

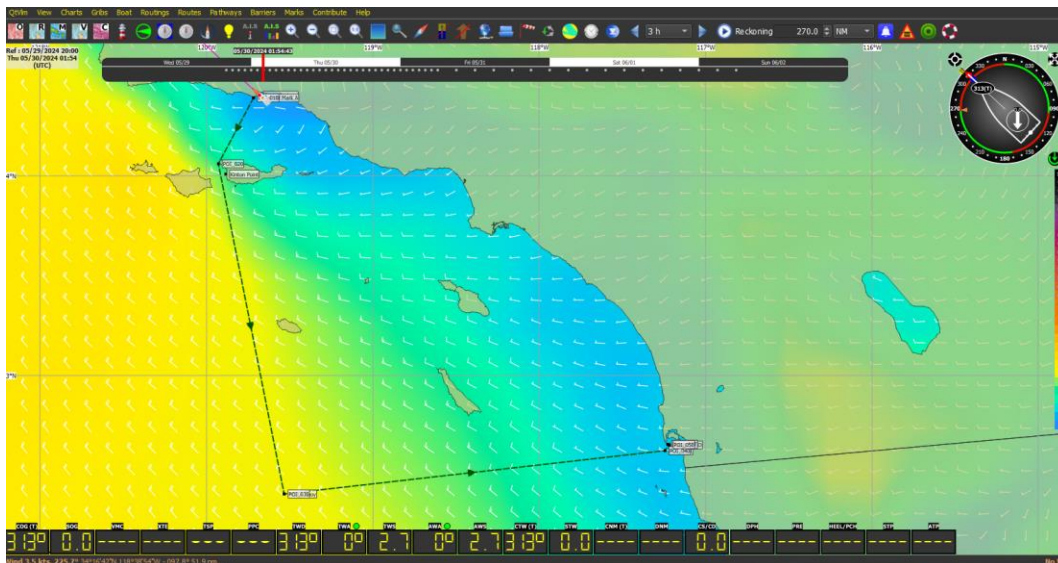
## Satori's Report on the SoCal 300 2024 Santa Barbara to San Diego

I am pleased to see **Satori** on the Podium in 3rd place. And while I am pleased to see **Zorba** back racing he did not have to beat **Satori** by 1 second and then tell everyone that he was sitting in an Irish Pub, while I was at the helm desperately trying to cover him at the finish. As I said in the Chat Room "Guinness gracious that was good sailing!" Amazing, just 1 second after 21h 31m 33s and 271 nms. Of course, the 'maestro' **Mirek** was up front again, 55 secs ahead of **Zorba** and showing us all how it should be done with unbelievable consistency. The Top Ten finished in 9m 6s behind **Mirek**. You SOLers are getting so good that we're all going to have our turn on the Podium, as many of you already have. I write my reports hoping they will help contribute to that end by just telling you how **Satori** sailed the race, for what it is worth. The high ranking SOLers know all of what I try and do on **Satori** and then some, but there may be a few ideas in here for you to consider, particularly if you are new to SOL!

I use QTVlm and AGL and I spend a lot of time at the helm just as I did IRL on-the-water. I keep myself occupied during the virtual racing taking screen prints and notes for **Satori's** Log. Kind of a blow-by-blow commentary principally for my reference should I do the race again. **Satori's** Log is much longer than the excerpts for this report!

This is the third time **Satori** has done the SoCal 300. **Satori** finished 20th in 2021 and 7th in 2022. Not surprisingly, **Mirek** won each time. I was able to look at my notes and the winds after rounding the NOAA Buoy were quite similar. I did not look in the SOL Archives, but I should have done. There might have been helpful reports there. I preceded this Race by participating in the SC 500, which had the same finish, and it introduced me to these same winds patterns and certainly gave me more confidence going 35 nms south on the last Legs between NOAA, Buoy SD1 and the Finish.

I started out by creating a Pathway in QT, with POI marks at each of the race Marks.

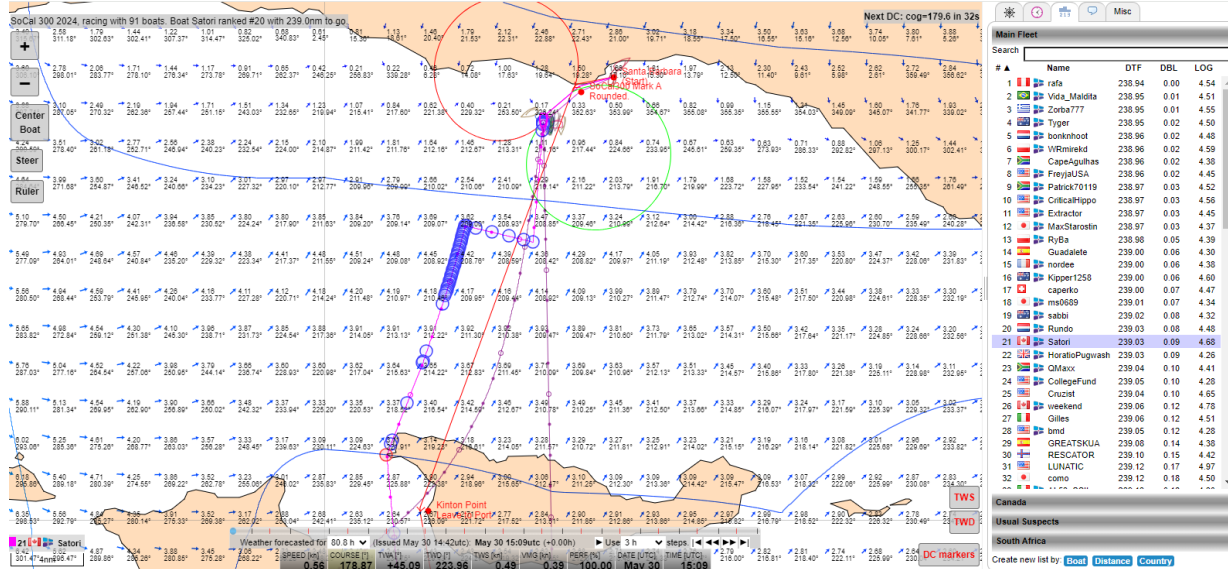


I was worried that the POI between the Islands might distort the routing by drawing the route unnecessarily to POI 010. So, after the first rounding at SoCal Mark A, I did another routing to the NOAA Buoy and let QT find the most efficient way between the Islands. However, I also realized that with the higher winds to the west and the predicted routing, in a curving pattern south of the NOAA Buoy to the Finish, might mean that a tight rounding of the NOAA Buoy might not be efficient. Sailing this routing to the NOAA Buoy would obviously draw **Satori** to the NOAA Buoy, perhaps unnecessarily. So after passing

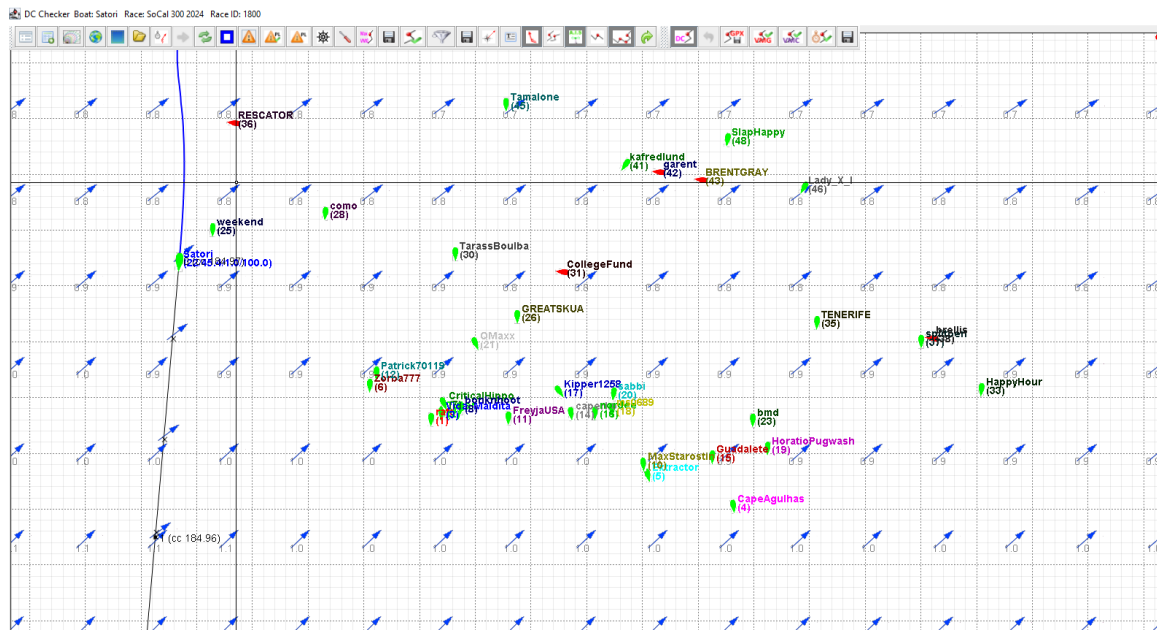
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the Kinton Point Mark I did another routing using the remainder of the Pathway to the Finish and it showed the NOAA Buoy should be passed 8 nms to the south-west followed by a curving course that went 35 nms south of the rhumbline. **Satori** was going to be sailing a greater distance at a consistently higher BS all the way from Kinton Point to the Finish, and, would be to windward. In the end **Satori** only logged 0.49 nms more than **Mirek**. Needless to say I was there to create new routings at every WX.

Here is **Satori**'s course to Kinton Point with my DC's markers and you can see the passing of the island point is close. You can also see that the routing did not round the first mark at SoCal300 Mark A closely but went NW.

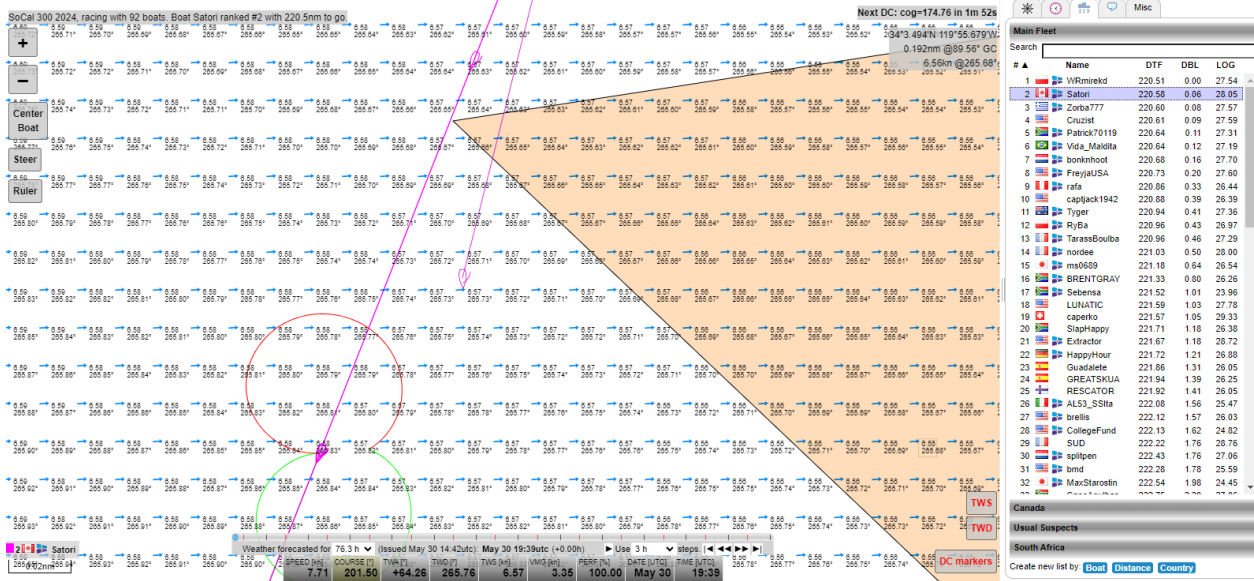


Here is the fleet 20 mins into the race in the frustratingly low winds. Satori is to the west and to windward in the headwind north of the islands and past the first mark at SoCal300 Mark A.

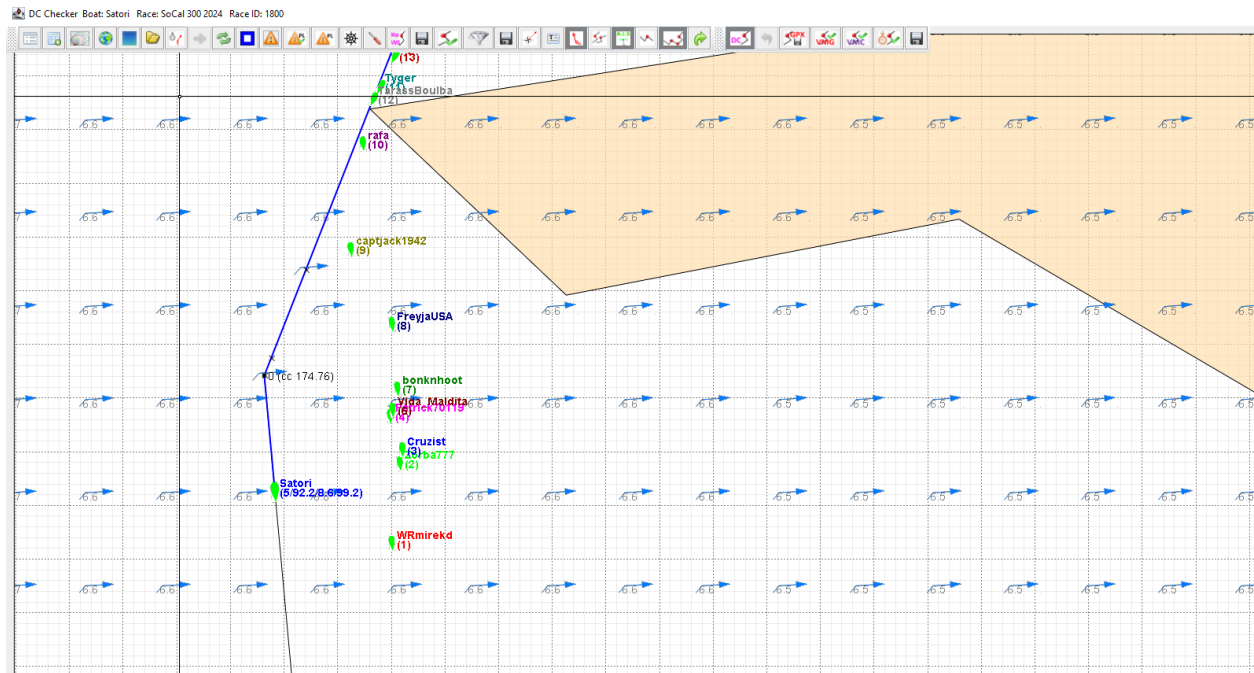


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Here, in extra zoom, is **Satori** passing the island point closely while **Mirek** uses his supernatural powers to cross over land without BBQing?

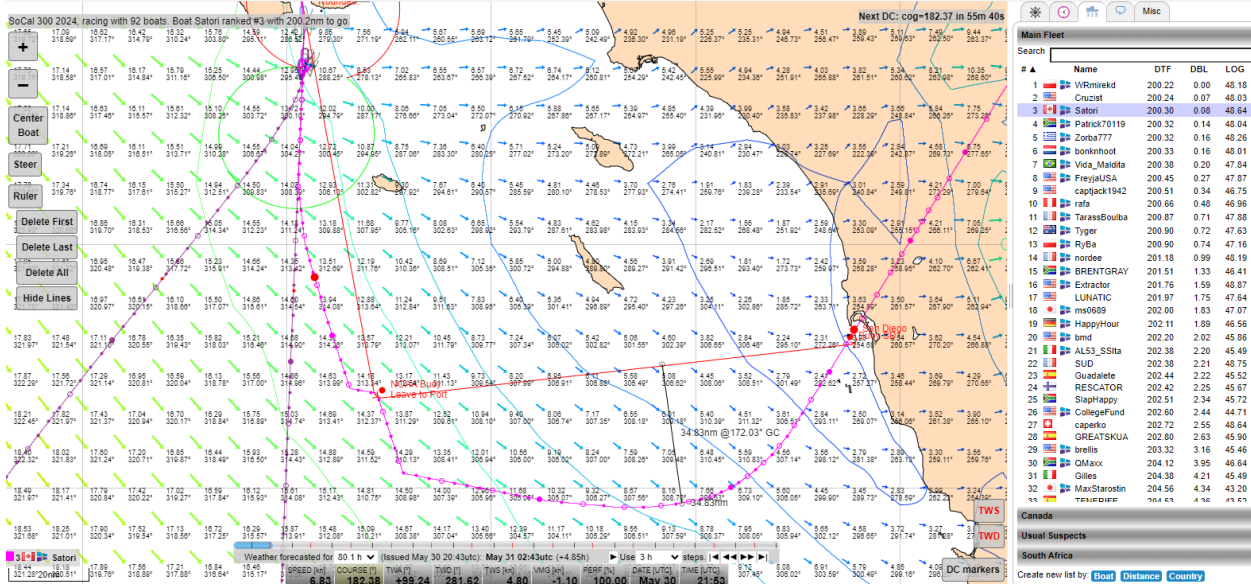


**Satori** went further to windward before tacking with higher BS. The usual suspects including **Freyja** are on a course similar to **Mirek** 0.13 nms to leeward with WS 0.018 knts lower.

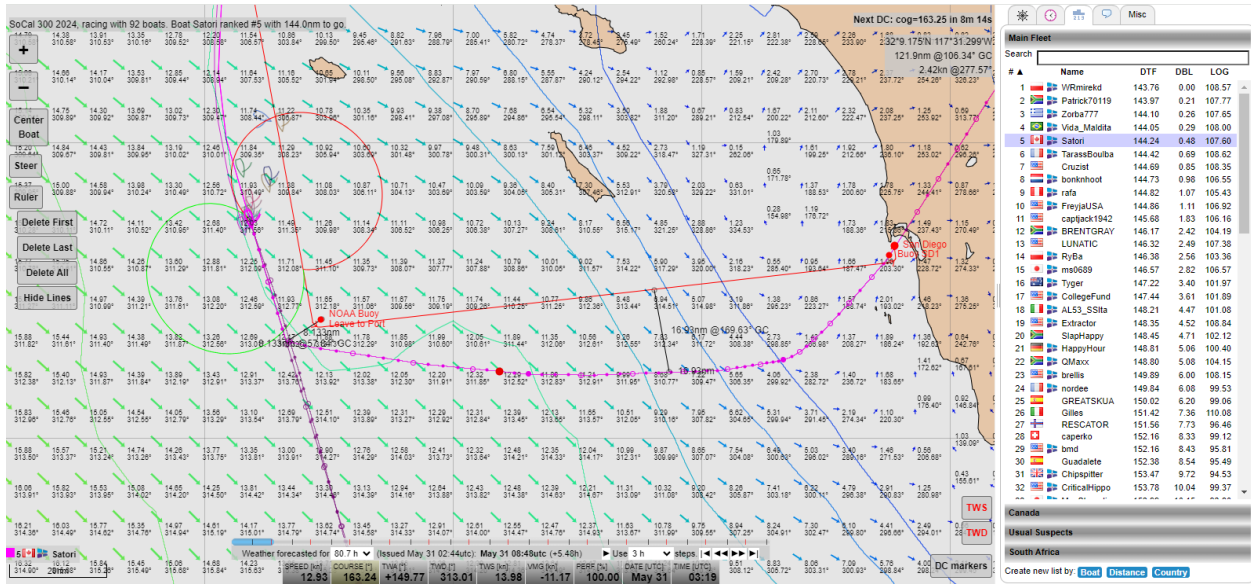


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Here is **Satori** sailing a routing using the Pathway to the Finish with the course going 35 nms south of the rhumbline. You can see the unnecessary gybe to the Pathway POI at the NOAA Buoy.



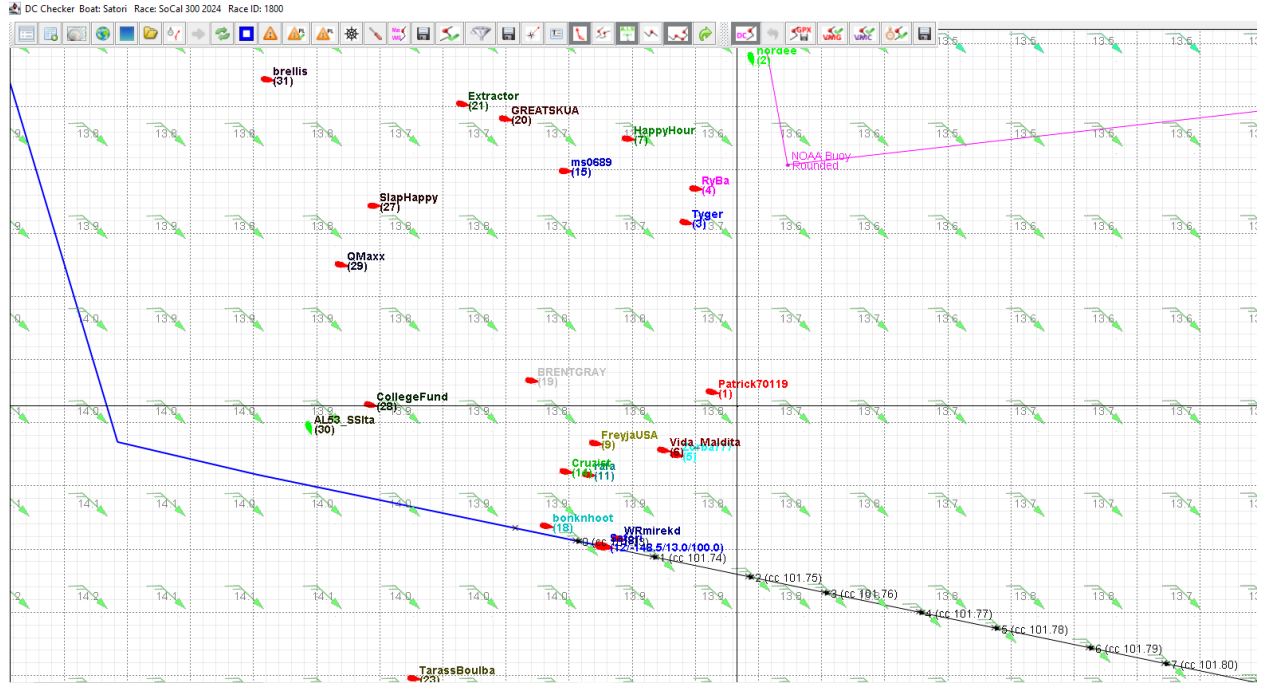
So I moved the Pathway POI 8 nms SW to get rid of the gybe to the NOAA Buoy.



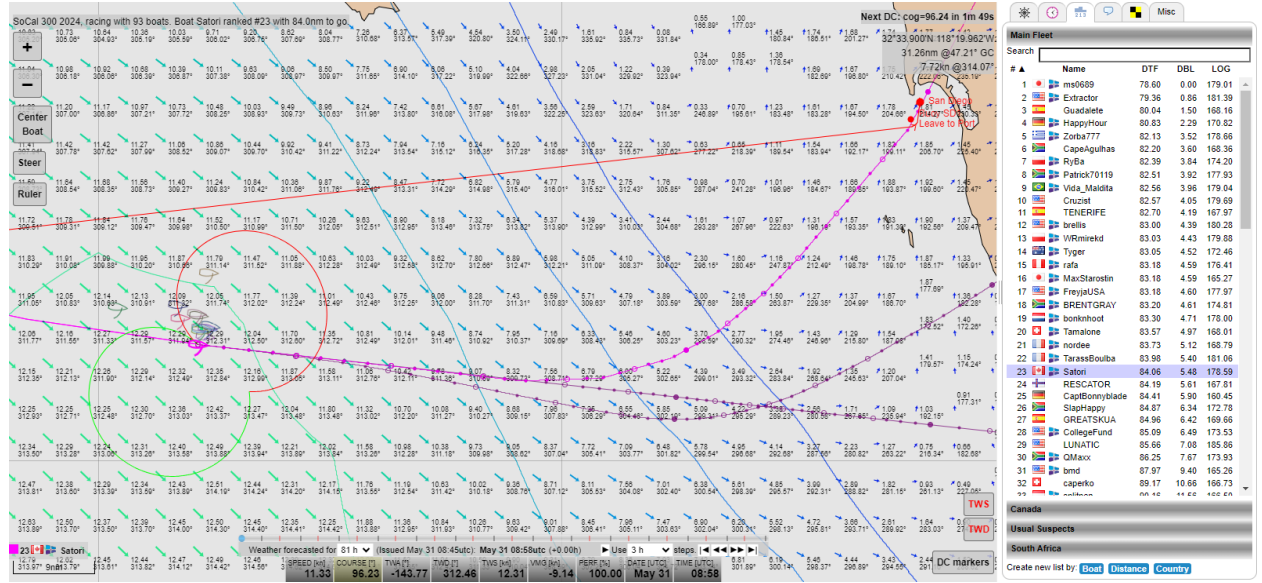
Now when I was gybing to round the NOAA Buoy I was watching the competition closely. I did not want to be too far to south of the fleet. I got some confidence from QT and some from recently sailing in the CA 500, which, as I said, had the same finish. **Mirek** gybed and, to cover, it caused me to gybe **Satori** 5 mins before I had intended. In the process my predicted finishing time increased by 2 mins. I wondered if this was a mistake but I should still have better time than the rest of the fleet to the north.

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Here is the fleet rounding NOAA Buoy. **Satori** is the farthest south except for **TarrassBoulba** who finished 6th just 2m 1s behind **Satori**.

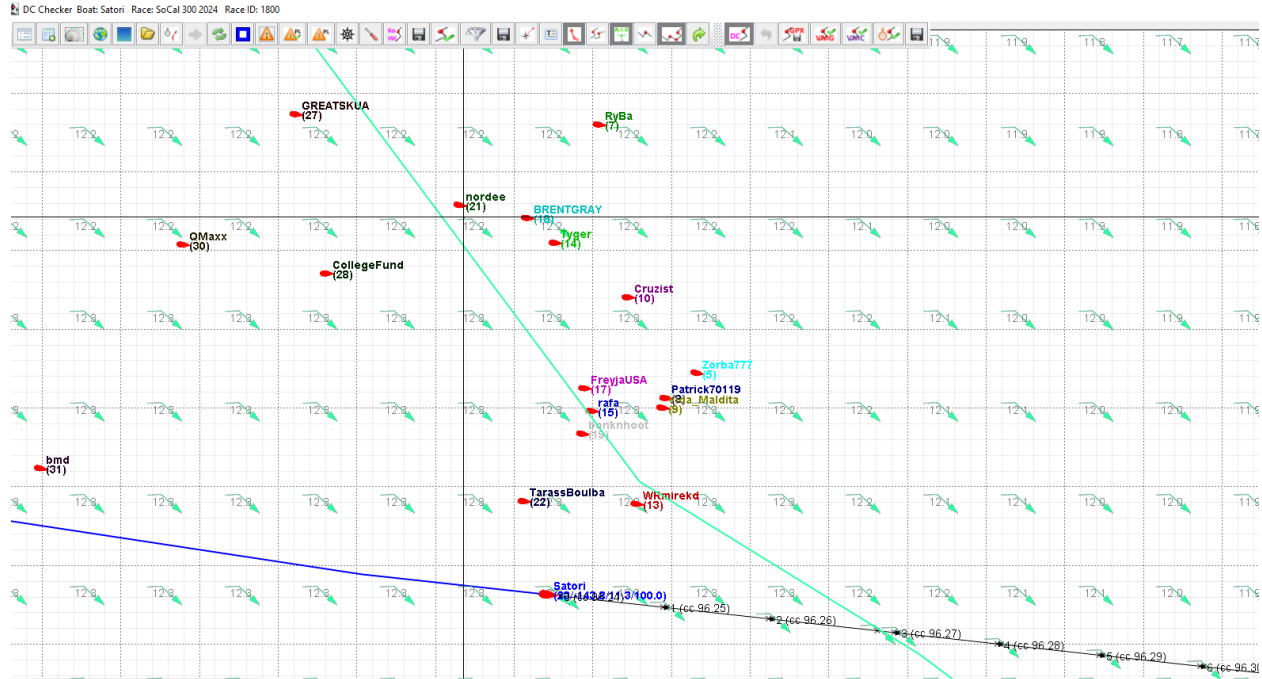


Here is **Satori's** routing up to the Buoy SD1 and the Finish Line as the TWA heads south east and the winds dramatically drop but there will be a comparative BS advantage.

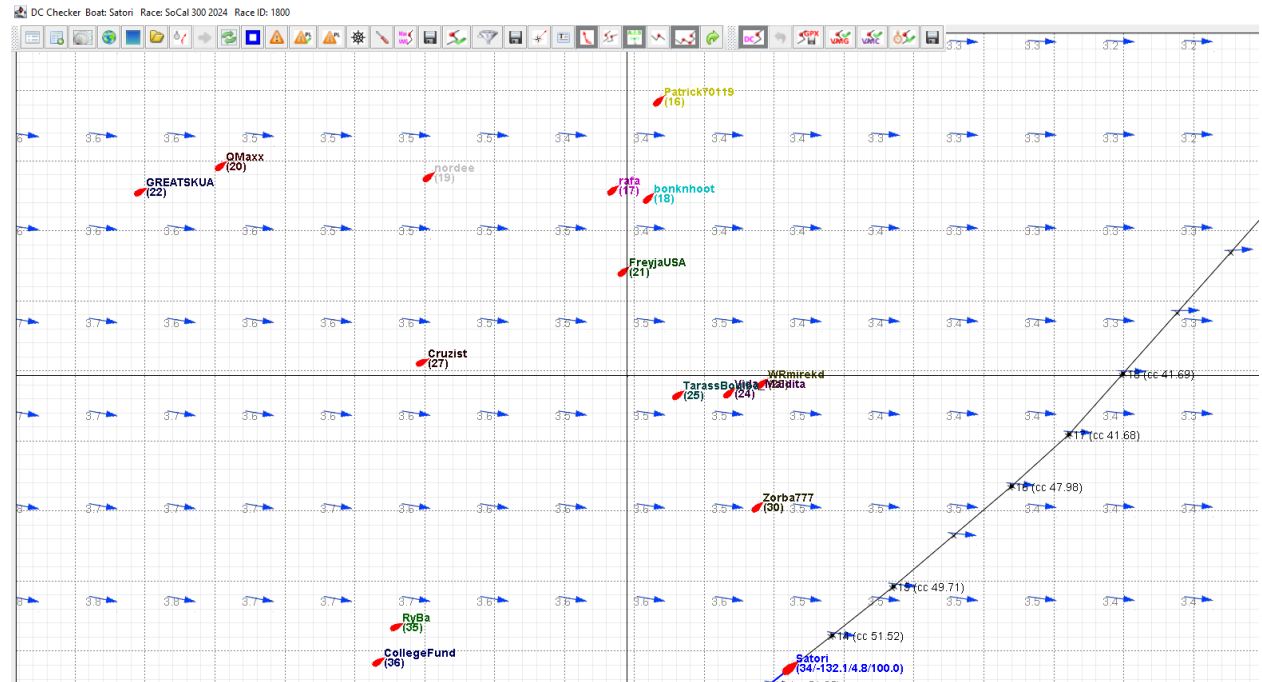


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At the same point here are the likely leaders in AGL, notwithstanding the server placement and **Satori** has higher BS. Ultimately, **Mirek** was 1st, **Zorba** 2nd, **Satori** 3rd, **Vita Maldita** 4th, **Patrick** 5th, **TarassBoulba** 6th **bonknhoot** 7th, **rafa** 8th, **Freyja** 9th and **BRENTGRAY** 10TH. So you can see how their positioning at this point impacted their final placement. You can also see that some were able to improve their position between here and the finish.

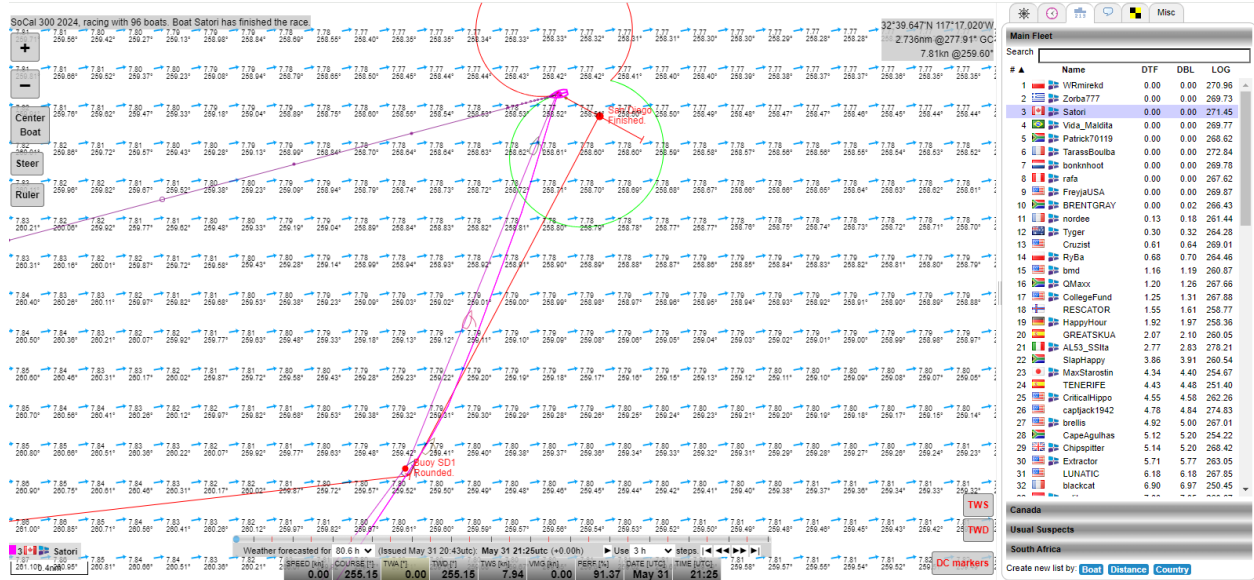


Here are the leaders curving up to the finish and **Satori** has higher BS. But will it be enough!



# Satori's Report on the SoCal 300 2024 Santa Barbara to San Diego

Exciting finish **Zorba** beat **Satori** by 1 second! **Satori** finished 56 secs behind Leader **Mirek** after logging 271.45 nms. **Satori** was second at both Kinton Point and at NOAA Buoy behind **Mirek**.



As I said at the beginning I am pleased to see **Satori** on the Podium. Thank you all for racing and I thank the volunteer Committees for their efforts to make this all possible.

When you read this, the Susan Hood Trophy Race, the first of the 2 races in the Lake Ontario Series, will be over. I hope to see you in the other race in the Series, the Lake Ontario 300.

There might have been a sign in the Irish Pub that **Zorba** was drinking in that read:

*There are good ships and there are wood ships.  
And there are ships that sail the sea.  
But the best ships are friendships  
And may they ever be.*

Like the Irish we SOLers all know that!

John/Satori