



Werner, our German dealer, participated in the THE RACE 1000 MILES in October and November 2018 on a NEEL 45. He gives us a factual summary of this race where the NEEL 45 came first in the multihull category.

The Race-1000 Miles organized by charter company Pitter (Austria) every 4 years.

36 boats (Bavaria, Salona, Jeanneau, Sunbeam, one Class 40, 3 Multihulls (Neel 45, 2 Nautitech 40)).

Boat: NEEL 45 “ONZE”, year 2014 with including furling gennaker

Start date: 30 Septembre 2018 from Cogolin, End date: 10 November 2018 in Cogolin

Harbours visited: Cogolin-Grossetto-Positano-Tropea-Lastovo (Croatia)-Hvar-Biograd-Lefkas (Greece)-Biograd-Lastovo-Marina Cala Ponte (Italy)-Tropea-Marina Nettuno (Anzio)-Villefranche sur Mer-Cogolin

Distance: 3300 nautical miles, 23 days at sea, average speed 6kn or 144 nautical miles per 24hours. According to race tracker **max. speed was 22,6 knots.**

Race: Our results:

Neel 45 wins the blue ribbon for fastest multihull over 2 legs and 1000 miles

Neel 45 wins leg 1 on elapsed and corrected time (85% upwind, Neel is only Multihull that didn't use the engine in order to arrive at Lefkas), 14th boat overall out of 36 boats.

Neel 45 wins leg 2 on elapsed and corrected time (22 hours in front of the second multihull), 8th boat overall. This leg saw bad weather with thunderstorms and 45/50 knots of wind, 2m+ waves. We avoided the worst and had max 35knots of wind and 1-2m waves, no thunder and only very little rain. Race tracker shows max boat speed of more than 22kn.

Neel 45 wins final result out of leg 1 and 2 (low point system)!

What did people say:

1. They liked the good performance upwind, even without daggerboard we didn't lose a lot against the monohulls. The finish of leg 2 was an upwind tacking battle against a Bavaria 56 over more than 10 miles in winds from 2-6knots, where we finished about 5 minutes in front of the Bavaria.
2. The boat can easily achieve 7-11 knots of boat speed in winds of 7-15kn.
3. The boat is very quiet inside the cabin, no banging under the bridge deck.
4. Sleeping and cooking is no problem even upwind no one did complain, all had a good sleep.
5. If bad weather is approaching and there is no wind, you can do 9-10kn under engine in order to run for shelter.
6. The cockpit with the cockpit tent gives good shelter from the elements, but also at the helm you don't have a lot of spray.
7. If necessary you can steer the boat from inside the cabin with the autopilot.
8. The boat has a lot of storage space and a very good cooling system.

Did we have big problems?

No, the only things we experienced were minor issues like the toilet doorhandle didn't work properly or one bottom drawer in the galley area didn't want to stay closed, or one shower head fell off after a short time at sea.