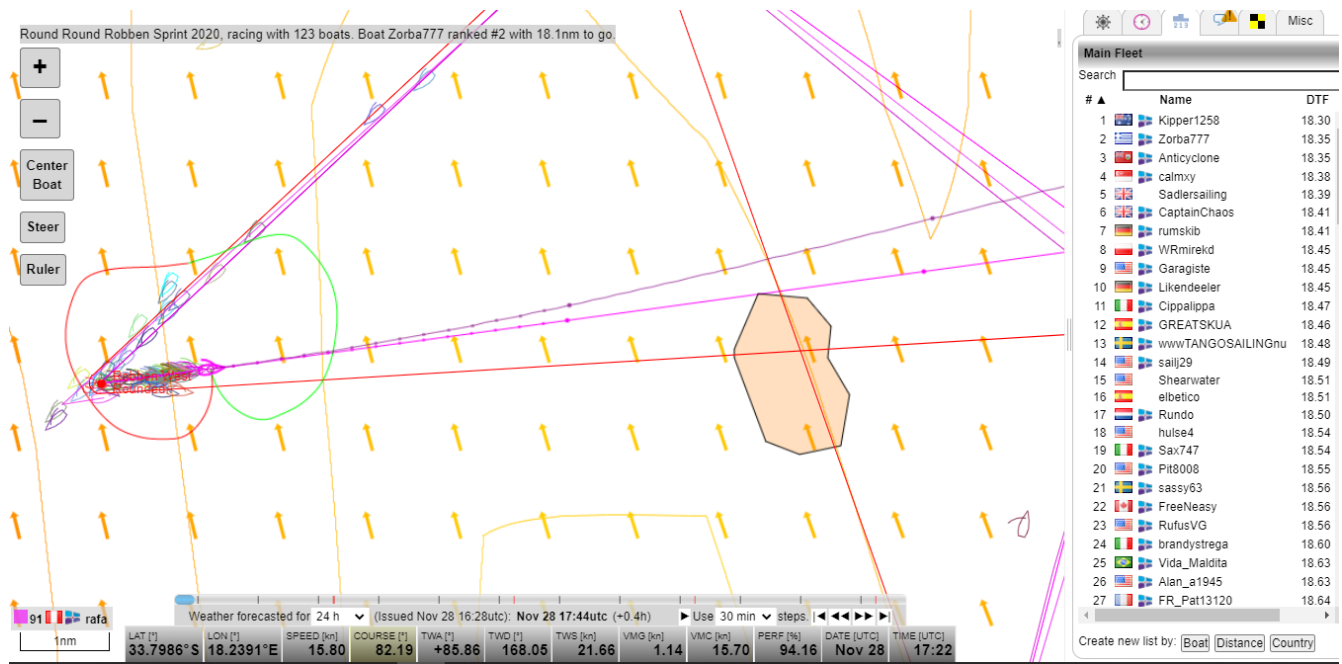
So, I joined in after seeing strong winds that would make it a very fast sprint.

I only made a few screens, as there was little time to do it. A race like this requires concentration and steering very close to the buoys. There was only one upcoming WX update that could throw a spanner in the works, but it didn't cause any changes.

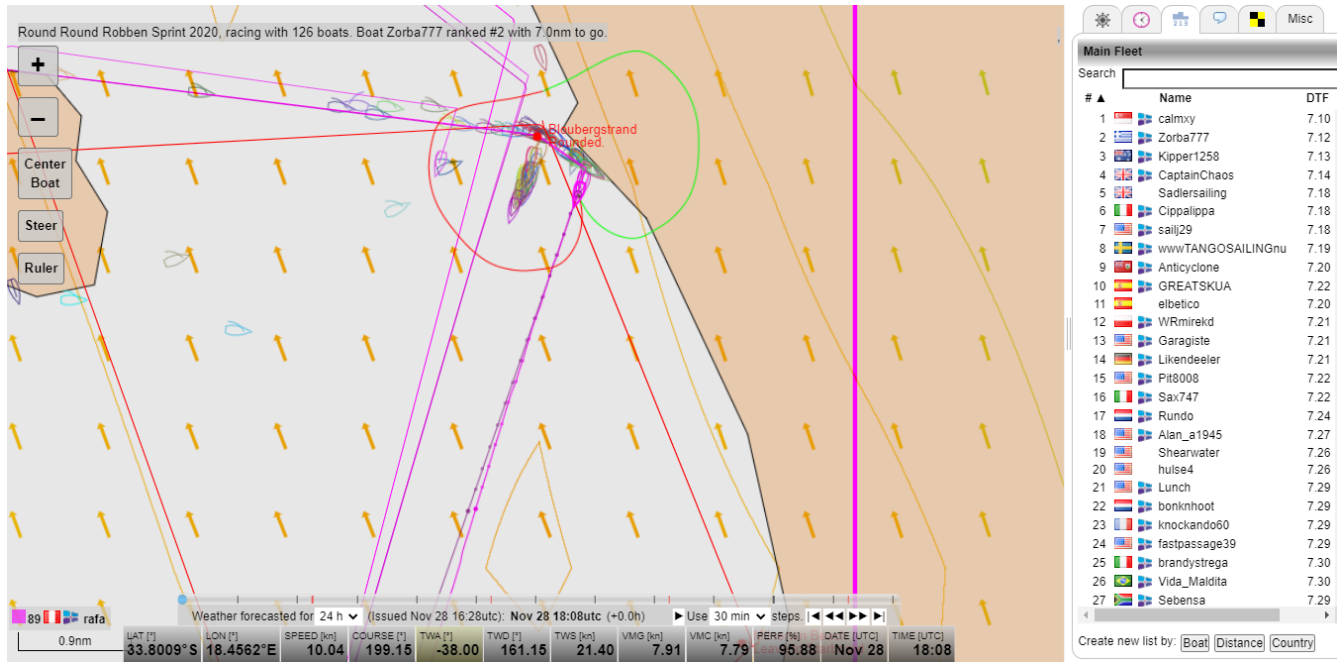
1 - Right after the start. Going towards the stronger winds near max VMC to set up for the gybe towards Robben North, the first buoy:



2 – Just after the 2<sup>nd</sup> buoy, Robben West, I had climbed into second place, just behind Kipper. It takes a bit of calculated risk at those buoys. I think it's very hard to win a sprint like this without going very close to the buoys. And sometimes it will go wrong. Rafa was one of the early victims in this case. His race was over. How close to go? There is probably no fixed formula. I use the ruler tool to know in advance the COG direction I want to hit right on the buoy. I do set a DC that will fire 15 or 20 seconds after the buoy. But I am ready to send a direct command as soon as see my boat past the buoy on max zoom. That DC will fire too, but that's not a problem.



3 – On to the tack at Bloubergstrand. There was a tactical option here. Kipper was leading at this buoy and tacked right away. I opted to continue for the beach on max VMG, which gave me an easier turn at the buoy and would put my boat in slightly stronger winds 15 minutes later. This kind of small details can make the difference between finishing top 3 and finishing top 20:

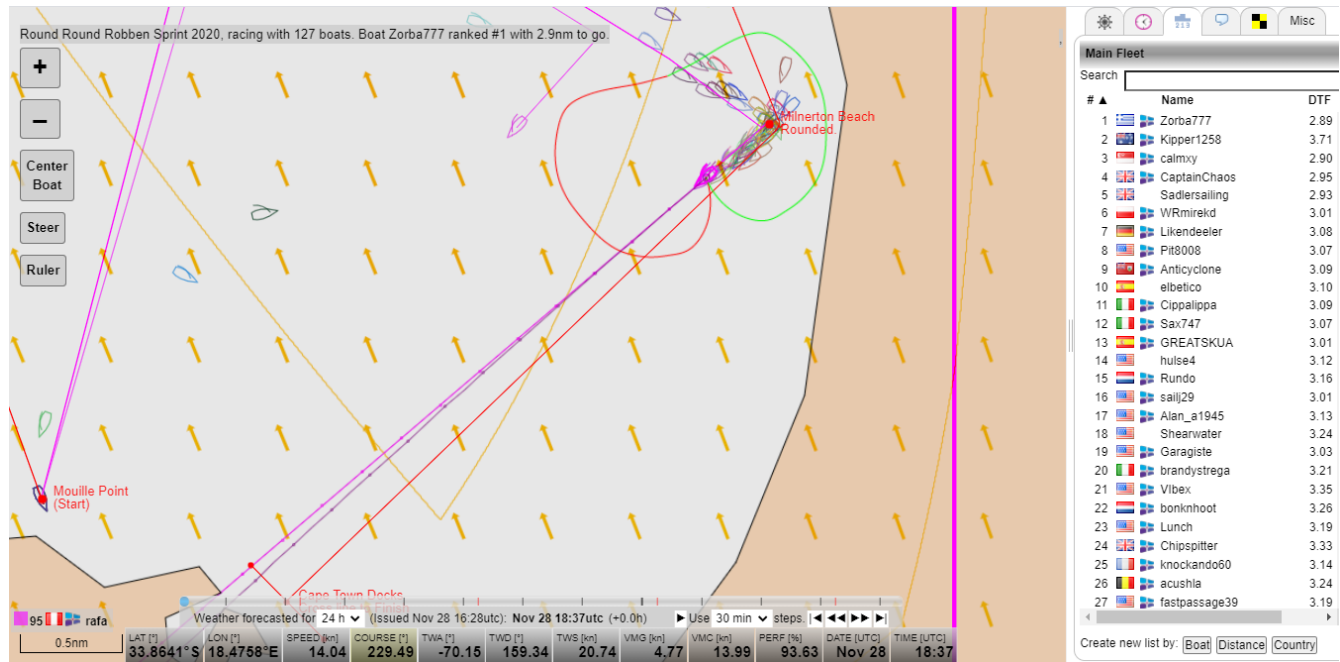


4 – Final buoy at Milnerton beach. I didn't see a chance to win, but place 2 or 3 was still possible.

Do or die. I basically turned right on the buoy, hoping that it would show "Rounded". It did. Kipper, who looked like a safe winner at that point, was not so lucky and missed it.

Unexpectedly I was suddenly in the lead, but that was not to last as Calmxy had a slightly better wind angle, which was enough to overtake. Sadlersailing would come very close too.

We finished on the same time to the second, but the server put me on second place and Sadler third.



Exciting sprint race that was decided on a knife-edge.

There is also a nice timelapse video made by Bimmer, which you can check out here: <https://youtu.be/3s9yrXiUowY>

Congrats to my fellow podium friends and thanks to all. See you.

Zorba777