

The fleet was compact until the exit from the Malacca Strait. I take care in avoiding the calm wind area near the coast and exit in good position from the strait.

Then a group of skippers including some Italian strong skippers as Aner, Ricotina and Sax decided to try a route leaving Sri Lanka on the left side but I preferred made less distance and left it on the right and that revealed to be the best option.

In the next phase of the race me and other boats as Scarabocchio and Zorba decided to try the west route as also the gribbs were suggesting it as possible option.

Unluckily the following WX showed a big high pressure area straight on our route so I decided to move to east also if I was aware that I would be in a very unfavorable position. In fact the leading pack was around 10 miles in my front when I finally reached the east route.

Scarabocchio was very able to move to East not so fast as me and trying to reduce the lost.

Other skippers as Zorba and Bonk insist on the west.

Luckily for me in the following hours the wind was dropping for the leaders and made possible for me to reduce a lot the distance.

From this moment I start to have some hopes to be able to re-enter in the first positions, but my objective was to finish in the first 10. I concentrate on the polars to pull out from the boat the max speed.

Approaching Kish Island a group of skippers choose to pass it on the right side looking for stronger wind I think, but the winning option was to stay on the left.

After Kish followed Hasty going to a South route and coasting along Arabian coast and staying in the leading group.

In the final we had to go upwind to reach the finish line and that was a very interesting phase of the race where Hasty was near but not reachable and me, Dingo and Sliderule fighting for the podium. In particular me and Dingo had a very thrilling tacking battle. At the end due less tacking maneuvers by my side I was able to gain the second place and Dingo (such a strong opponent) finish in third.

Thanks to the organizers of this amazing race and to Dingo for not leaving me relax me until the end of the race!