

Nassau to Bodö 2023

The Nassau-Bodo was the last leg of the RTW race. I started this race with the will of finishing in the 1st place to forget the Auckland disaster when I threw away a certain win because I decided to sleep through a crucial rounding and update.

From the beginning it appeared that the usual Nova Scotia approach was not going to be so sure, and it turned out a complete disaster for all the boat who pursued a northern route. On the other hand, although the routing software started to suggest a southern approach (Mirek, Pit, Freya went along that track), I disregarded the router suggestion and decided to stay on a central position in the fleet. That was not the best decision, as Sax and Mull proved, but I managed to minimize the delay and, at around 700nm to the finish line, I was trailing the leaders but something less than 2nm. At that moment I worked every shift maximizing VMC to the last tack and, although router was suggesting navigating to the shift at angles wider than max VMG, I decided to anticipate the rotation and stay at max VMG for few hours. That proved to be the key point, Sax was behind, and Rico/Sting overshoot the layline by 1 or 2 nm. The last leg to the finish line was just control of the chasing boat.

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