

Who Was That? WW Winter Series 2016 Race 16 (20 Jul 2016)

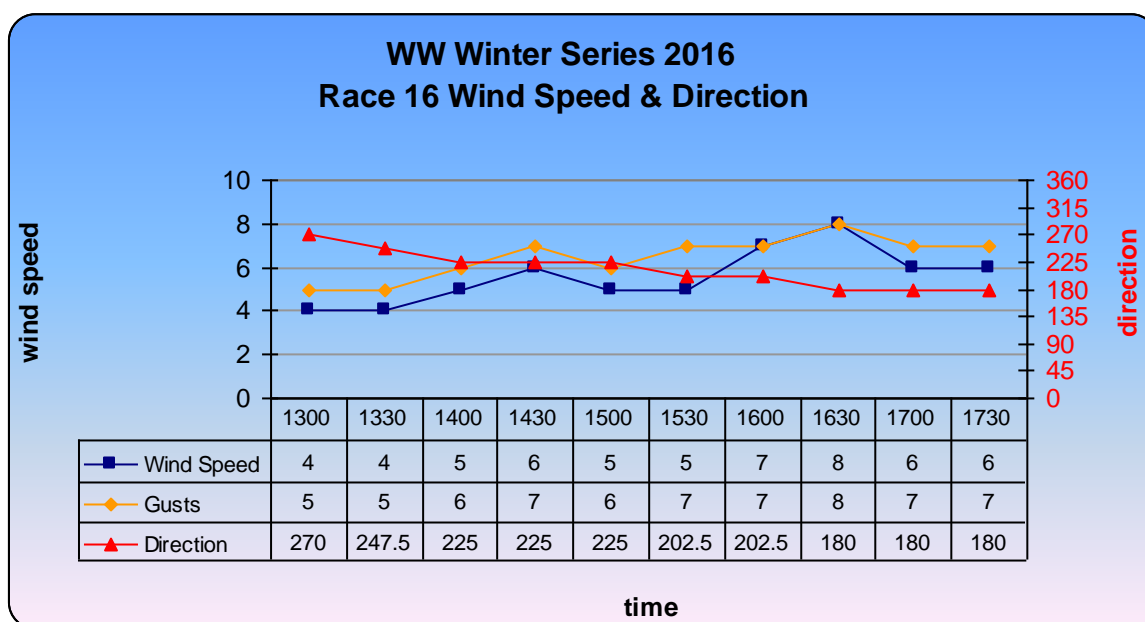


It was the Melges 32, PP1 (John Thomas), in her first Wednesday contest that left an indelible imprint on this race. She swept aside the rest of the fleet by not only sailing the shortened course 11 minutes 46 seconds faster than any other yacht but also finishing the race 10 minutes 46 seconds ahead. Could this one design be a glimpse of the future of WW?

The start was postponed for 40 minutes reducing the total sailing time by the same amount. In light and variable winds of less than 10 knots this led to a shortened course. It was something of a surprise that the race was not shortened at number 4. Instead Endeavour IV powered out to number 1 to form a finish line just in time to record PP1's win. The shortened course allowed all the 29 yachts in the fleet to complete the race within the extended time limit.

Earlier in the afternoon four yachts tied for Start of the Day, when they were 8 seconds late for their handicaps. THE SECRETARY (George Shaw) was one of the four and becomes the only yacht to win 2 starts this series.

Although some changed places the aggregate top ten comprised the same ten yachts as the week before. PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) extends her time at the top to ten weeks but is now equal on points with GUN BOAT (Bruce Alexander). The breeze averaged 6 knots for the afternoon and slowly shifted from the west into the south. This shift in wind direction meant there was no downwind leg in this race.





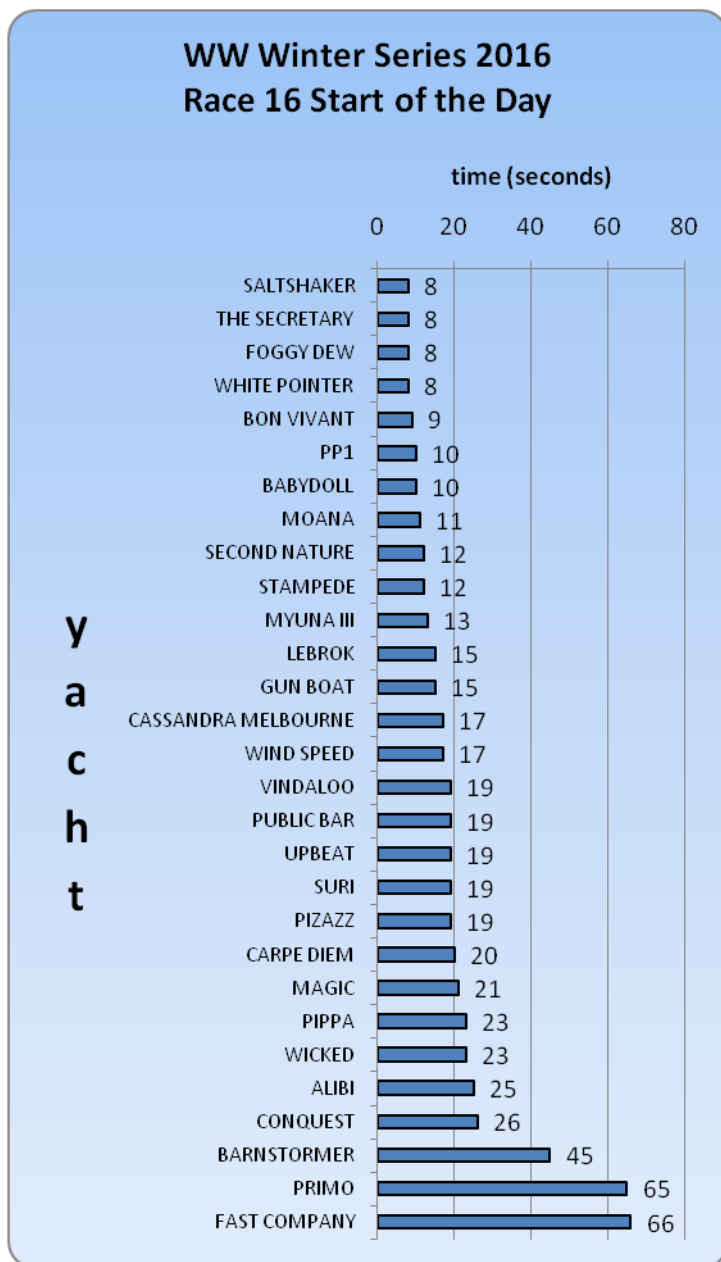
PP1 started from 21st place only 10 seconds late for her 43-minute handicap. By the end of the second leg of what was to become a 5-leg race she was well ahead of the majority of the fleet and was first to pass number 4. PP1 sailed the 5 legged course in 1:13:06 and crossed the finish line at 14:06:06. She started 51 seconds ahead of VINDALOO (John Taylor) and went on to beat her by 10 minutes 46 seconds. PP1 sailed as a visitor and is therefore not in the aggregate.

Also taking part as a visitor was another “sports boat” VINDALOO. She started the race from 19th place 19 seconds late for a 42 minute handicap. VINDALOO was unable to demonstrate the speed of PP1 but sailed the course in the second fastest time of 1:24:52 – 1 minute 14 seconds faster than her closest rival. She crossed the finish line in 2nd place at 16:16:52 more than 3 minutes in front of PUBLIC BAR (Clive Sondheim) with whom she shared the exact same start time.

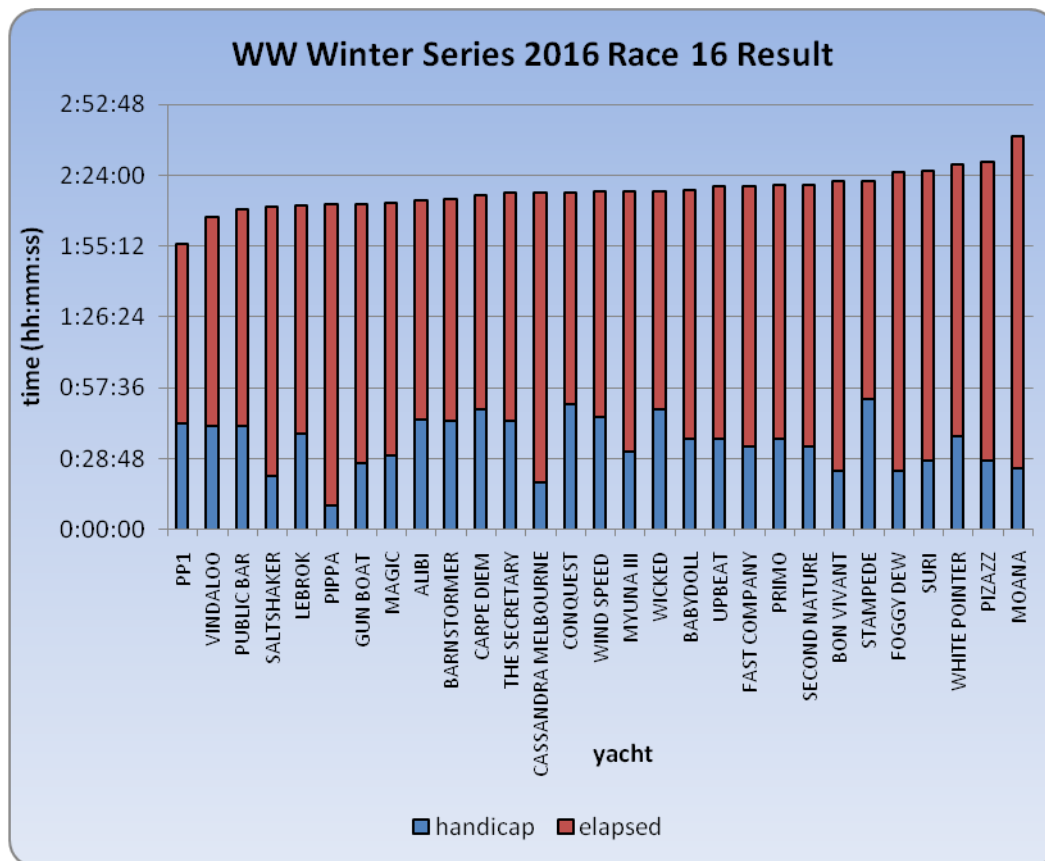


PUBLIC BAR is one of 5 yachts to have completed all 10 races in the series. This was her first podium finish which came on top of a 9th place in race 14, but prior to that her average finish position was about 18th. PUBLIC BAR was also 19 seconds late for her 42-minute handicap from 19th place. She completed the course in 1:28:03 – the 5th fastest time of the day – to cross the finish line at 16:20:03. This 3rd place helped PUBLIC BAR from 20th into 17th in the aggregate.

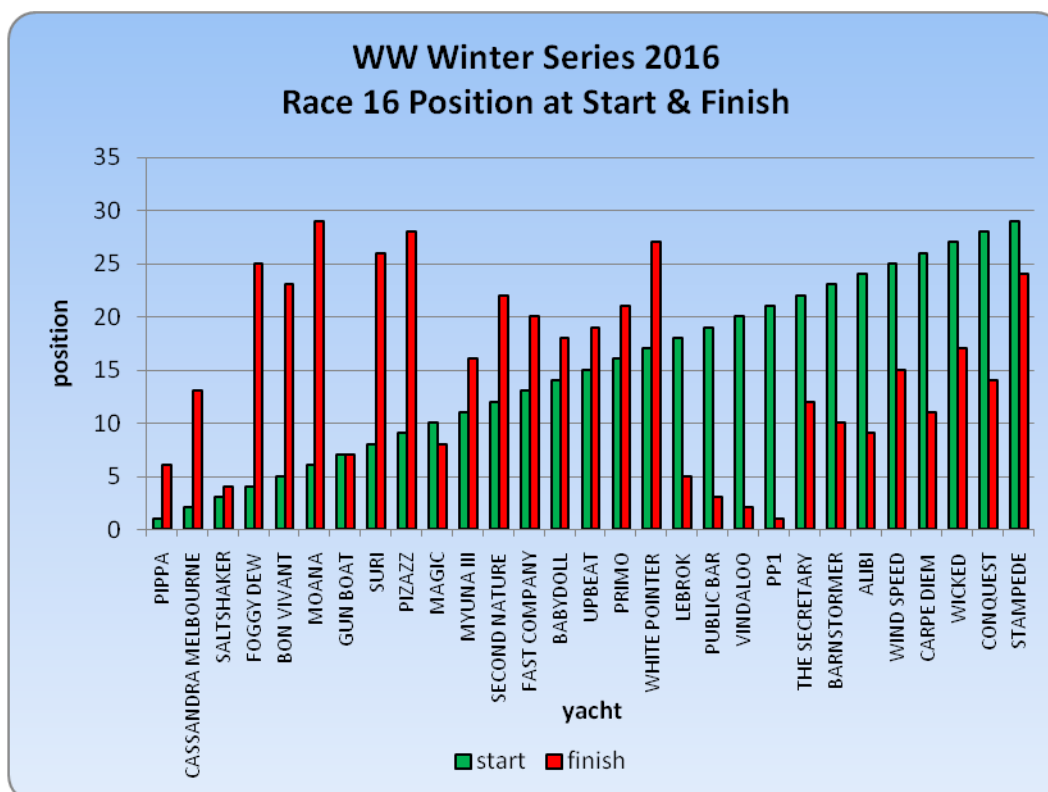
Despite the light breeze 26 of the 29-yacht fleet were away to a start of 26 seconds or better. In a 4-way tie the best start was 8 seconds recorded by SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler), THE SECRETARY, FOGGY DEW (Grahame Jones) and WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft). Five yachts recorded a start time of 19 seconds. The median start time was 17 seconds.



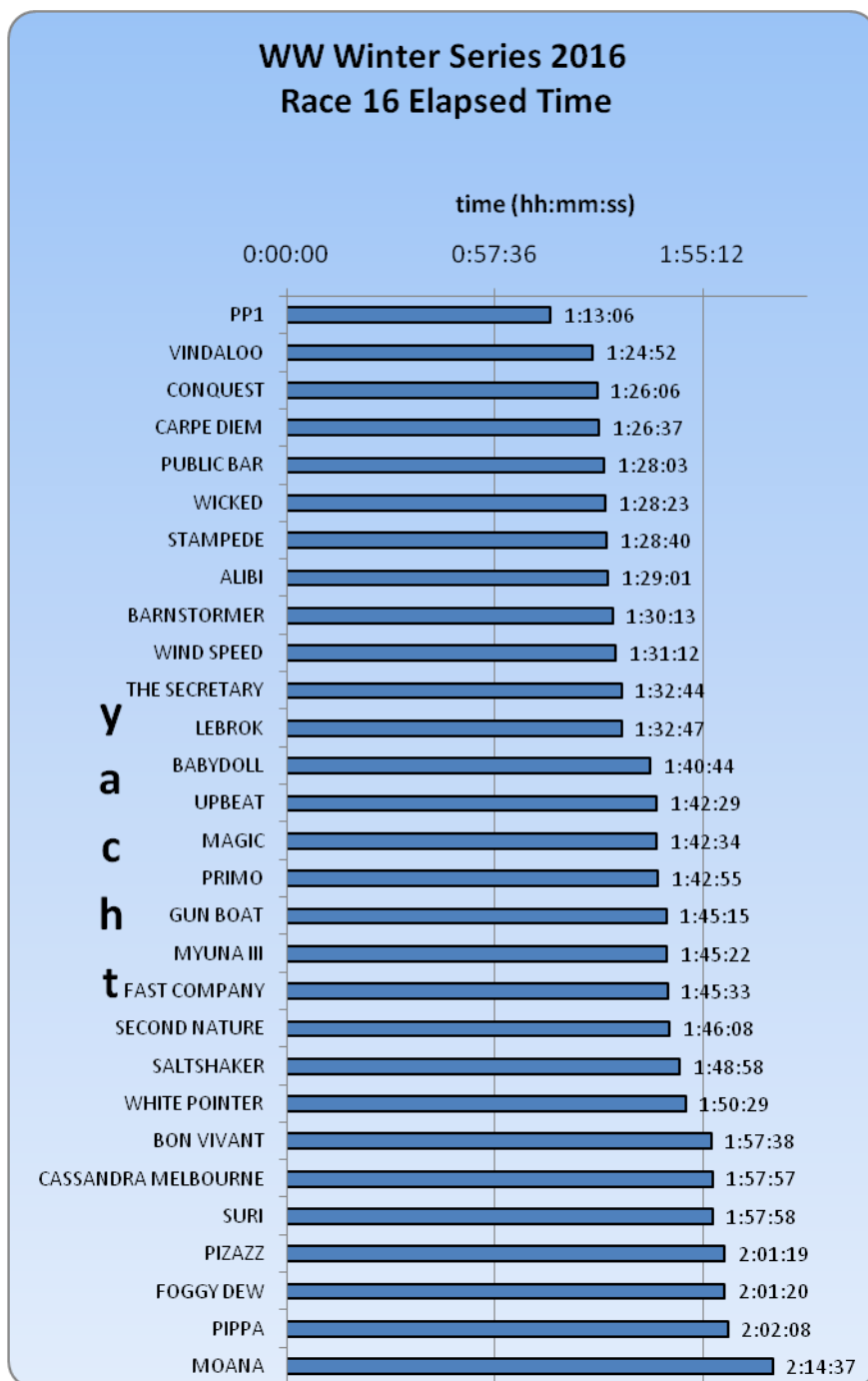
This race did not follow the usual “script” for a pursuit race. The fleet finished further apart than when they started. There was a gap of 42 minutes 49 seconds at the beginning of the race and 43 minutes 31 seconds separated the first from last finisher. Due to the lead established by PP1, no yachts finished within 10 minutes of the winner. However, there was a close finish for 16th place with MYUNA III (Geoffrey Nixon) edging out WICKED (Mike Welsh) by 1 second.



Sixteen of the first seventeen yachts to start the race finished in a worse position (or in one case equal) than when they started. It was a group of four yachts, LEBROK (Theo Korbel), PUBLIC BAR, VINDALOO and PP1 that started between 14:49:00 and 14:53:00 that improved on their start positions the most.



The average elapsed time for the race was 1:41:54 with 1:01:01 separating the shortest from the longest time. Two yachts, PIZAZZ (P Martyn & R Kemp) and FOGGY DEW almost sailed the course in the same time with PIZAZZ getting around the course 1 second faster.



The table on the following page shows the handicap adjustments from race to race (red for an increase, green for a decrease). The average handicap has increased slightly as the series progressed from 32.65 minutes in race 1 to 34.42 minutes in this race.

WW WINTER SERIES 2016 HANDICAP ADJUSTMENT TO RACE 16										
YACHT NAME	RACE NUMBER									
	1	2	3	5	7	9	12	13	14	16
ALIBI	45	45	45	45	45	45	44	44	44	45
BABYDOLL			39	39	39	38	38	37	37	37
BARNSTORMER	45	45	45	45	45	45	44	43	44	44
BELLABLU	35	35	35	35	36	36	36	36	36	36
BON VIVANT		23	23	23	23	24	24	24	24	24
CARPE DIEM	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
CARRERA			20			20				
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
CAVALIER	18	20	20	20	21	21	21	21	21	19
CONQUEST			50	52	52	52	51	51	51	51
DAYDREAMER						31	33			
ESPRIT	52	52	52	52	52	52	51	51	51	51
FAST COMPANY	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	34	34	34
FIREFOX			24	24	24	24	24	24		
FOGGY DEW	23	23	23	21	22	24	24	24	24	24
FUN AND GAMES		42	42	42	42	42	42	42	40	40
GUN BOAT	23	23	23	23	23	23	24	25	25	27
INSX	46	46	46	46	46	46	45	45	45	45
JOHNNY B. GOODE	27	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	29	29
LEBROK	37	37	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
MAGIC	30	30	30	30	30	29	28	29	30	30
MARIBEL						24				
MIDNIGHT MAGIC	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
MOANA	23	23	23	23	24	24	24	25	25	25
MORE NOISE	41	41	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
MY WAY	34	34	37	37	36	36	35	35	35	35
MYUNA III	33	33	33	33	33	32	32	32	32	32
PHOENIX	37	37	37	34	34	31	29	32	32	32
PIPPA	4	4	4	4	7	10	10	10	10	10
PIZAZZ	26	27	27	27	27	28	28	28	28	28
PP1										43
PRIMO	39	39	39	39	38	38	38	37	37	37
PUBLIC BAR	44	44	44	44	44	44	43	42	42	42
SALT WHISTLE								26		
SALTSHAKER	20	20	20	20	22	22	22	22	22	22
SECOND NATURE	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
SHIMMER		42	42							
STAMPEDE	50	50	50	53	53	53	53	53	53	53
SURI	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
THE SECRETARY	46	46	46	46	47	47	47	44	44	44
TRUE COLOURS		30	30	30	30	33	33	33	33	33
UPBEAT		38	38	37	37	39	36	37	37	37
VANTAGE	33	33	33	33	34	34	34	34	36	36
VINDALOO										42
WHITE NOISE		41	41	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
WHITE POINTER	33	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	38	38
WICKED	50	50	50	50	50	50	49	49	49	49
WILLARIE	4	4	4	4	4	5	6	6	6	6
WIND SPEED	45	45	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	46

Windward Buoy

MARK Windward's Winter Words

One description of Race 16 was:

"The not sure when it was going to start race, and the not sure where it was going to finish race".

One yacht's perspective of the race:

Delay of starting time announced at approximately 13.17. No indication of how long.

Pippa did lift her motor out of the water to show she was sailing and sailed across the start line at 3.6knts.

From her GPS readout, Pippa's average speed for the first 1:04hr prior to the start was 2.3knts and she sailed 2.5nm. At no time did she stall or have no wind. She sailed in a consistent breeze.

Once the race started Pippa sailed 29:03mins @ 3.6 knts to No1.

From No1 to No2 - 31:25mins @ 2.7knts; from 2-3 20.51mins @ 2.95knts; from 3-4 9.00mins @ 3.8knts crossing between No4 and the tower at 3:52:47pm.

Passed No 4 expecting the race would finish as only 38min remaining until 16.30.

No signals were displayed on the tower as Pippa passed the tower. No sign of any crash boat going out to Number 1. With only 38mins remaining it was assumed that the race would finish at No 1. This was confirmed by a radio call from Salt Shaker to the tower.

Pippa was expecting to have to round No1 to finish, but the way the finish boat was positioned this was not necessary. She crossed the line 6th losing 5 places on the last leg, but as the first two yachts were not part of the series, scored a 4th just in front of GUN BOAT and enough to keep the yellow jersey until the end of the Tour de France.

Windward Buoy's calculations

Using the actual finish times it is estimated:

- if the race was allowed to continue, no yachts would have finished in time, but PP1 would have been further ahead.
- If the race had started at 13.30 then the calculations indicate that 24 yachts would have finished the race and 5 would not.
- The podium finishers would have been the same but there would have been a change to the order of some.

A fun Trivia Rules Night Auditorium, SYC 7:00pm Tuesday 26 July 2016.

Century Class

Next Race Number 17 is a Century Class Race - 27th July

Then just 2 Century class races left, Race 22 August 31st and Race 26 September 26th.

The Century Class is sponsored by Lee Windward and we thank him or her for their support. Wednesday Wonders glasses are sponsored by Brighton Mercedes Benz and we thank them too, and we do know who they are and what they look like.

A Short Sea SHANTI

Catch Up on a short relaxing video moment on Shanti [CLICK](#)



Cassandra Sailing around waiting for the start.



Gun Boat now moves to second place in the series (Only missing out on first place on count-back) 8 seconds faster in Race 16 would have placed her in first place.



A small yacht trying to make herself look bigger

The answer to Race 15 question

The painting was of *Sandringham Beach*, oil on canvas by Leon "Sunny" Pole c1890.

An influenced painting by the Heidelberg school

Comments and contributions please forward to [MARK WINDWARD](#) or your thoughts on...

What do WW skippers think of "a boat finish?"

What communication should there be to shorten a course on the water?

Should there be delayed starts in winter?

This week's award for a skipper living up to their yacht's name goes to *Wind Speed*

Evidenced by her call to the tower prior to the race being started when she informed them of the wind speed ...I think it was 5 knts. Response "Thanks you for that information Wind Speed".

The race did start about 5 mins later.