

Satori's Report on Lake Ontario 300 Challenge 2025

Another great race thanks to LOOR and SOL, in the shifty winds of Lake Ontario. There were dramatic shifts in the weather between TX's, back and forth, day and night. You could not afford to miss a WX and the required routing change. The wind speed was lower than we would have liked. **Satori's** average boat speed over 297.43 nms. was 4.51 knts. finishing 8 mins 17 secs behind winner **vida** of Brazil followed by 2nd place finisher **WRmirekD** of Poland 1 min 32 secs later.

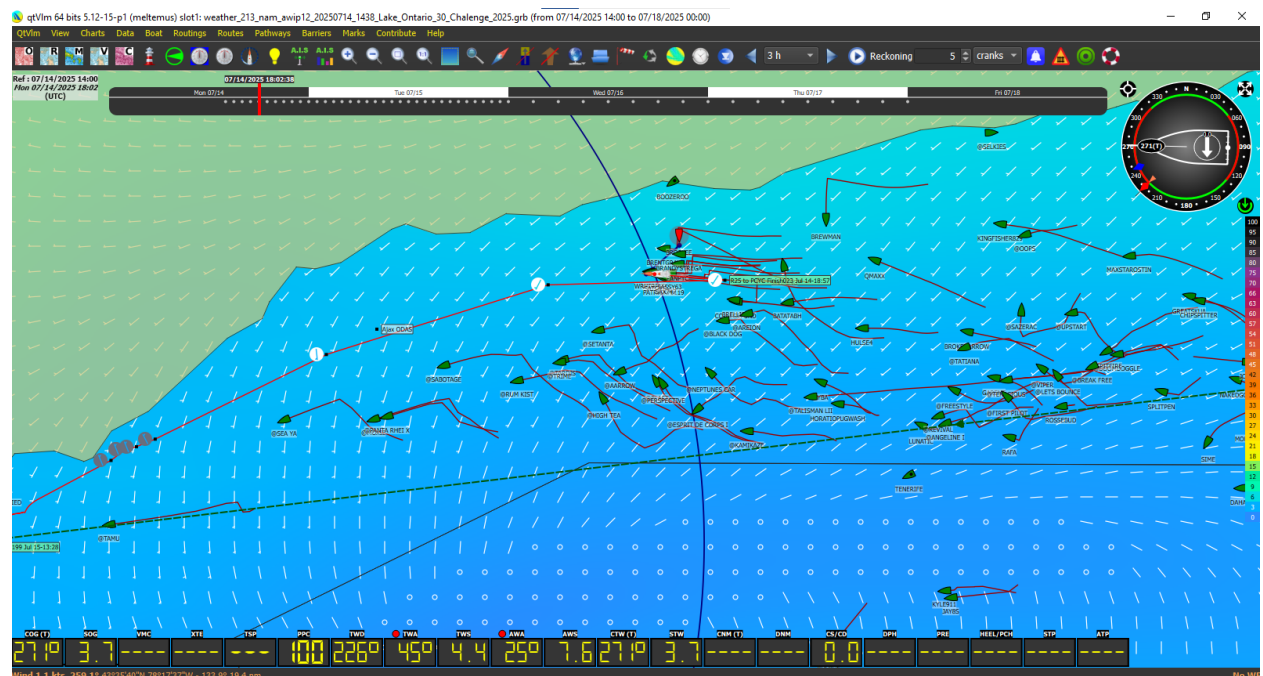
LOOR changed the Lake Ontario 300 course to keep the on-the-water boats in Canadian waters and the Race Instructions specifically precluded the on-the-water boats from sailing in US waters. There was not a practical way for SOLers to be kept out of US waters; however, ironically, the weather itself kept SOLers out of US waters!

Thank you to SOL Vice-Commodore Patrick70119 for adding the LOOR on-the-water boats to SOL. It added to the competitiveness for SOLers registered to be able to see how we were doing compared to the LOOR boats and particularly the three Beneteau 36.7's on-the-water, **First Pilot**, **Neptune's Car** and **Tenacious**. There were 44 LOOR boats registered on-the-water from 18 clubs, including 2 multihulls. 14 retired presumably due to the low winds that pushed the finish into the work-week conflicting with crew work commitments. Of the 84 SOLers from over 20 countries registered for the Race, all using the Polar of a Beneteau 36.7, 64 crossed the Starting Line.

Neptune's Car of the Mimico Yacht Club had the best elapsed time of the on-the-water Beneteau 36.7's of 2d 16h 11m 17s. This compares with the elapsed time of SOL winner **vida** of 2d 17h 49m 31s. So **Neptune's Car** was faster than **vida** by 1h 38m 14s and, as I said earlier, we could observe **Neptune's Car** routing on SOL.

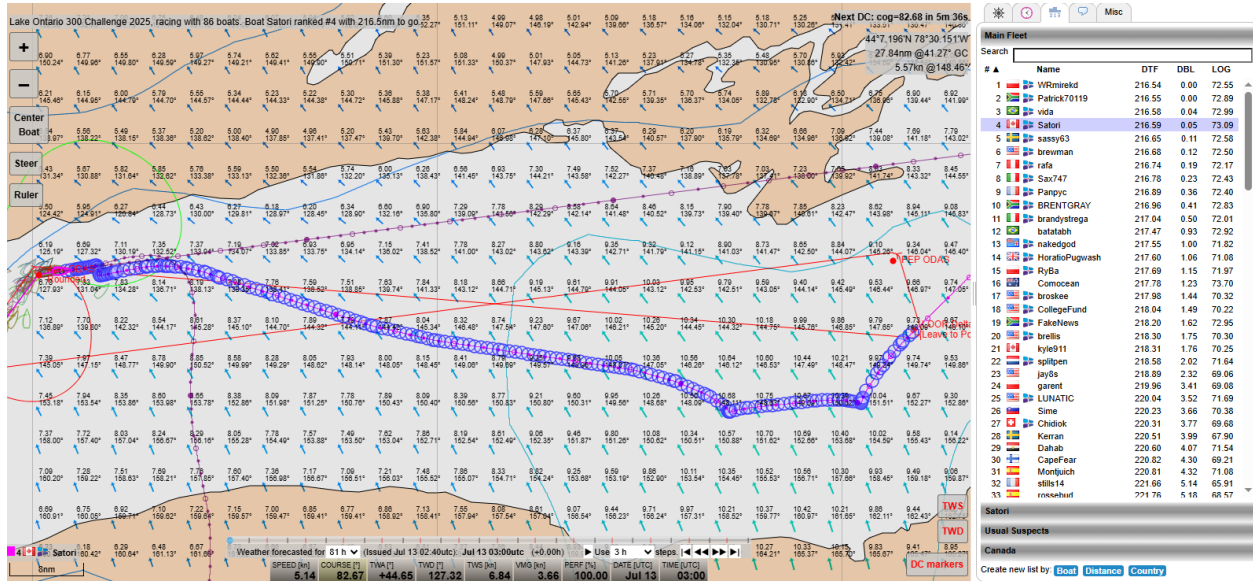
While observing all of the 128 boats in the Race on July 14th at 18:02 UTC on the last Leg to the Finish in QTvlm, I could not help but think of the frustration of the on-the-water Skippers and Navigators dealing with the shifting low speed winds.

Are these in fact boats.....or the AIS of confused sperm!!

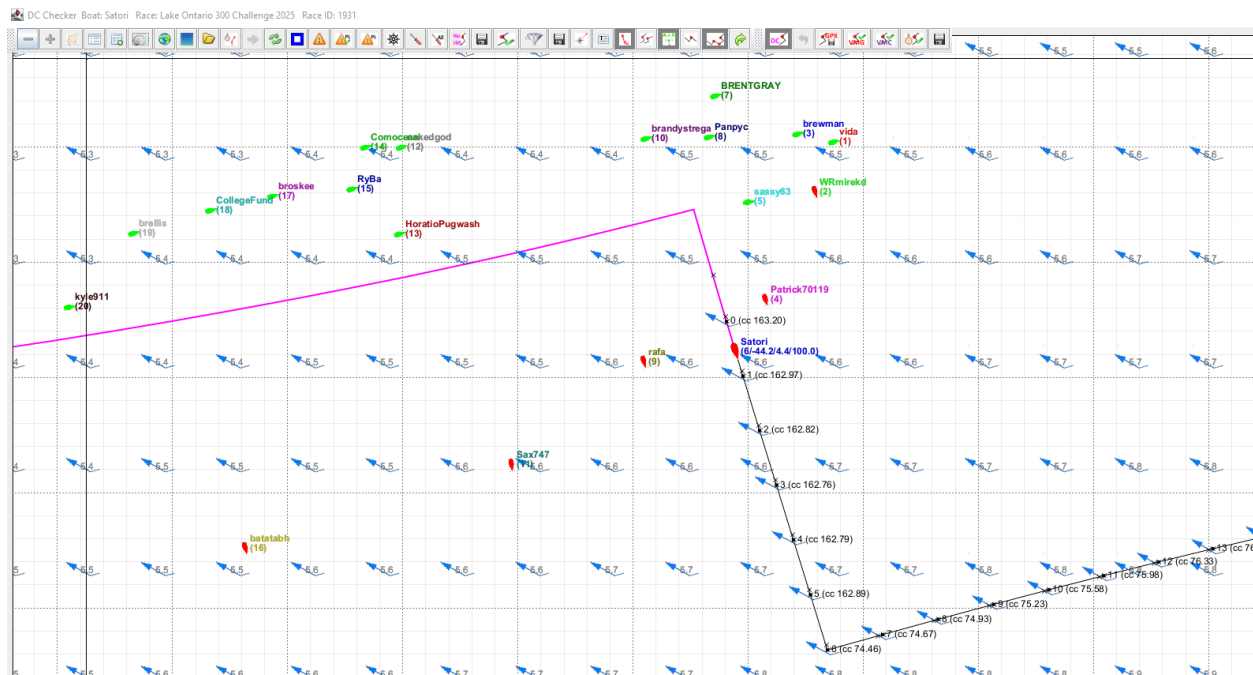


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After rounding the Ajax ODAS mark the WX July 13th 02:45 UTC led **Satori's** routing into US waters but the WX 6 hrs later resulted in a dramatic change in the routing. Anticipating this change had a major impact on the race results. At this point **WRmirekd** is placed 1st followed by **Patrick70119**, **vida**, **Satori**, **sassy63**, **brewman** and **rafa**. They are all within a DBL of 0.019nms. There is a tack coming up and the timing was important.

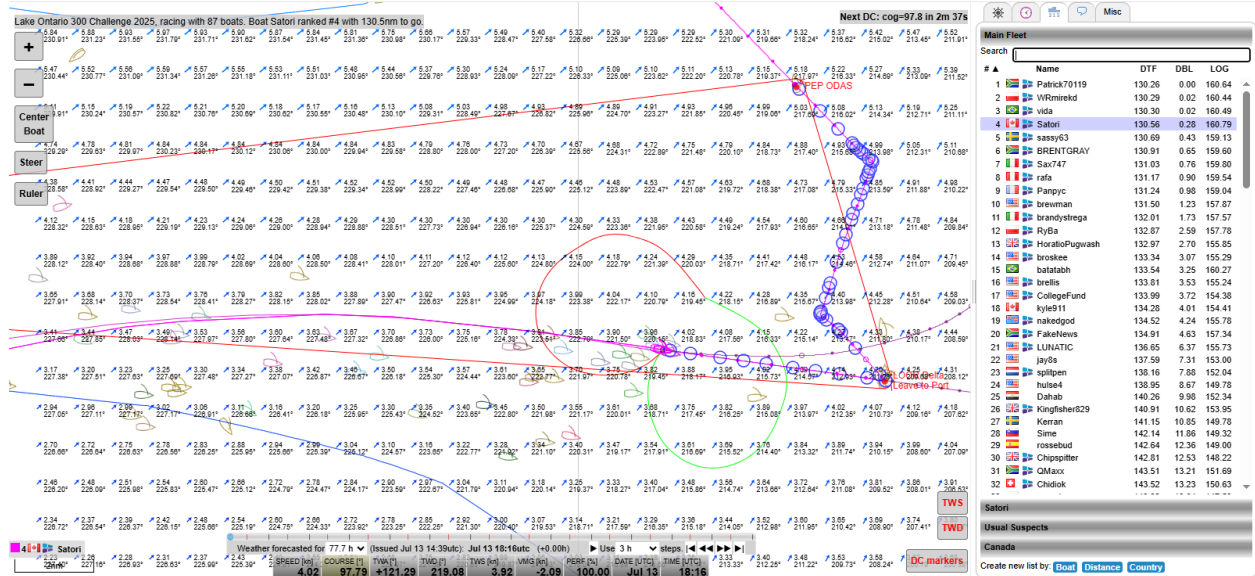


Here is the AGL positioning after the above mentioned tack. Of the leaders **rafa** and **Sax747** tacked before **Satori**, **Patrick70119** and **WRmirekd** later. **sassy63**, **brewman** and **vita** have yet to tack.

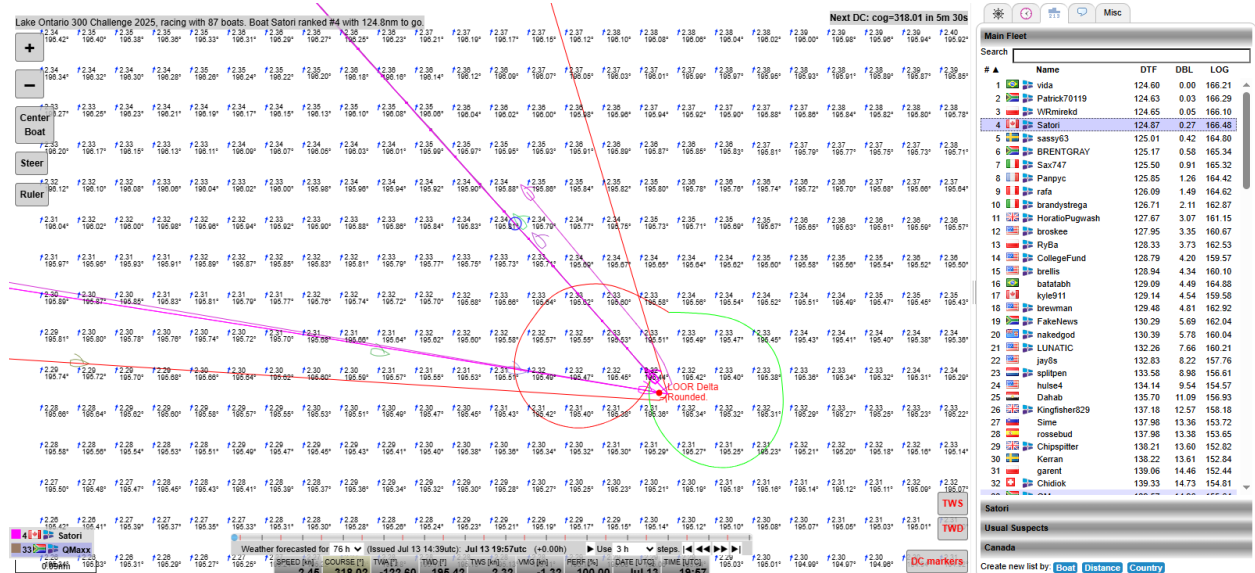


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Leading up to the LOOR Delta mark **Satori** did rather badly after the last WX. Being the northern most boat DBL slipped from 0.13 to 0.28 nms. **Patrick70119**, **WRmirekd** and **vida** have a clear lead being within 0.02 nms of each other followed by **Satori** 0.26 nms. later.

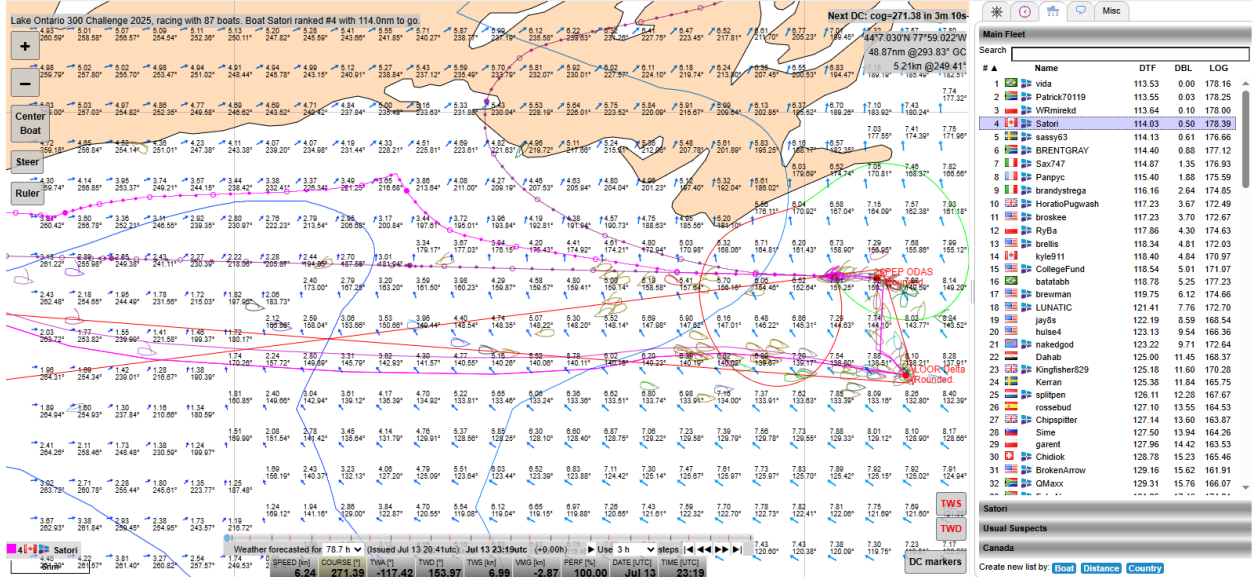


Satori has a confirmed rounding of LOOR Delta in 4th place, DBL 0.27nms, a pick-up of 0.07nms. **vida** rounded 7 mins ahead of **Satori**. [**vida** actually finished 8m 17s ahead of **Satori**. This last leg made the difference and **Satori** did not make it up.] **WRmirekd** and **Patrick70119** rounded closer than **vida**, as did **Satori**.

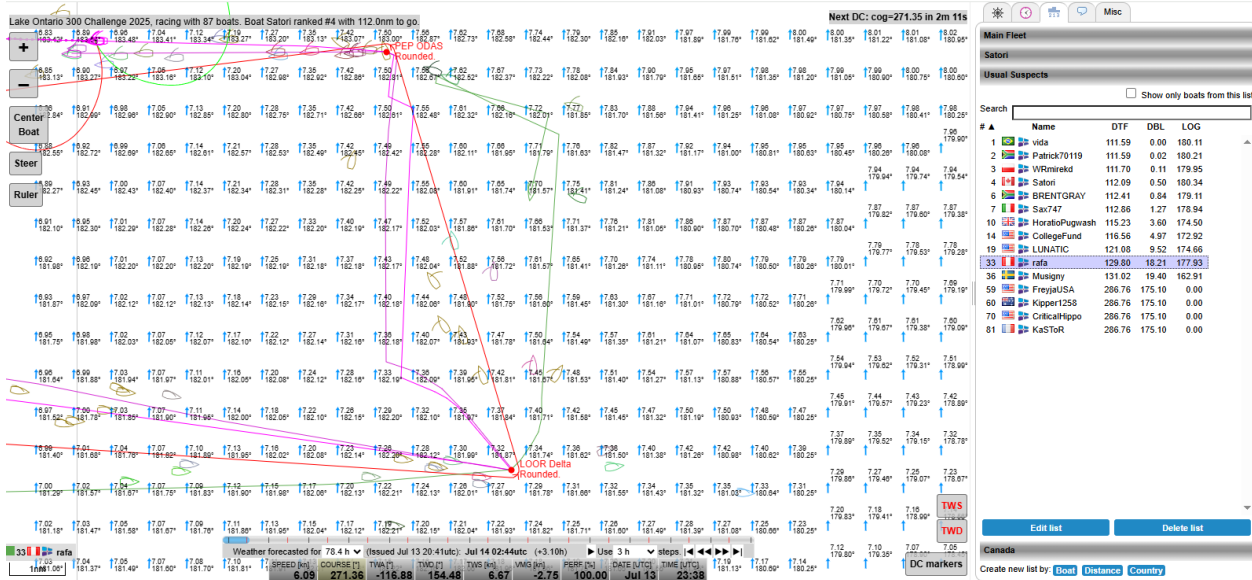


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After confirmed rounding of PEP ODAS Mark **Satori** is in 4th place, DBL 0.49nms behind **vida**, **Patrick70119** and **WRmirekd**. **sassy63** is 0.11 nms behind **Satori** and needs to be watched since she has 0.092 knts better BS in higher WS but is south of **Satori** and the routing will be going north. Where is **rafa**?



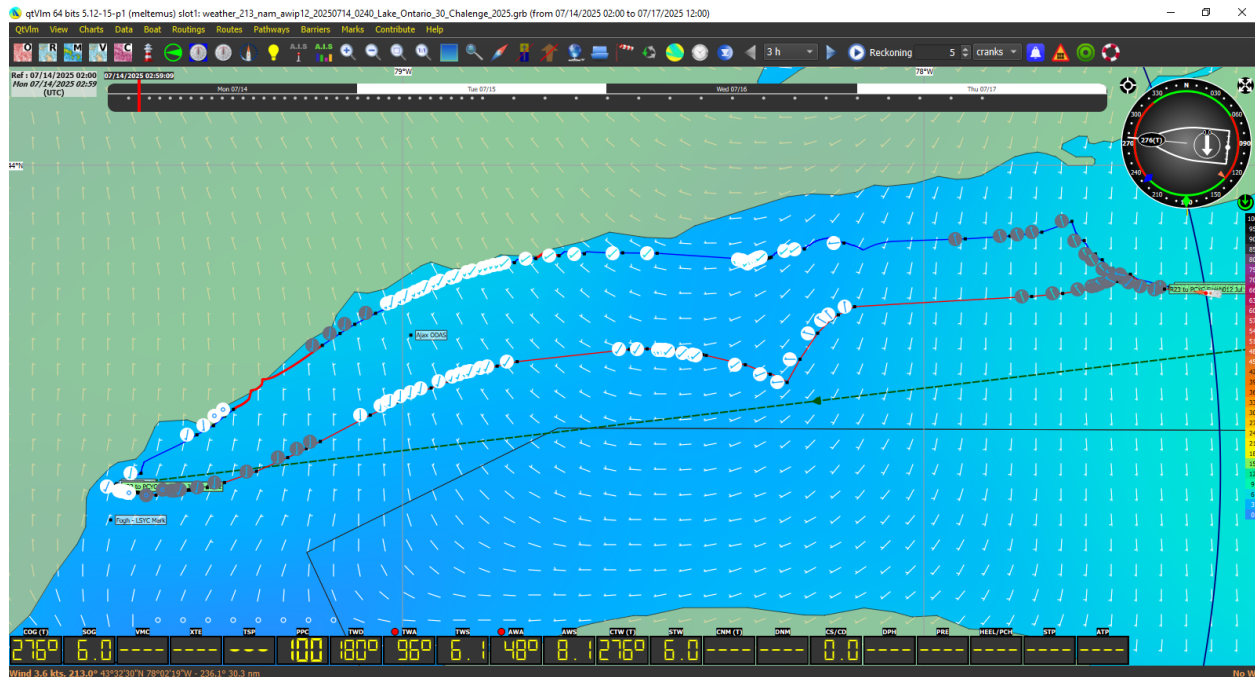
rafa must have missed rounding LOOR Delta and is sailing back and has slipped from 7th to 33rd place. [rafa eventually finished the Race in 22nd place. Quite a good recovery.]



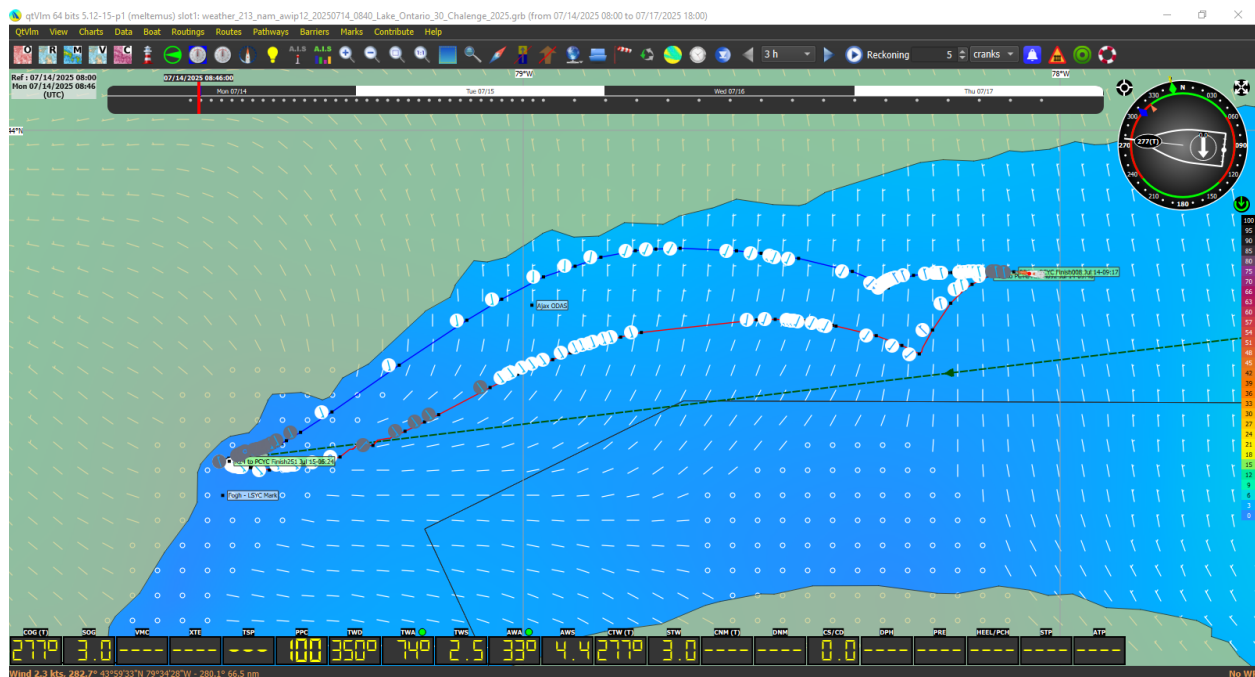
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The weather!!

WX July 14th 02:45 UTC - **Satori** is sailing R23 Red to PCYC Finish ETA July 15th 12:52 UTC. Look at the major change in the WX. Previous routing R22 in Blue ETA July 15th 03:04 UTC, 9h 48m lost.

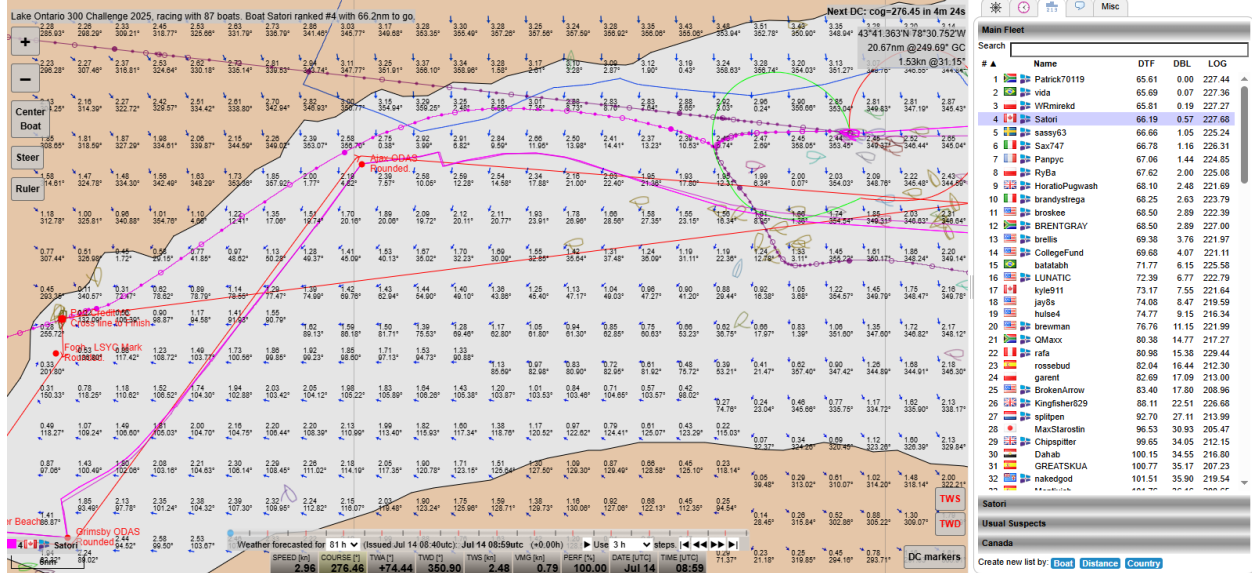


6 hrs later - WX July 14th 08:45 UTC - **Satori** is sailing R24 Blue to PCYC Finish ETA July 15th 05:24 UTC in 20h 30m 35s, an improvement of 7h 28m. R23 Red is the previous routing created 6 hrs ago. The change in the WX is pretty much a reversal and similar to 6 hrs ago!

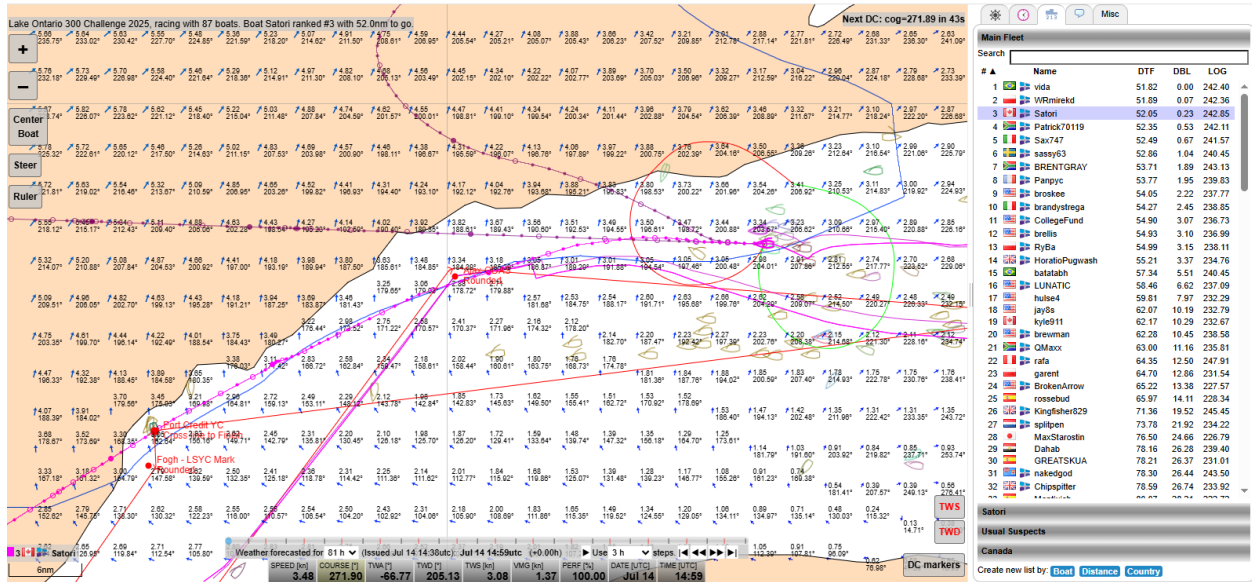


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With 66.19 nms. to go **Satori** is placed 4th with a DBL 0.57nms behind **Patrick70119**, **vida** has a DBL of 0.07nms and **WRmirekd** a DBL of 0.19nms. In these low wind speeds it looked like the placements were likely settled but **Patrick70119** must have had his attention diverted and ultimately slipped into 4th place.

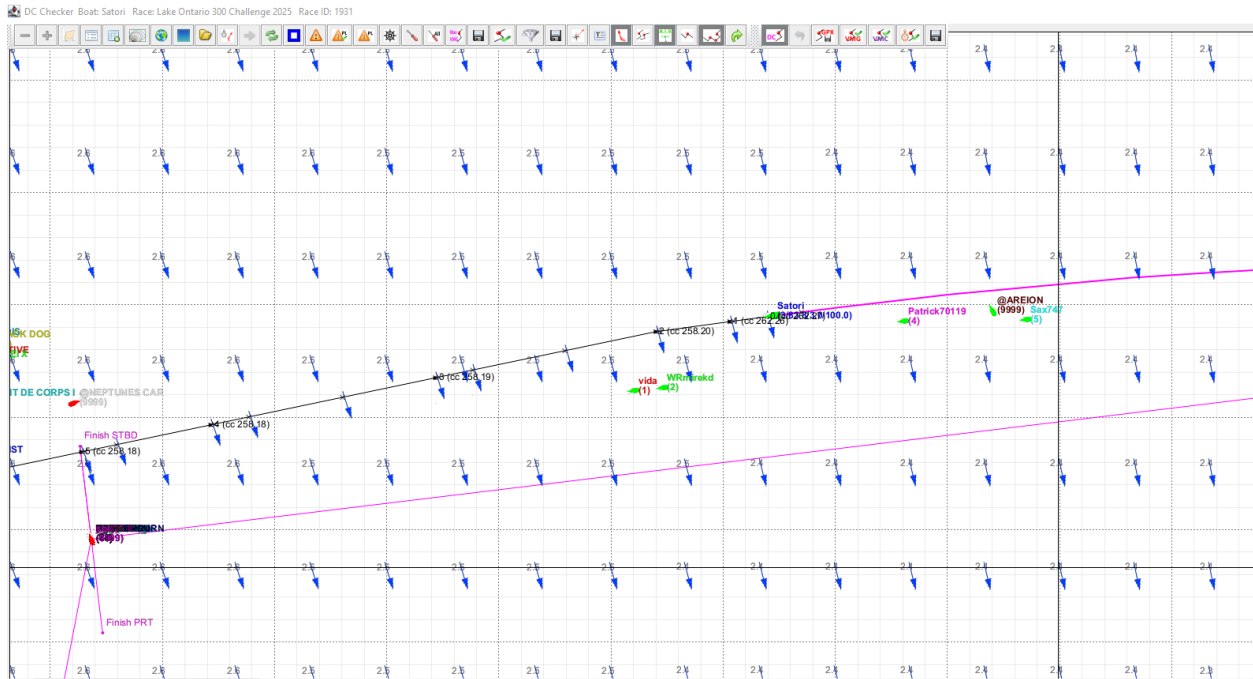


With 52.05 nms. to go **Satori** is placed 3rd DBL 0.24nms behind **vida** and **WRmirekd**. **Satori** is now ahead of **Patrick70119** by 0.30nms



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The Leaders approaching the finish with one more WX. Present Podium **vida**, **WRmirekd** and **Satori**. Mirek has left and is finishing on DC's. **vida** is awake and at helm as I am at 4:33 am local time!



This was indeed the race final Podium. **Satori** is honoured to share the Podium with **vida** of Brazil, not his first win in the Lake Ontario 300, and **WRmirekD** of Poland, who until recently has consistently been ranked No. 1 in the SOL world. **WRmirekd** has sailed over 700,000 nms on SOL and **vida** over 500,000 nms compared to **Satori's** 48,000 nms. That is indeed why it is an honour!

Patrick70119 of South Africa, who at times led the Race, and **Sax747** of Italy are to be commended for their competitiveness. At times it looked like the race was Patrick's. **BRENTGRAY** of South Africa and **sassy63** of Sweden never let up applying the pressure on the Leaders.

There is a Lake Ontario Series Championship consisting of the Susan Hood and the Lake Ontario 300. **WRmirekd** finished 2nd in the 300 and 3rd in the Susan Hood. **Satori** finished 3rd in the 300 and 2nd in the Susan Hood! So, with each SOLer having 5 points, it will be up to the SOL Server to decide the Series Champion! **vida** was 13th in the Susan Hood and is tied with **College Fund** of the USA for 3rd place in the Series with 14 points each. Another tie-break decision for the SOL Server!

Thank you to the 86 SOLers who registered for the race and the 64 boats that left the starting line.

I do want to thank the SOL volunteers who make our racing possible and particularly, **Patrick70119**, for assisting **bonknhoot** in this race by adding the 44 LOOR on-the-water boats to SOL.

*May your anchor be tight,
Your cork be loose,
Your rum be spiced,
And your compass be true.*

John/Satori