

Race Day – Time To Go !

Push away from the dock early

Check In early

Go to the Starting Area and find your Start Line early

Settle down!



Start Line

- 2-3 knot current may drive you over the line
- What is the favored end of the line ?
 - Line skew ←
 - Wind direction and strength
 - Clearest air
 - Least amount of congestion
- Do not get caught in an “over-early” situation
 - It is **VERY** difficult to return and re-cross the line

HINT

Line may be skewed to give inshore end an advantage

Moments Before the Start !



NOTICE – “barger”, spinnaker pole ready, boat middle of line, OCS, boat going back

Boom...And We're Off

(Now What ?)

- Concentrate on getting into clean air
 - Boats in front, to side, and coming from behind
 - Lift out of the traffic jam
- Follow the leaders (for a while)
- Pick your course (your Race Plan) and trim to it

Remember...

- This is a long race (marathon versus a 5K)
- Concentration is easily lost in the excitement...and in early morning hours
- Race from waypoint to waypoint
- 125 miles of constant trimming

3 PM

- Wind clocking more
- Is spinnaker ready to go
- Genoa halyard clear for take-down
- What's the competition doing
- Bearing to next waypoint
- Impact on VMG

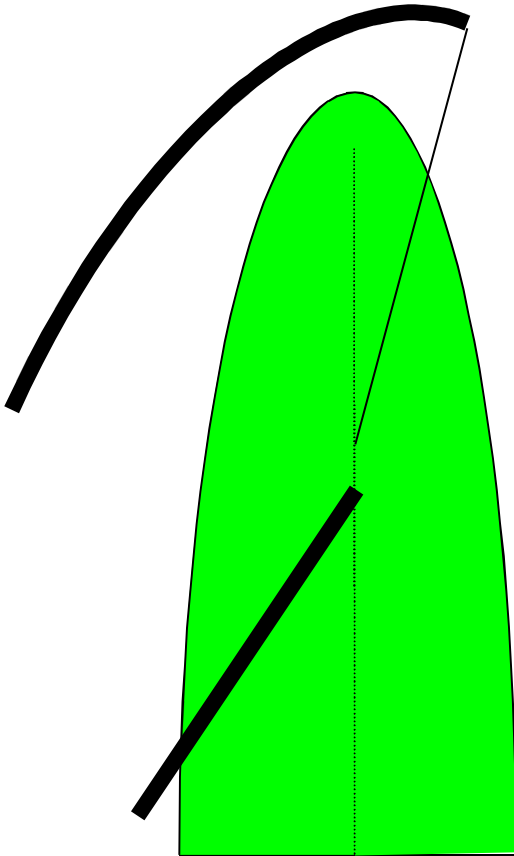


Reaching, spinnaker pole not ready, sheets not run

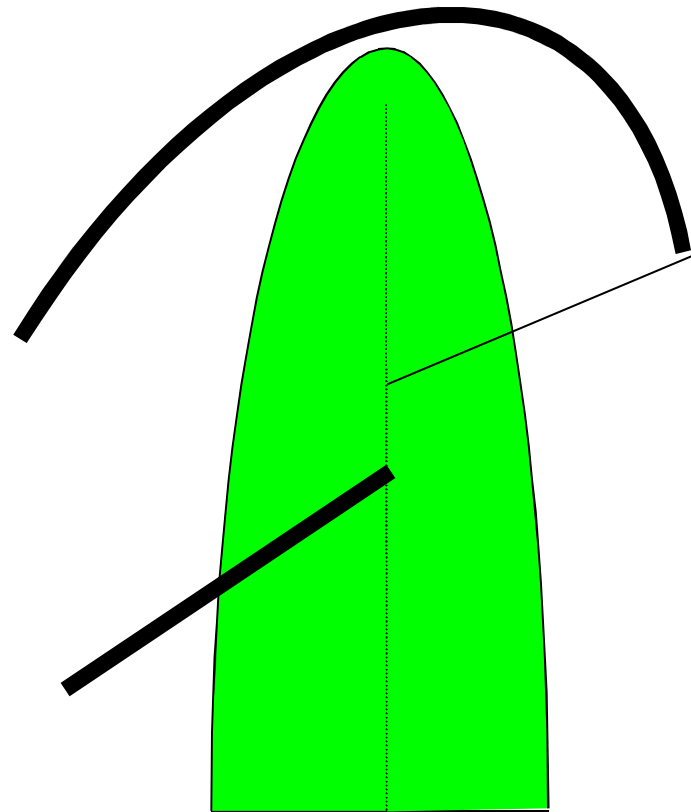
Sail Choice

- Genoa/spinnaker may get “wet” during the night and “droop” in the light air
 - Tell tails might “stick” to sail
- Consider changing to #2 or a “light air” spinnaker
- Change to lighter sheets too

Spinnaker Trim



CLOSE REACH
Pole forward
Mid-Afternoon



OFFWIND
Pole back
Late Afternoon

Correct Trim Adjustment ?

Use your boat's knot meter
...Or the GPS

Check before adjustment

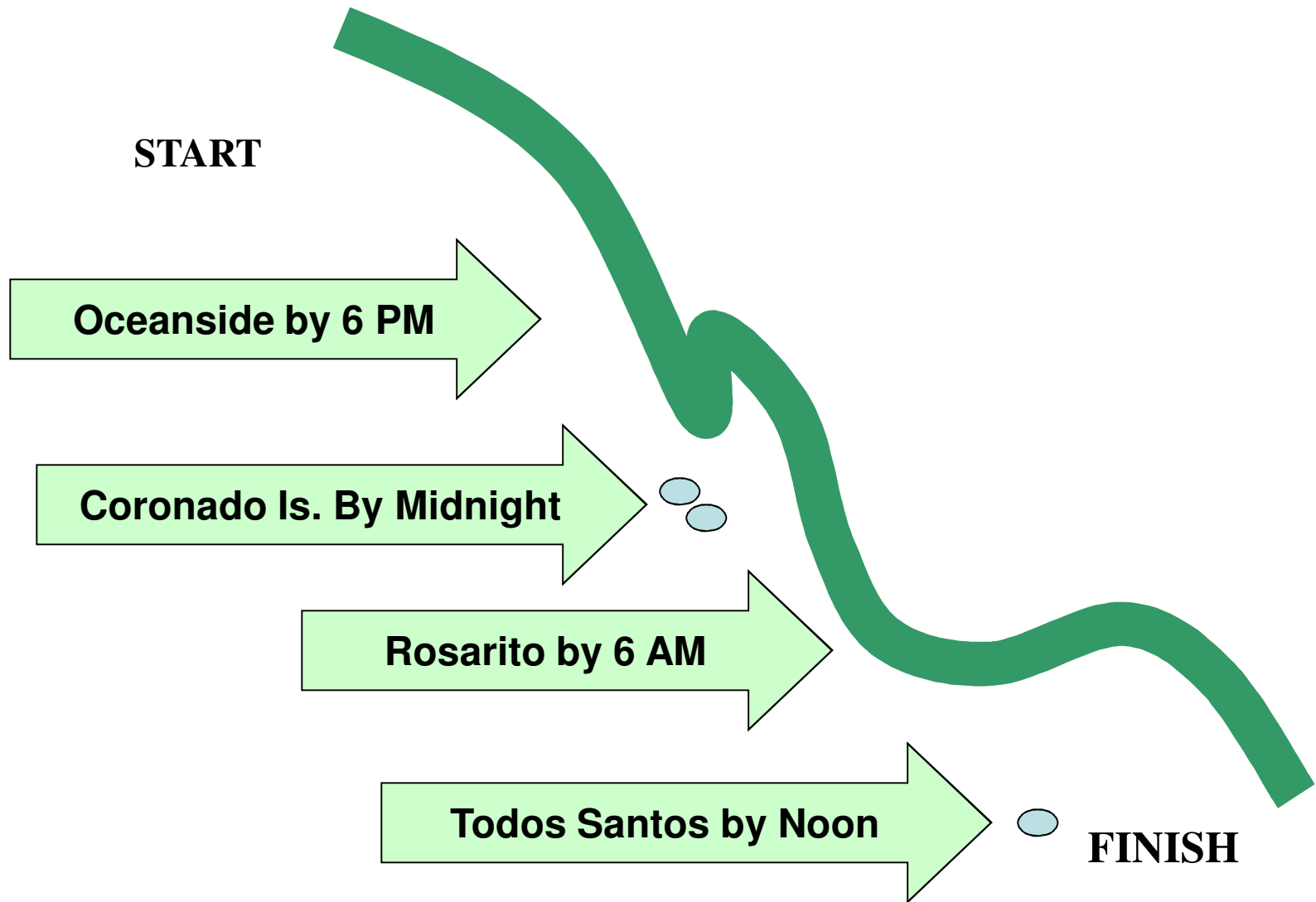
Check after adjustment

Did Adjustment increase
or decrease boat speed ?

REMEMBER - At night, you
can't see the tell tails !



6 PM – On Target ?



Time for Dinner

- Serve a hot meal before dark. Crew needs fuel !
- Every crew should also bring a thermos of hot water or coffee, soup, etc.
- Remember crew position during dinner



Start Watch Schedule

- Easy to say, but hard to do
- Crew needs to rest before it gets dark
- Save energy for the big push at night !

