**Only One Chance Remains to Challenge the Leaders**

**WW Summer Series 2017-18 Race 24**

**(21 Mar 2018)**

Race 24 became the fifth race to be abandoned this series. This is the most abandoned races in the past 5 summer series. Yachts planning a late challenge on the leaders have been thwarted. Only 5 of the last 9 races have been completed with 4 races abandoned due to strong winds. However there is still one race remaining and at this stage the breeze for race 25 is looking more favourable.

This race saw an east south easterly wind average 25 knots at Fawkner Beacon for the afternoon.

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| Wind Speed  knots | Nos of Races |
| Over 25 | 4 |
| 20 to 25 | 2 |
| 15 to20 | 6 |
| 10 to15 | 9 |
| Below 10 | 3 |
| TOTAL | 24 |

The wind speed in the chart (left) and the table below is based upon observations at Fawkner Beacon

Although WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft) has a good lead at the top of the aggregate others in the top ten are more closely matched. There is only one point separating BON VIVANT (Russell Keays) from SECOND NATURE (Paul Mentiplay). The same margin separates RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp) from BARNSTORMER (Brian Barnes) in 5th and 6th places respectively. The last race could see changes in the order of the top ten.

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| **WW Summer Series 2017-18 Aggregate Top Ten** | | | | |
| **POSITION** | **NUMBER** | **YACHT** | **SKIPPER** | **POINTS** |
| **1** | SM430 | WHITE POINTER | Tom Raft | 74 |
| **2** | SM355 | BON VIVANT | Russell Keays | 83 |
| **3** | SM6161 | SECOND NATURE | Paul Mentiplay | 84 |
| **4** | SM477 | ESPRIT | Garry Anderson | 89 |
| **5** | 2627 | RAZZLE DAZZLE | Andrew Stopp | 91 |
| **6** | SM424 | BARNSTORMER | Brian Barnes | 92 |
| **7** | SM5985 | INSX | Rob Sill | 94 |
| **8** | SM3535 | WHITE NOISE | Daniel Edwards | 100 |
| **9** | SM367 | LEBROK | Theo Korbel | 102 |
| **10** | SM32 | FOGGY DEW | Grahame Jones | 103 |

The Misty Blue Trophy, Shebassa Shield and Noelle Coram Trophy are yet to be decided. The winner of the Misty Blue cannot be decided until after the last race and indications are that there are three serious contenders. The Shebassa Shield is also finely balanced with 2 points separating the top three contenders. 28 March should see the final race in the 6 race Century Class series. The result of the Noelle Coram Trophy is dependent upon a yachts placing in both the Wednesday and Sunday summer series. The final race of the Sunday series is not held until the 8th April 2018. There are 11 yachts in contention.

