A Big Fleet & A Good Race WW Winter Series 2018 Race 12

(20 Jun 2018)



Not only was this a particularly good result for the three podium finishers but also for CONQUEST (Paul Jacka) and FUN & GAMES (Alan Edwards) all of whom had their best result of the series. The 39 yacht fleet sailed around the 9.9 nautical mile course 26 in a steady northerly breeze that averaged about 15 knots for the afternoon. There were few if any lumps and bumps in the sea and there was enough sunshine to produce a very pleasant afternoon sail.



The race was won by PERFECT SENSE (Peter Sutton) who became the second yacht to record two wins in the series. In 2nd place was BON VIVANT (Russell Keays) who had her first podium finish of the series. PIZAZZ (P. Martyn & R. Kemp) also had her first podium finish of the series when she crossed the finish line 3rd place. These three yachts started close together (3 minutes 59 seconds apart) and finished 5 minutes 41 seconds apart. ARCH DE TRIOMPHE was triumphant by winning Start of the Day with a time of 3 seconds. For the second successive week STAMPEDE (Christopher Gendala) recorded the fastest elapsed time of the race beating her closest rival by 2 minutes 28 seconds.

Despite finishing 39th PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) continues to lead the aggregate. With a total of 38 points she is 3 points clear of WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft) in 2nd. After changing places with WHITE POINTER, SUMMER WIND drops into 3rd from 2nd place with a total of 42 points. VANTAGE (Darren Hunter) and ALIBI (Denis Hambleton) join the aggregate top ten in place of SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler) and WIND SPEED (Les Browne).



PERFECT SENSE has completed 4 races this series for two wins, a 7th and a 24th place. Her first win (race 8) was by a margin 1 minute 49 seconds. She improved on that margin in this race which she won by 2 minutes 7 seconds. PERFECT SENSE was the 14th yacht to start this race 29 seconds late for a 24 minute handicap. She completed the first 3 legs of the race in 61 minutes and 42 seconds rounding number 4 for the first time in 4th place. She started 1 place before PIZAZZ but after 3 legs she had moved 6 places ahead. PERFECT SENSE sailed the final 3 legs of the course in 49 minutes 8 seconds and was first across the finish line at 15:45:19. She is sailing this series as a casual entry so is not included in the aggregate.

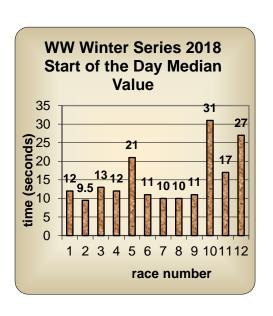
As a result of this race BON VIVANT entered the aggregate top ten for the first time this series in 8th place. She now has 3 top ten finishes. Her handicap has been consistent and remained on 21 minutes since race 3. Her average start time has been about 24 seconds but she started this race only 14 seconds late from 11th place. After the first 3 legs of the race she had moved up into 5th place - 1 minute 9 seconds behind PERFECT SENSE. BON VIVANT sailed the remaining 3 legs of the course in 50 minutes 6 seconds and was 2nd across the finish line at 15:47:26. She had started the race 1 place behind SALTSHAKER but finished 16 minutes 34 seconds and 34 places ahead.



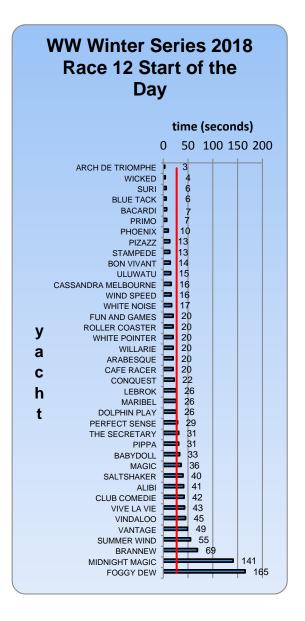


PIZAZZ has completed 5 races this series and her previous best result was a 9th place in race 1. She was away to good start in this race, only 13 seconds late for her 25 minute start from 15th place. The first 3 legs of the course were completed in 65 minutes 49 seconds whilst the final 3 legs were sailed in 49 minutes 58 seconds. PIZAZZ had moved up from 15th to 10th at the first rounding of number 4 to finish in 3rd place at 15:51:00. She had an elapsed time of 1:56:00 – the median elapsed time for the race. The other Oceanis 34 in the race – SURI (Rick Blanck) – started 2 places ahead of PIZAZZ but had fallen 5 places behind after the first 3 legs and finished 23 places astern. PIZAZZ was 43rd in the aggregate before this race and moved up 3 places into 40th.

For some reason(s) northerly starts tend not to be as good as southerly starts. This was no exception with the median start time of 27 seconds the second slowest of the series. Only 7 yachts started within 10 seconds of their handicap with 3 yachts starting more than 60 seconds late. ARCH DE TRIOMPHE won the start which has seen 13 different winners in 12 races. (There was a 3 way tie in race 1).

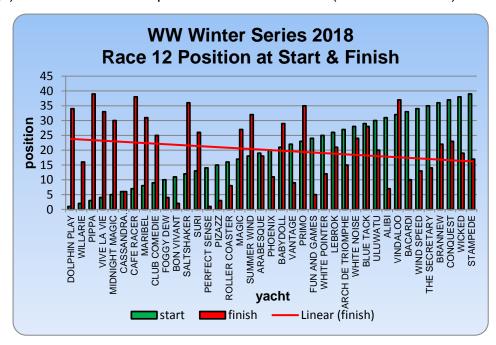


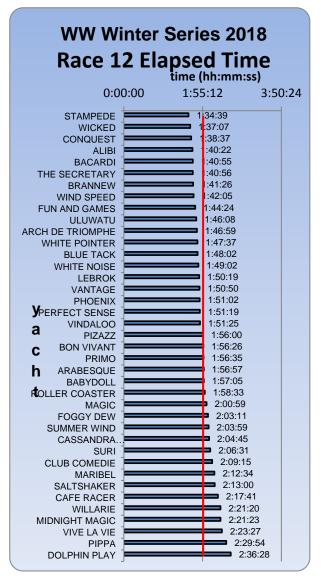




The 39 yacht fleet started the race 55 minutes 47 seconds apart. They were 21 minutes 23 seconds apart after 3 legs and finished 23 minutes 35 seconds apart. WICKED (Mike Welsh) and ULUWATU (Mal Billings) finished 1 second apart as did VIVE LA VIE (Alan Sutherland) and

DOLPHIN PLAY (John Brennan). The majority of the early finishers (7) had started mid fleet. This included the three podium finishers.





The median elapsed time for the race was 1:56:00 with a range of 61 minutes 49 seconds.

STAMPEDE recorded the fastest time – 2 minutes 28 seconds faster than WICKED. CONQUEST recorded the third fastest time in only her 2nd race of the series.

FUN & GAMES had her best result of the series and sailed the 9th fastest time of the race.



By the Way

There were tears of joy at the Wailing Wall this week with the list of handicaps showing only 1 handicap increase but 24 decreases. SUMMER WIND received 3 minutes for her win in race 11with 24 lucky yachts receiving a 1 minute decrease. Alas none of the 24 made it onto the podium this week.



Some crews stand others sit.





BACARDI takes a close look at the anonyma.



ALIBI, ULUWATU & BLUE TACK try their luck inshore



Not everyone sets sails like WINDSPEED



LEBROK had some minor gear failure but were happy to fix it whilst underway



MAGIC (left) & PHOENIX (right) with plenty of wind in their sails.





Something to ponder?



Somebody has to do it.



Through 4 and on the way to number 7



WILLARIE finished 16th with 2 onboard.



Winter solstice is getting closer **Photos by Bruce Parry**

