

Tower Start : Boat Finish

Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2015 Race 21

19 Aug 2015

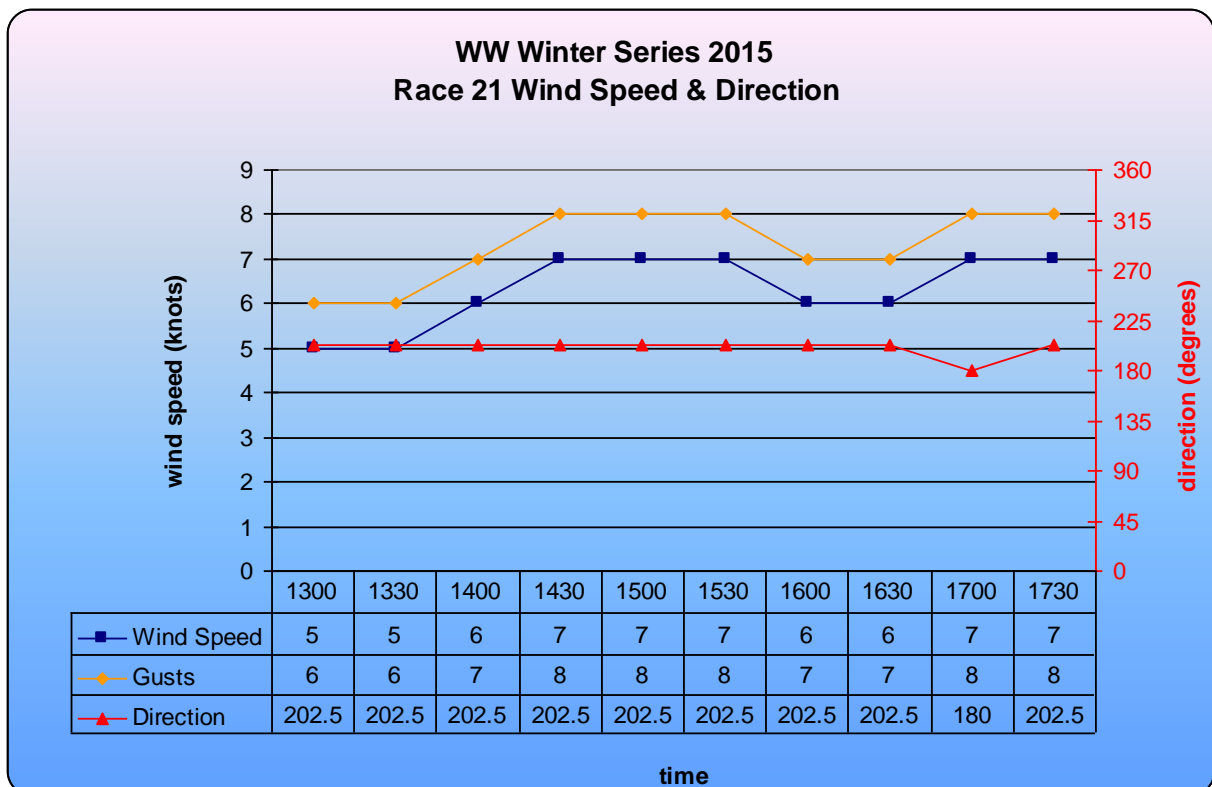


This is the first time this series that course 65 has been sailed. It is an 11-leg course approximately 11.2 nautical miles long and includes some unusual features for WW. It directs the fleet through number 4 twice offering 2 opportunities to shorten the course.

Number 3 is a mark of the course when sailing between marks 7 and 4. Not all yachts picked up this nuance and passed number 3 to port rather than starboard. In a breeze that averaged only 6 knots some starters would not have finished the race if the course had not been shortened. Instead of 11.2 nautical miles it was reduced to approximately 7.3 nautical miles.

Wednesday Wonders courses are usually shortened at number 4 but on this occasion someone “thought outside the square” and made a finish line between number 7 and the club boat Endeavour. This initiative ensured 31 yachts finished the race with the last yacht crossing the line at 16:28:36.

There was a good start to the race with 31 yachts starting within 48 seconds or less of their handicaps. With flat seas and a SSW breeze averaging 6 knots for the afternoon it was unlikely that any speed records would be broken. It wasn't the fastest, slowest or even the average race but the conditions were good although concentration was needed to achieve the best results. Fawkner Beacon observations reveal a relatively stable breeze not falling below 5 knots or rising above 7 knots for the afternoon.





Crossing the line in 1st place for the second time this series was the Cavalier 30, CAVALIER (David Lynch). CAVALIER has completed 16 races and recorded 3 podium finishes.

She had her first win in race 5 which was run in conditions similar to this race but around a different course. She had another “win” in race 10 when she finished second behind a visitor, Dark Energy in light conditions.

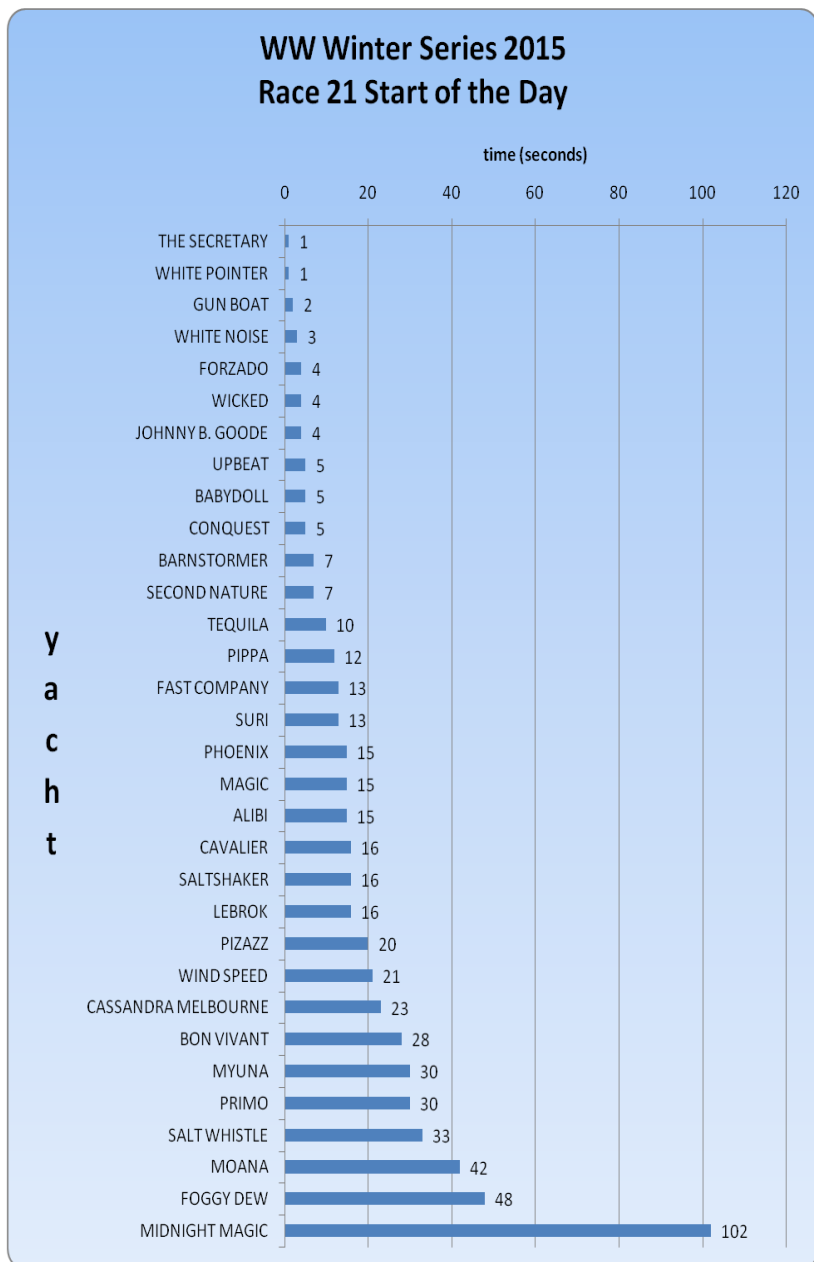
On this occasion she started from 6th place 16 seconds late for her 18 minute handicap. By the time she reached number 4 for the first time at 14:59:59 CAVALIER was leading the fleet. It took 2:09:02 for CAVALIER to complete the shortened course and was first across the finish line at 15:57:02. This win lifted CAVALIER 3 places in the aggregate to be 10th with 75 points.

The J24 GUN BOAT (Bruce Alexander) moved up 5 places in the aggregate from 11th to 6th helped by her 2nd place in this race. She finished 2 minutes 17 seconds behind CAVALIER after starting 8 minutes 46 seconds behind her. GUN BOAT started from 14th place a mere 2 seconds late for her 26-minute handicap. By the first rounding of number 4 she was in 5th place and had reduced the time between herself and CAVALIER to 5 minutes 22 seconds. It took GUN BOAT 53 minutes 58 seconds to complete the last 2 legs of the course and after sailing for a total of 2:03:19 crossed the finish line at 15:59:19 in 2nd place. This completed her 16th race of the series and she has recorded 2 podium finishes and a further 4 top ten places.



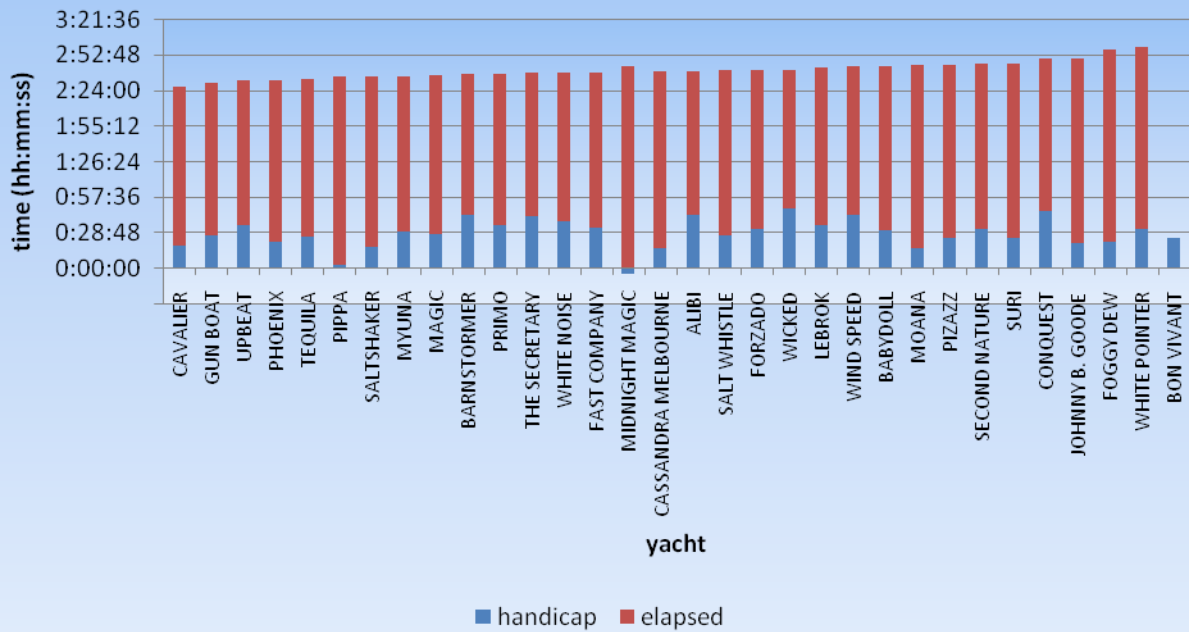
Finishing in 3rd place 2 minutes 49 seconds behind GUN BOAT was the Beneteau 367 UPBEAT (Peter Dunne). She too had a good start only 5 seconds late for a 34-minute handicap from 23rd position. After the first 4 legs of the race UPBEAT had improved to be in 11th place. She continued her progress throughout the final 2 legs of the race to record the 5th fastest elapsed time of the day -1:58:08. Three Beneteau 367s started the race from 23rd, 24th and 25th place only 1 minute 25 seconds apart. They finished 3rd, 11th and 21st with a gap between them of 9 minutes 35 seconds. UPBEAT crossed the finish line in 3rd place at 16:02:08 to record her 2nd podium finish from 8 completed races, which helped into 29th place in the aggregate.

It was a tie for Start of the Day between the J44 THE SECRETARY (George Shaw) and the OCEANIS 43 WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft) who both started 1 second late for their respective handicaps. This is the 2nd Start of the Day win for THE SECRETARY following her success in race 15. Thirteen yachts started within 10 seconds or less of their handicaps with the median start time being 13 seconds – 4th best of the series.



There was a close finish for 10th place between the Bavaria Match 42 BARNSTORMER (Brian Barnes) and the Beneteau 367 PRIMO (Steve Copley), which BARNSTORMER narrowly won by 1 second. On average a yacht crossed the finish line every 59 seconds. The fleet started the race 51 minutes 22 seconds apart and by the first rounding of number 4 this gap was reduced to 30 minutes. The difference increased slightly as the race progressed with the fleet finishing 31 minutes 34 seconds apart.

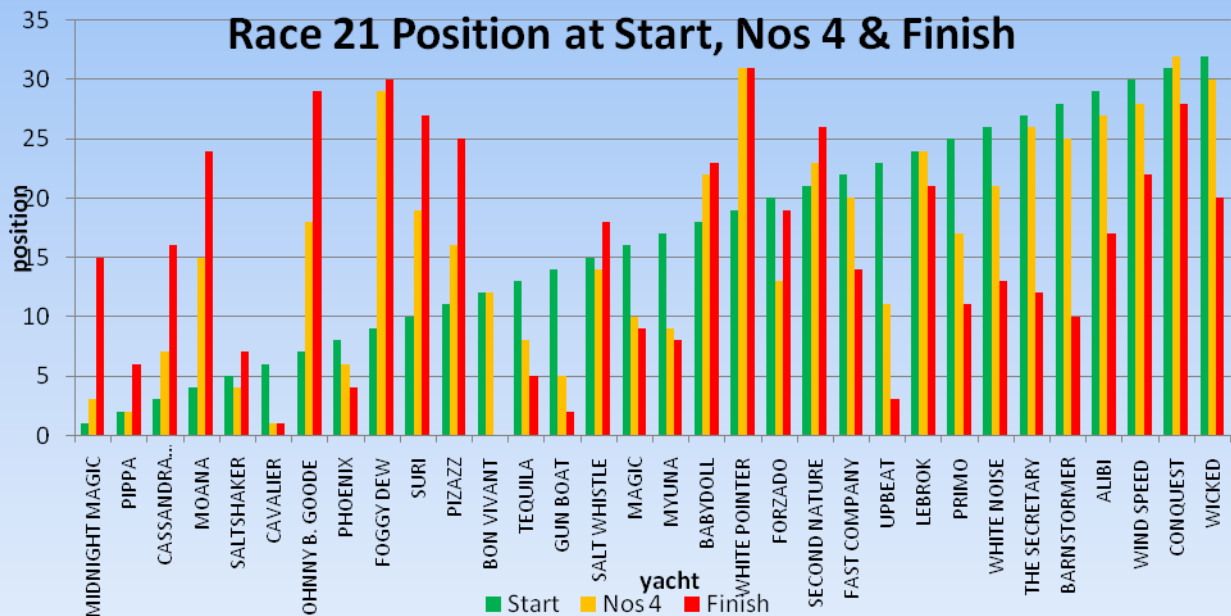
WW Winter Series 2015 Race 21 Results



Amongst the first 11 yachts to complete the race were 4 from amongst the early starters, 4 from mid fleet but only 2 from the last 11 yachts to start the race. The late finishers included 5 early starters, 4 mid fleet starters and 2 late starters.

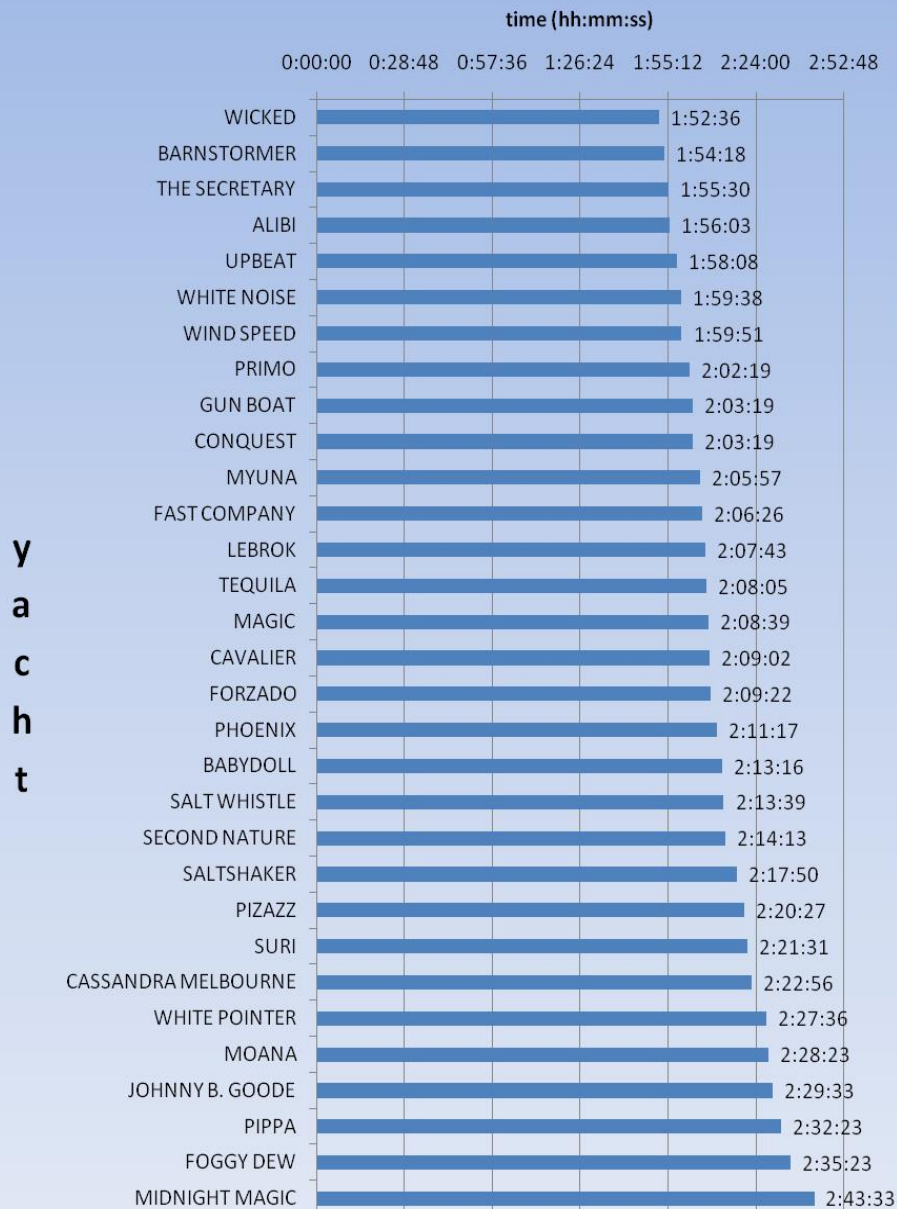
WW Winter Series 2015

Race 21 Position at Start, Nos 4 & Finish



The average elapsed time for the race was 2:12:00. The fastest time of 1:52:36 was recorded by the Beneteau 40, WICKED (Mike Welsh) this was 1 minute 42 seconds faster than BARNSTORMER and 2 minutes 54 seconds faster than THE SECRETARY. Two dissimilar yachts, the J24 GUN BOAT and the Beneteau First 45 CONQUEST (Paul Jacka) shared the same elapsed time of 2:03:19.

WW Winter Series 2015 Race 21 Elapsed Time



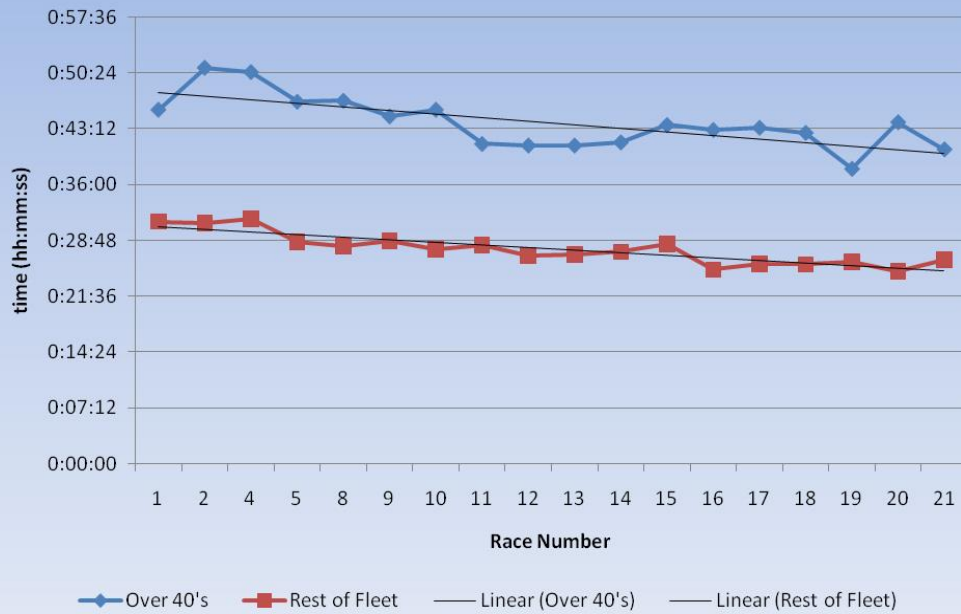
What's happened to the over 40's?

There are 49 yachts entered in this WW winter series aggregate and 12 (approximately a quarter of the fleet) have an overall length of more than 40 feet.

None of the over 40's has won a race this series and between them they have collected only 5 podium finishes. At the end of race 21 their average aggregate position is 34th with only 1 of them in the aggregate top ten. On a level playing field it could be expected that almost a quarter of the fleet would amass almost a quarter of the spoils. With 18 completed races that would be 4 to 5 wins and an additional 9 places – a total of 14 podium finishes – almost 3 times more than the number achieved.

They have to be “in it to win it”. The over 40's have sailed 104 races, an average of about 8.7 races per yacht. This is less than the average of 10+ races per yacht for the fleet as a whole. They are faster than the average yacht with an elapsed time of 1:43:40 about 11 minutes quicker than the fleet average of 1:54:33. On the other hand they have an average handicap of about 44 minutes about 16 minutes more than the fleet average of about 28 minutes.

WW Winter Series 2015 Over 40s v Rest of Fleet Average Handicaps.



OVER 40's RECORD				
YACHT	Nos Of Races	Ave Speed	Ave Elapsed	Ave Handicap
BACARDI	9	4.87	1:46:50	0:44:27
BARNSTORMER	8	5.55	1:41:14	0:45:30
CARPE DIEM	9	5.10	1:37:42	0:51:47
CONQUEST	8	5.05	1:41:31	0:49:45
ESPRIT	7	5.58	1:39:56	0:51:43
LUCILLE	1	5.72	1:43:46	0:33:00
PUBLIC BAR	9	5.35	1:43:08	0:47:20
SHIMMER	2	5.10	1:51:59	0:46:00
STAMPEDE	9	5.87	1:34:16	0:53:20
THE SECRETARY	16	5.00	1:42:57	0:43:23
ULUWATU	16	5.06	1:45:15	0:39:00
WHITE POINTER	10	4.37	1:55:20	0:29:00
Average	8.67	5.22	1:43:40	0:44:31

If you know what's happened to the over 40's Please advise Click [MARK Woodward](#)

FAST FEET TABLE - YACHT SPEED									
YACHT	AVERAGE	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
WIND SPEED	5.13	5.07	3.73	5.27	5.83	6.56	5.83	3.65	
FORZADO	4.76	4.74	3.11	5.48	5.18	6.08	5.37	3.39	
MAGIC	4.49	4.39	3.39	4.66	4.76	5.88	4.95	3.40	
WHITE NOISE	4.45	5.04	0	5.02	5.49	6.41	5.53	3.66	
PHOENIX	4.32	3.73	2.78	4.17	4.71	6.03	5.46	3.34	
SURI	4.32	4.08	2.87	4.47	4.89	6.07	4.75	3.10	
CONQUEST	4.17	5.07	3.77	5.62	5.63	0.00	5.59	3.55	
INSX	4.15	5.12	0	5.38	5.84	6.72	6.01	0	
FOGGY DEW	4.14	4.04	2.80	3.99	4.89	5.51	4.90	2.82	
THE SECRETARY	4.12	4.73	3.50	5.24	5.75	0.00	5.80	3.79	
MOANA	4.08	3.90	2.73	3.86	4.93	5.54	4.67	2.95	
ALIBI	3.93	0	0	5.27	5.89	6.68	5.85	3.77	
SALT WHISTLE	3.92	0	2.92	5.12	5.00	5.92	5.16	3.28	
WHITE POINTER	3.87	4.53	2.93	5.11	5.57	5.96	0.00	2.97	
SECOND NATURE	3.83	4.58	3.22	4.59	0	5.98	5.20	3.26	
PUBLIC BAR	3.79	4.90	3.81	5.49	5.61	6.70	0.00	0	
BABYDOLL	3.74	4.60	3.04	4.79	5.23	0.00	5.25	3.29	
MYUNA	3.70	4.79	3.12	4.49	4.93	0.00	5.09	3.48	
ULUWATU	3.68	4.56	3.31	0	5.46	6.73	5.70	0	
BARNSTORMER	3.67	4.82	0	5.27	5.82	0.00	5.96	3.83	
JOHNNY B. GOODE	3.59	0	2.87	4.07	4.76	5.81	4.68	2.93	
PIPPA	3.58	3.75	2.77	3.48	3.39	4.83	3.98	2.87	
GUN BOAT	3.57	3.97	3.32	4.27	4.87	0.00	5.00	3.55	
WICKED	3.55	5.45	3.78	5.51	6.21	0.00	0.00	3.89	
CAVALIER	3.53	4.36	3.00	4.05	4.59	5.29	0.00	3.39	
PIAZZ	3.29	0	0	4.09	5.21	6.06	4.52	3.12	
FAST COMPANY	3.19	4.83	3.19	0	5.35	0.00	5.49	3.46	
SALTSHAKER	3.07	0	0	3.77	4.41	5.29	4.81	3.18	
TEQUILA	2.99	4.26	3.27	0	4.76	0.00	5.21	3.42	
UPBEAT	2.96	0	0	0	5.19	6.30	5.53	3.71	
MIDNIGHT MAGIC	2.75	3.75	2.44	3.20	3.64	0.00	3.57	2.68	
LEBROK	2.61	4.38	0	0	5.22	0.00	5.27	3.43	
STAMPEDE	2.59	0	0	5.76	6.36	0.00	6.01	0	
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	2.56	0	0	0	4.68	5.56	4.58	3.06	
PRIMO	2.39	4.98	3.31	4.87	0	0.00	0.00	3.58	
ESPRIT	2.10	0	2.95	5.55	6.23	0.00	0.00	0	
MY WAY	1.85	0	3.27	4.63	5.08	0.00	0.00	0	
WILLARIE	1.62	0	0	3.15	4.07	0.00	4.10	0	
VANTAGE	1.35	4.40	0	0	5.04	0.00	0.00	0	
CARPE DIEM	1.30	5.18	3.94	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	
FUN AND GAMES	0.75	5.24	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	
MORE NOISE	0.71	4.94	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	
BACARDI	0.69	4.85	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	
BELLABLU	0.69	4.80	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	
FIREFOX	0.61	4.29	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	
BON VIVANT	0.46	0	3.24	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	
ADAGIO	0.39	0	2.76	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	

The speed of each yacht is the rhumb line distance of the race, divided by the elapsed time.
A yacht not sailing is allocated 0 knots (in red).
Average speed is the average of the speed per race.



Mark's Sailing tips and lessons

Little Gun Boat and **Big** Gun Boat.



A SHIP THAT SIZE
WOULD KNOW THE
RULE ABOUT POWER
GIVES WAY TO
SAIL...WOULDN'T
THEY??

I HOPE MARK WINDWARD
DOESN'T DISAPPROVE OF
SHORTENING THE COURSE.
WE THINK IT IS EXCELLENT

I HEARD THE TOWER SAY IT
WOULD BE A BOAT FINISH,
BUT ISN'T A WARSHIP OVER
DOING IT A BIT?



Lesson 30 Downwind sailing.

It can pay off if you gybe to keep your sails full and your speed up. You do need a skillful crew. Peter Dunne acknowledges that

the crew work of Ian Hetherington & David Richardson helped Upbeat gain 3rd place. Their gybing was a very smooth operation.



Lesson 31 Get into a comfortable position to view your sails. It seems like Tequila has built a couch in the cockpit to make it easy to watch the trim. I hope the crew remembers to wake Alan in time!

Lesson 32

Gain extra experience in racing when you can.

Some yachts take this a bit too far. In an effort to improve his place in the Wednesday Wonders Jason has taken *More Noise* to Airlie Beach. He has won the IRC div 2.

I think a less publicized event might have

been a better choice as the handicapper will no doubt find out about this win. Going so far means he has missed a lot of WW races. I think he may not be back in time to improve his 36th placing in the series.



Mark's Mutinous Murmurings

A reminder to a skipper who is considering getting rid of extra crew during light winds by sitting them on a **stand up board**, that it is a requirement that you have the same number of crew at the finish as at the start. The CTV cameras will be keeping a close watch on stand up boards in the vicinity of the finish line, just in case you think this idea might work.

Jacque Hope is back in Melbourne sailing on **Salt Whistle**. **Afternoon tea** plays a much more important role in WW's than Mark realized. On Salt Whistle you can expect to be served Chocolate cake followed by port. I am not sure if that is why Jacque chooses Salt Whistle.

If you check the results you might notice that the yacht you thought missed **No 3 buoy** and passed it on port, and no one noticed, is now recorded as a **DNF**.

Phoenix, after having won the last two races, decided to be polite ...and maybe escape the handicapper's attention by finishing 4th. This now places her in first position in the winter series, 1.5 points ahead.

In race 14 she started off 20 min and won. The next race, 15, her handicap remained unchanged. In race 19 she sailed off 16 mins and won. In race 20 she sailed off 21 min handicap and won. In race 21 she started off 21 min handicap, the same time she started in race 20, and was 4th.

There was a **big cheer** from a number of yachts when the shortened course was announced. A lot of noise came from the **Secretary** but maybe that's because they had two skippers on board. Mark guesses they were as happy as the small yachts in front of them.

There is some concern about the **father son relationship** on board **Cavalier**. Dad might be accused of showing off just because his son was not on board. It should be OK though, as one of Cavalier's other wins was achieved in David's absence.

Peter Dransfield is preparing for his talk this **Thursday at SYC Port Phillip Room 7:30pm** It could be about sailing off Croatia, canal boating in France, or sailing the Atlantic.

Sailing Instructions A question was addressed to Mark re boat finishes, SI 15 (a) Club Courses. 'Unless otherwise stated in a notice to Competitors, they will finish at the Race Control Tower start/ finish line'. In response, a senior club personnel had no problems with a boat finish.

Reminder to Senior Citizens with old boats that **next Wednesday** is a **Century Class Race**.

Question 20 Another week to answer - send to [MARK Windward](#)

Thanks to Windward Buoy, other whisperers, and to the Papa Artsea for great photos. Your comments and feedback is invited. Please send to [MARK Windward](#)

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Circumference.

She was only a whisky-maker, but he loved her still.