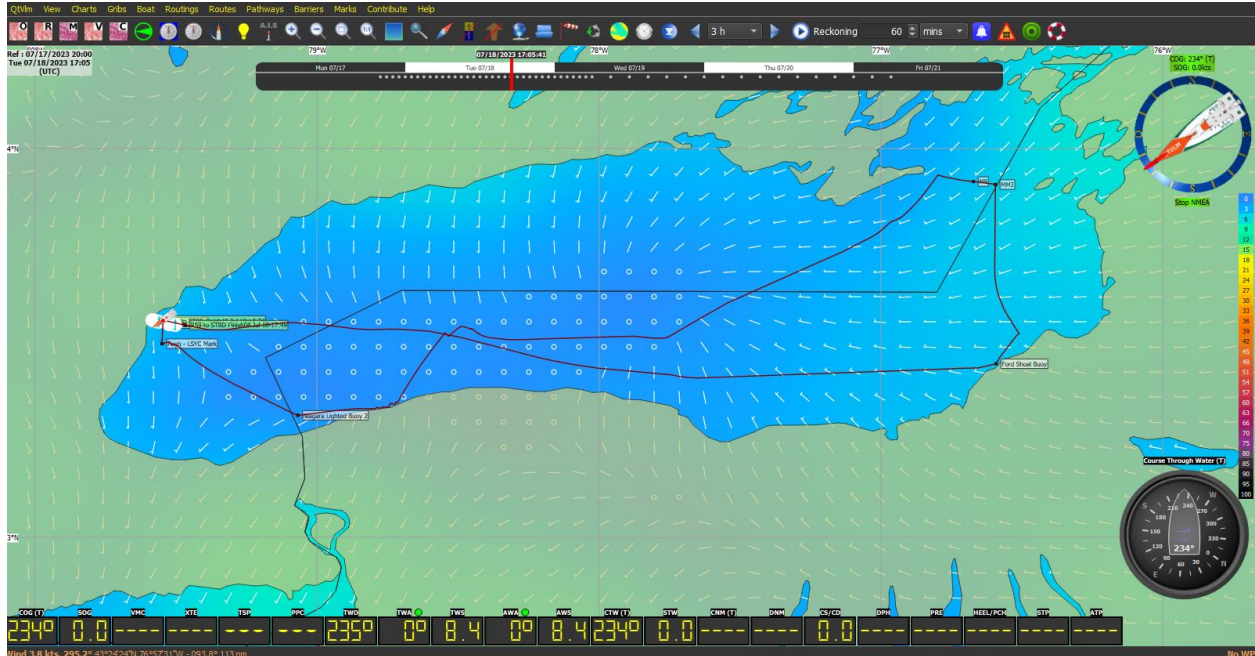


Satori's Report on 2023 Lake Ontario 300 Race For SOL

As usual a great race, thanks to LOOR and SOL, in the shifty winds of Lake Ontario.

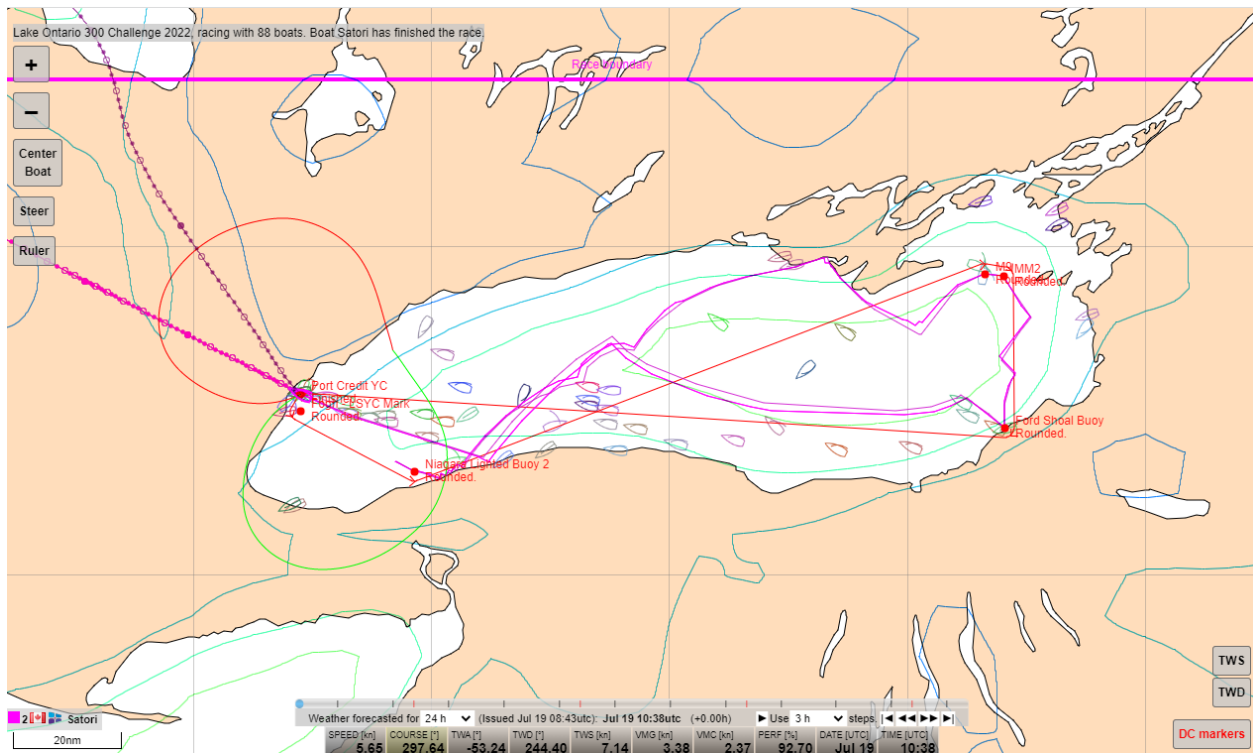
On-the-water, of the 63 boats racing, Neptune's Car was the 1st 36.7 to finish in 2d 11h 59m 56s, which was 4h 38m 22s behind our SOL winner Sax747. Neptune's Car would have placed 19th on SOL. I understand that we SOLers may have missed a lot of rain!

Satori's 2023 course as recorded in Qtvlm (in winds at the time I took the screen print post-race)



The Race was considerably faster than in 2022. Satori finished a little over 14 hrs sooner. By comparison here is Satori's course in 2022 together with 2022 Leader Vita Maldita. The 2022 course for the Leaders was more complicated as the Chutes and Ladder winds of the Lake revealed themselves.

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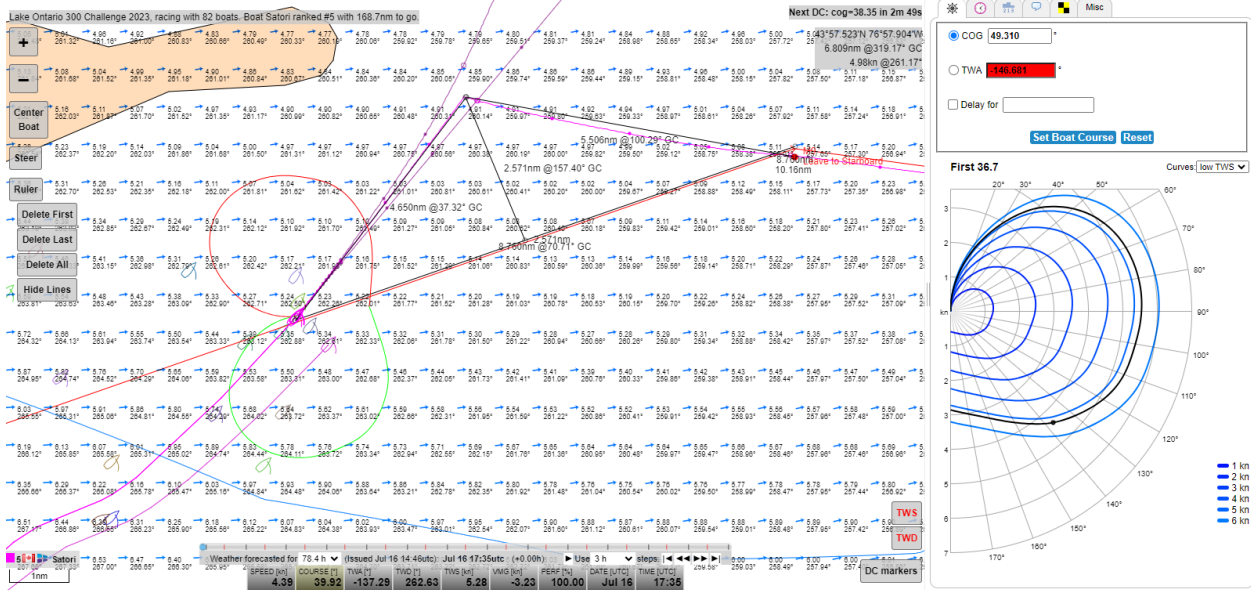
It looks like those later on the course where encountering some of these unappreciated wind changes. I hope one of them writes a Race Report.

At the Fogh LSYC Mark there was still the counter intuitive tack north-east before heading south to Niagara.

Thank goodness there was not the same tacking along the south shore on the return Leg from the Ford Shoal this year. However, the same cannot be said for the Leg from Niagara to M9. Satori put in 23 tacks along the south shore after rounding the Niagara Lighted Buoy. As I recall this was about twice the number required in 2022 in a similar course along the south shore. At this point Satori was in 10th place after having been in 3rd place. Not from the tacks but from the same mistake made twice, as I remove the mental rust from lack of racing. I was using a Pathway in QtvIm and I forgot to remove passed marks before transferring a new route to SOL via AGL. Of course, both times the new route turned Satori around 180° to return to the passed marks. I had to do this twice before getting the message! I am not sure why I didn't remember this lesson from earlier days on SOL. Oh yes, this happens to 83 year olds who should not be up in the middle of the night single-handing on SOL! These mistakes cost Satori about 5 minutes. Both times I got her turned around quickly but suffered the Performance Loss in the process along with the nms. If Satori had a crew can you imagine how quickly they would be removing me from the helm!

Deciding how to round the M9 Mark took some thought. The right decision was to sail northwest of M9, ignore it, and sail the best course to MM2. The following screen print shows my planning.

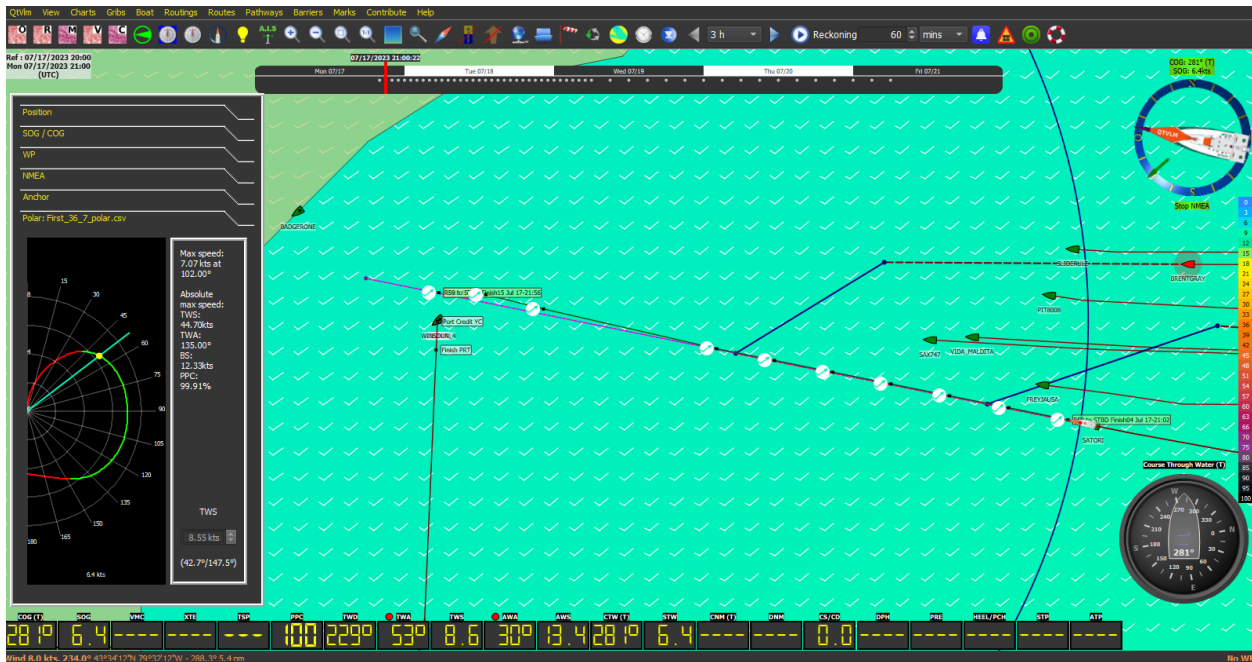
Satori's Report on 2023 Lake Ontario 300 Race For SOL



Should Satori sail 2.5 nms north of the rhumbline and add 1.4 nms to the distance? What are the competition going to do? All of the Leaders followed the TWA of the wind and, while Satori sailed an efficient course to M9 and then hugged the line between M9 and MM2, they sailed farther north, ignoring M9, looking for a course to MM2 with a more favourable TWA and higher BS. They were ahead of Satori and I could have / should have delayed our tack and covered the competition! This was consequential for Satori.

The course from MM2 to the Ford Shoal Buoy was something of a parade but rounding Ford Shoal was also consequential in the last Leg and the Finish. Freyja told us in the Chat Room that he had to set a safe course around the Ford Shoal Buoy because of a dinner engagement. Certainly he will be thinking that it ultimately hurt his placement at the Finish. After rounding Ford Shoal, Satori was the windward boat with slightly lower winds and BS. I always like the advantage of being the windward boat and the opportunities it presents in covering the competition. I had looked ahead on a course to the Finish Line. Actually, I had three courses, one to each end of the Finish Line and the middle PCYC Mark. I had concluded that there was a 3 minute advantage finishing at the STBD end of the Line. The stronger winds were going to be coming in from the south and veering northwest suggesting that being to windward would provide an advantage farther down the course. A course following TWA up to the Finish Line with no tacks. I like it! As Satori proceeded along this Leg I increasingly became concerned about the BS advantage of the Leaders to leeward. Several times I used the windward advantage and moved up on them with good BS but kept to windward. In the end the 128 nm length of this Leg proved that slightly higher BS was the advantage. The positions of the first seven boats did not change after rounding the Ford Shoal Buoy.

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On the last Leg I created Satori's Great Circle based on the PCYC Mark at the middle of the Finish Line to monitor who was inside Satori's GC. At this point Satori is 6th as similarly shown by the SOL Server. However, Pit8008 and SlideRule are sailing a course north of the STBD end of the Finish Line and are going to have to drop down into the wind to finish. This is exactly what happened putting them in 5th and 6th place.

Of course I am delighted that Satori's 4th place finish in both the Susan Hood and the 300 has resulted in us again being the SOL Champion of the 2023 Lake Ontario Series. We are pleased to share the Series Podium with FreyjaUSA and rafa.

My sincere thanks from the Canadian sailors for your participation in this Race. See you next year.