Lake Namtso Ice Race Report

The Lake Namtso Ice Race was an exhilarating experience for me, not just because of the competition but because it marked my debut sailing the DN Ice Boat. Let me tell you—this boat is something else! If you ever look at the tracks left behind by this thing, it's like a child on a sugar rush: wild, unpredictable, and utterly fascinating.

The Start: First Leg to Lanquedac

For the first leg of the race, heading to Lanquedac, I made the decision to stay further north, where the wind pressure seemed stronger. It was a calculated risk, and I'm glad to say it paid off. The boat responded well, and I managed to maintain good momentum, setting myself up for a solid position as we approached the mark.

Approaching Lanquedac

As I neared Lanquedac, it became clear that the DN's notorious "jumps" would pose a challenge. Tacking around the mark seemed like a risky move—it could have cost me valuable time with the boat potentially heading off in the wrong direction for too long. Instead, I opted to tack towards the mark and then bear off directly towards Bulang, avoiding the costly detours. This decision proved to be crucial in keeping me competitive.

Full Speed Ahead: The Leg to Bulang

The stretch to Bulang was a speed-lover's dream. The course was straightforward—a soldier's course, as we like to call it—but the thrill of harnessing the DN Ice Boat's raw speed across the ice made up for the lack of technical maneuvers. It was one of the fastest legs I've ever sailed.

The Final Push: The Dash to the Finish

The final leg to the finish line was where strategy came back into play. I decided to prioritize speed and headed for the port finish mark, hoping it would shave off a few precious seconds. It was a gamble, but it helped secure my position and kept the pressure on the frontrunners.

A huge congratulations to StIngFI for a well-deserved victory and to KaSToR for a podium finish. The race was an absolute blast, and the competition was fierce from start to finish. Kudos to everyone who participated—this was one for the books!

I'm looking forward to my next adventure on the DN Ice Boat. If this race is any indication, it's going to be an incredible journey ahead!

Fair Winds, Patrick70119