

GUESS GOTLAND

So far, this year's TIMED races have featured runs of somewhat greater length than in previous years. Taking the runs across several weather updates (two, three, even four) this adds risk and more judgment to the format, but also more frustration, as, especially when the forecasts are for light winds, what looked like it could be a promising run can turn into a minor disaster after one or two updates have come through. But to run again, you can't simply retire but have to sail to the finish. Frustrating!

On the other hand, finding and then executing that perfect run has in consequence certainly become more challenging. And thus it was that I was pleased indeed to find that I had picked pretty much the perfect moment to race from south of Gotland to north of Gotland, via a route leaving said land to starboard.

Having decided at the start of the year, that I would give the TIMEDs a proper go, my results had been underwhelming so far, even to the extent that I so badly missed the window for a decent run on Lake Victoria last month, that I lazily didn't run at all.

That's the other thing with this format. You have to stay alert the whole 13 days or so, morning, noon and night. And with this longer format, it is as good as inevitable that at least one of your run attempts will be through the middle of your night. Hard work!

But buoyed by this result, I wholly intend to persevere! See you all at the next one.

bonknhoot/May 2026