

Maxi Speedboat First to Reach Bermuda

Monday, 21 June 2010 13:57



Maxi Speedboat at start of 2010 Newport Bermuda Race. Photo: Barry Pickthall/PPL

[John Rousmaniere reports](#) from the Newport Bermuda Race Committee that “Alex Jackson’s maxi 100-footer sloop *Speedboat* finished the Newport Bermuda Race early Monday morning at 3:49 AM EDT. Finishing second at 6:25 was Il Mostro (Puma), a 70-foot Volvo Ocean Race boat sailed by Kenny Read, whose brother, Brad, was in *Speedboat*’s afterguard. Boat boats sailed in the Open Division for racing yachts with canting keels.”

Here’s an interesting video from [Sailing Anarchy](#) on YouTube that gives you a detailed tour of the deck of *Speedboat*. The tech level is impressive. These are NOT inexpensive boats.

Quite a few boats are still slowly beating their way toward the Onion Patch, with light winds from the SW dominating. Says, Rousmaniere, “It was a slow race, with *Speedboat* making the 635-mile course in just over 59 hours after the start at Newport on Friday. The crew of 25 never reefed the boat. In the light to moderate conditions that prevailed through most of the race,

Speedboat

was hard pressed by

Il Mostro

,

Rambler

, and several boats in the mini-maxi 70-80 foot range over the first third of the course. “We really didn’t get away from them until we were in the Stream,” navigator Stan Honey said after *Speedboat*

tied up at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club’s marina early Monday morning. “Then they gained a lot in the light stuff as we came into the finish.” ”

One of the great traditions of the Newport Bermuda race is the ritual drink offered to arriving sailors. Called a “Dark and Stormy,” it’s been called the “national drink of Bermuda.” [Here’s a nice recipe](#)

from cocktail blogger Jeffrey Morgenthaler. Don’t forget a squeeze of lime! How about serving them up after your next dinghy race back to the boat?

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