

Breeze Sets Back Series Opener

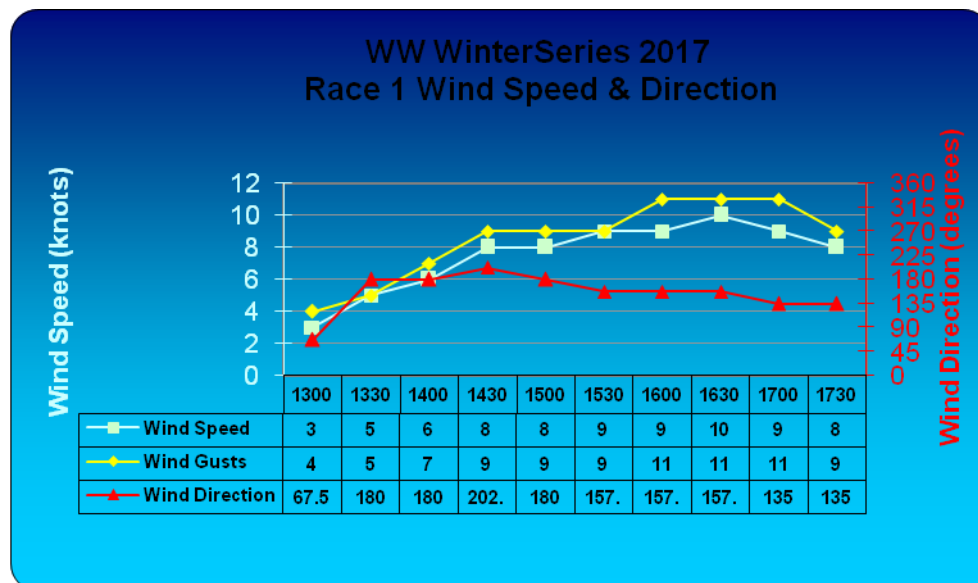
Race 1 Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2017

(5 Apr 2017)



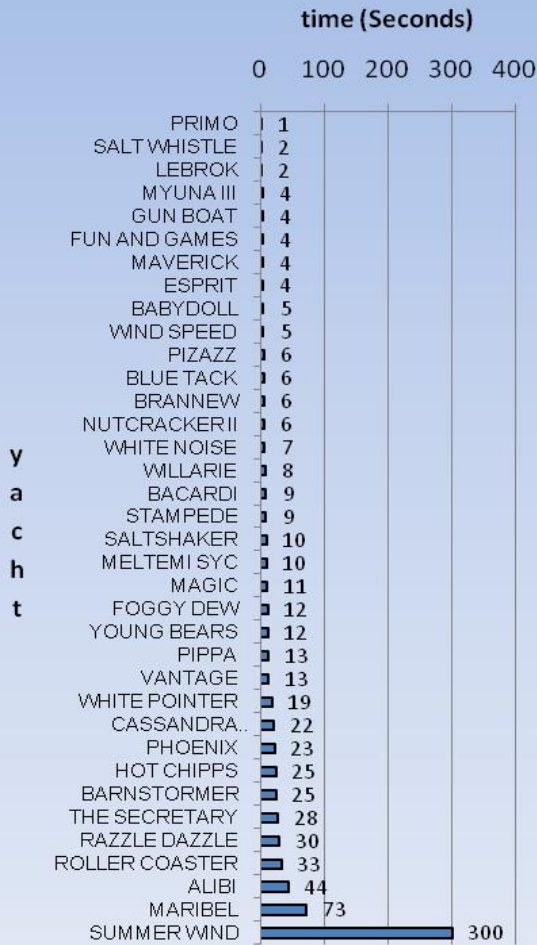
It was a great day for the start of the winter series. Thirty-six yachts went out on the water including a couple not seen before on Wednesday. One was the Hanse 385 ROLLER COASTER (Geoffrey Simpson) and the other a Sun Fast 3600 MAVERICK (Rod Smallman). In addition there were two yachts not seen on Wednesday since the 2016 winter series - the 2016 Winter Series aggregate winner GUN BOAT (Bruce Alexander) and PHOENIX (Alex Tseberg).

As usual the race was scheduled to start at 1330, but was postponed for 25 minutes due to a lack of breeze. (BOM forecast "variable about 10 knots [for] early afternoon"). The 25-minute postponement was long enough to see the breeze shift from east north east to the south and increase in speed. It averaged almost 8 knots for the afternoon and this was enough to get all the 36-yacht fleet started around the 7 legs, 9.8 nautical mile course 12. This was a long course for a breeze that wind charts indicated were unlikely to reach 10 knots in the SYC area.



The majority of the fleet made it to the penultimate leg of the race but not the finish. The 1630 time limit was reached before a yacht crossed the finish line. Historical data from 2013 to the present indicates the speed of the WW fleet is down to an average of about 3.68 knots when the wind speed is around 8 knots. To sail a 9.8 nautical mile course would, on paper, take 2.66 hours – longer than the 2 hours 35 minutes permitted for this race. The fleet was set an unattainable task.

WW Winter Series 2017 Race 1 Start of the Day



Start of the Day was won by PRIMO (Steve Copley). She was the best among some strong competition. Twenty yachts started within 10 seconds or less of their handicaps whilst only two were more than a minute late. That included a yacht that started too soon and was penalized 5 minutes.



Both these yachts made their debut in this WW Winter Series. On the left is ROLLER COASTER. On the right is MAVERICK who has entered the winter series as part of her preparation for the Melbourne Osaka Race.

RACE Review – a clash of the Tritons: The two Tritons who were just at No3 when time ran out had duelled for around 2 ½ hours. The race saw Pippa gain about 3.5 mins on the first leg to get close to Willarie who started 5 mins earlier, but could not get in front of her just remaining a few boat lengths behind. Ignoring the end of the official race time Willarie crossed the finish line about 40 seconds in front of Pippa. A moral victory for Graeme.

Choose your own solution

Race 1 profile:

MARKS	Time Taken	Speed	Time of day
4 to 5	42.59	4.4	2:43:00
5 to 2	41.11	3.3	3:24:00
2 to 3	13.19	5	3:37:00
3 to 4	11:43	4.2	3:50:00
4 to 1	17	4	4:07:00
1 to 3	24	3.9	4:32:00
3 to 4	11.27	4.4	4:43:00

What would you do if you were asked to conduct the next race?

(Race 2 currently is looking a similar weather pattern).

Would you ask the Sail Committee to give the power to the RO to change the time limit where conditions are suitable? (i.e. like this race when the conditions were perfect and plenty of daylight remaining).

Would you advocate the Sail Committee for extra time allotted for a race if the start is delayed?

Would you shorten at No 4 when the fleet was separated by about 21 mins at 3:50 ?

Would you try to finish the race at No 1 with a boat finish?

Would you ask some of the yachts on the water what their GPS was predicting their ETA at the next buoy, and if they thought they would finish the race?

Recreational Boating - **A night that will be filled with Humour**

Wednesday 26 April 2017, 7:30pm

SANDY MACKINNON will entertain you with tales of his
Unlikely adventures of his voyage in JACK de Crow

Sailing from the UK to the Black Sea in his 10'10" Mirror dingy.

More Details [CLICK](#)

Daniel Edwards - Video King (Click on the link below to view his latest video clip)

As Daniel will advise you, in case you do not know, a sponsor of ORCV is the skipper of Sm3600 MAVERICK Rod Smallman, a new WW's yacht.

<https://www.chirpingbird.com.au/blogs/videos/chirping-bird-sponsors-the-orcv>

Enter for CENTURY CLASS before April 24

For 2017 Wednesday Wonders series Winter season the dates of the races that count are: April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, August 30, September 27. These are the last Wednesday in the month.

All eligible boats need to complete an entry form for the Century Class Series and lodge it with the Boating Department.

[MARK WINDWARD](#) with thanks to Windward Buoy, Daniel et.al