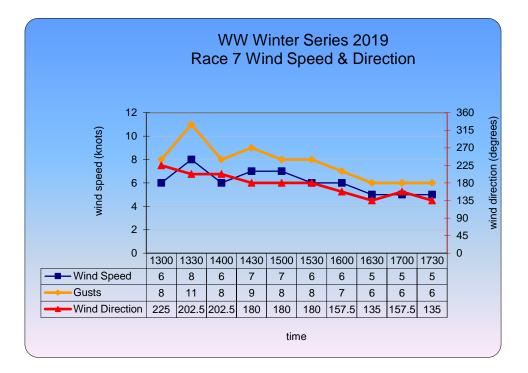
Variety is the Spice of Sailing Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2019 Race 7 (15 May 2019)



After yachts in race 6 recorded their fastest speed of the series the yachts in race 7 recorded their slowest. A breeze that averaged only 6 knots for the afternoon kept the 37 yacht fleet moving albeit slowly. So slow that the 10.2 nautical mile course 27 was shortened by 2 legs as the breeze gradually eased and moved towards the east. All the fleet completed the race but 7 yachts were judged not to have signed on their crew before the race and their score was increased by 5 points. That takes the total to 14 yachts this series that have not signed on their crew in accordance with the Notice of Race.



With a time of 2 seconds UPBEAT (Peter Dunne) won Start of the Day – her first win of the series. The Triton 24 DOLPHIN PLAY (John Brennan) demonstrated her versatility by winning her second consecutive race. This time in the relative calm conditions of race 7 compared to the windier conditions of race 6. Second across the finish line was SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler) who had "not signed on" so MAGIC (Phil Spry Bailey) was second with CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) 3rd. The fastest elapsed time of 1:42:18 was recorded by VINDALOO (John Taylor) in her 2nd race of the series.

The win by DOLPHIN PLAY takes her to the top of the series aggregate with LEBROK (Theo Korbel) in 2nd place and WICKED (Mike welsh) 3rd.



DOLPHIN PLAY was one of only 3 yachts to have her handicap increased following her success in race 6. She still led the fleet into race 7 starting 33 seconds late for her -2 minute handicap. This was 78 seconds ahead of her closest rival. DOLPHIN PLAY had increased her lead to 8 minutes 14 seconds as she rounded SYC 4. She completed the final 2 legs of the race in 39 minutes 54 seconds and crossed the finish line at 15:48:18 – 3 minutes 36 seconds ahead of her closest rival. DOLPHIN PLAY becomes the first yacht this series to record two

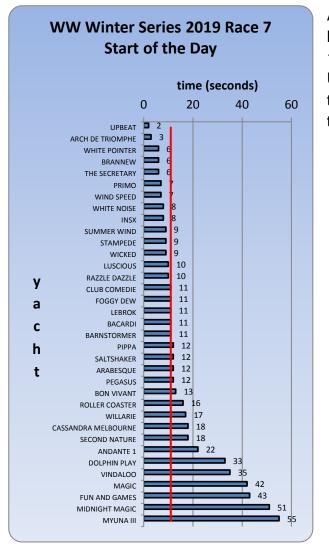
podium finishes. She has completed all 5 races in the series and her two wins takes her to the top of the series aggregate.

MAGIC is also one of 13 yachts that have completed all five races this series. This race provided her best result and first podium finish this winter. She started from 14th place 42 seconds late for her 27 minute handicap – the handicap she has kept throughout the series so far. MAGIC was 5th at the first rounding of SYC 4 and after sailing the entire course in 1:56:13 she crossed the finish line at 15:53:13. She had the same 27 minute handicap as both BON VIVANT Russell Keays) and ROLLER COASTER (Geoffrey Simpson) but sailed the course 7 minutes 59 seconds and 2 minutes 14 seconds respectively. This 2nd place took MAGIC from 20th to 5th in the aggregate.





CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE started the race from 7th place 18 seconds late for her 17 minute handicap. This was 18 minutes 45 seconds after DOLPHIN PLAY. She had reduced this margin to 8 minutes 14 seconds and moved into 2nd place at the first rounding of SYC 4. CASSANDRA was able to reduce this margin even further to 5 minutes 11 seconds during the last 2 legs of the race. She had sailed the course in 2:06:29 and crossed the finish line at 15:53:29 to complete her 3rd race of the series. It was her best result of the series so far and she moves from 33rd to 24th in the aggregate.

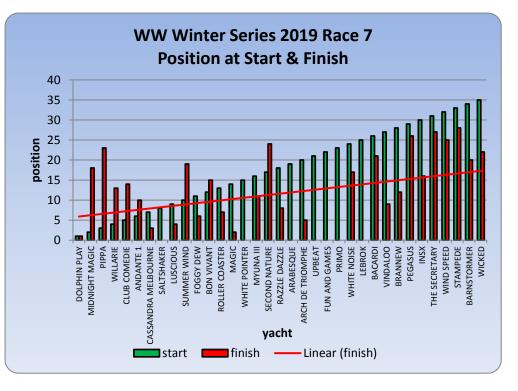


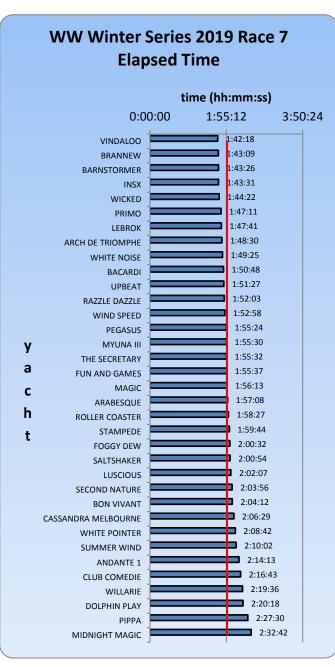
All 37 yachts started the race within 55 seconds or less of their handicaps. The median start time was 11 seconds – the second best of the series. UPBEAT won Start of the Day but the edge was taken off her win as she was one of the 7 yachts that were judged not to have registered her crew.



For the second successive week the late starters had difficulty catching those that started

earlier. They weren't helped by a breeze that eased a little and a course that was shortened. The fleet started 52 minutes 36 seconds apart. At SYC 4 this gap was 42 minutes 29 seconds which became 31 minutes 26 seconds at the finish line. The closest finish was 2 seconds between **ARCH DE TRIOMPHE** and FOGGY DEW.





The median elapsed time for the race was 1:56:13. VINDALOO recorded the best elapsed time. She started from 27th place and finished 9th overtaking 18 yachts during the course of the race – the most of any yacht.





BRANNEW (left) & THE SECRETARY (right) were 2 of the 3 yachts that made a 6 second start.





SALTSHAKER (above left) was 2nd across the finish line but was judged DPI. CLUB COMEDIE (centre) had her best result of the series. SUMMER WIND (right) also had her best result in her 2nd race of the series.



(Above) WHITE NOISE For Sale (Sail)



LUSCIOUS (left) had her best finish for the series.

The FOGGY DEW crew (right) found time for afternoon tea & still finished 6th.









LEBROK (left), ARABESQUE (centre) & PRIMO (right) were three of the 7 yachts judged DPI.



ARCH DE TRIOMPHE (left) made the 2nd best start of the day & finished 5th.

STAMPEDE (right) about to start the last leg of the race.



Graham Zurwess