

Race Report

The Vineyard Race 2025

By vida

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This is one of my favorite races. The race is short but not too short. There are day and night sailing, there are upwind and downwind and everything in between and the wind updates always have some surprises in store due to the unpredictable weather in late summer early fall in that part of the world.

Unfortunately, this year we had a low turnout of sailors, perhaps one of the lowest I have seen in a while. There were 75 on the line, but only 65 started. Most of them started on a straight-line delayed command, completely off the optimum TWA. Evidently, I have no way to check, but my guess is that only about 10, maybe 12 sailors were actually paying attention to the race, and only 5 boats were really trying to sail well. That is an extremely low number.

It is no surprise that I did well. I was glued to the computer (LOL). Only **Panpyc**, **SKOVSER**, **rafa**, **FreyjaUSA** and **capt42** were sailing. Both **FreyjaUSA** and **rafa** didn't seem to be sailing at night, so they fell off pace. **capt42** at one point passed me when the WX came completely different than predicted, and I had to work hard to pass him back, but once I did, he seemed to lose concentration and also fell off pace. The fight between me and **capt42** was the best part of the race.

So, this was a race of three boats paying attention. **Only three!**

SailOnline is where I go to forget about real life problems, and I love the "game". I sincerely hope that SailOnline doesn't go out with the wind, let's make an effort to participate more often in the races.

On a good note, lately it seems the long races are attracting more sailors than the short ones. Interesting.

As always, my sincere thanks to all the volunteers that make Sailonline happen.

Antonio (boat: **vida**)