

## **Worst Podium Finish Ever!**

The Lake Khovsgol Ice Race 2023 was a pure nightmare throughout, but I just stuck to the basics, never (really) looked to my standings as I went through the race and kept a close eye on my closest competition, Mirek! At one point he was .20 miles ahead of Freyja, or about an hour and a half based on my current boat speed. The beautiful thing, was when you had more than 2 knots of breeze the ice boat made some good forward progress. I was perfectly content with “just finishing the race” at many points, but in an effort to do the best I could, I just tried to keep going in the right direction toward where there might be a puff of breeze that could get me to the finish line.

I did not lose any sleep over this race. I knew it was going to be painfully slow right from the start. On the first night I sent a message to Pit8008 via text that if I hit the shore, “Just leave me there” and “Don’t bother calling me”, as I wasn’t going to lose sleep over this race that should have been over before my head ever hit the pillow! Well, I didn’t hit the shore and continued on side by side with Mirek pretty much the entire race. The greatest aha moment was that with zero performance loss you were able to tack or gybe as much as necessary which is something that I have never experienced to this degree. Letting your course just go was very hard to do, I just let it go having 45 tacks in 60 minutes many times throughout the race which was the strangest thing to ever complete.

Congratulations go out to everyone that finished this race, but special congrats to Mirek and Vida for continuing to keep me in fine company!

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