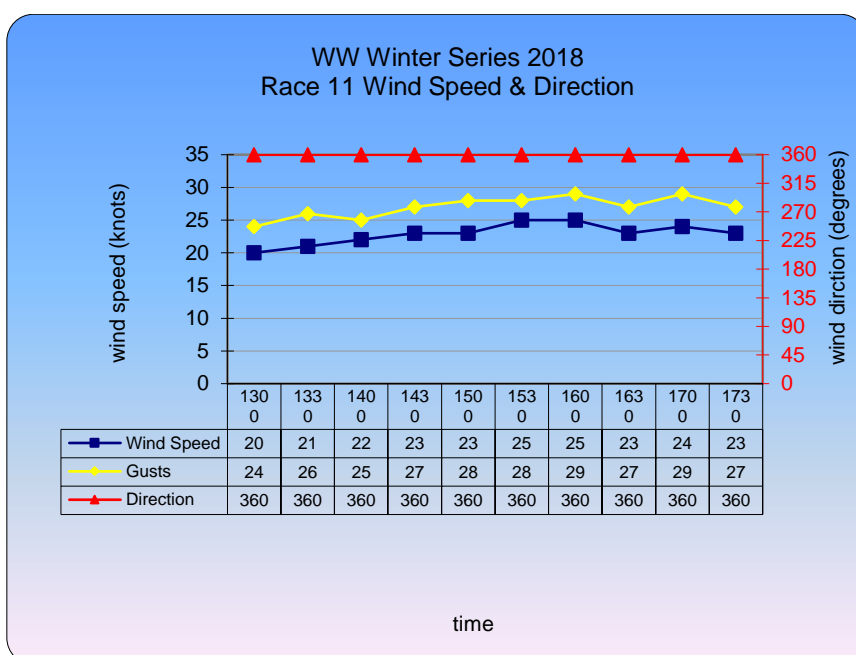


Strongest Wind of the Series WW Winter Series 2018 Race 11

(13 Jun 2018)

A small, dedicated and determined fleet of 19 yachts contested race 11. The wind proved to be the strongest of the series – a steady northerly averaging around 23 knots for the afternoon. (For the first time this series flag Y was displayed requiring PFD's to be worn at all times). The race took the fleet around the 9.8 nautical mile 6 leg course 25. Not all 19 yachts completed the course. Two yachts retired before rounding number 4 for the first time with a third yacht retiring after rounding number 4 – the most of any race this series. Although the wind was the strongest for the series (by 5 knots) it did not produce the fastest race. There have been 3 longer races with faster elapsed times.



Yet another different yacht, BLUE TACK (Andy Lynch) won Start of the Day with a time of 3 seconds. This is the highest winning time of the series so far but much better than her closest rival. Winning the race by 20 seconds was SUMMER WIND (Martyn Sly) who now has a first, a second and a third place. Collecting her first podium finish for the series was BACARDI (Martin Power) with one of the most improved yachts in Wednesday Wonders, WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft), in third place.

There were changes in the aggregate. Finishing the race in 16th place was enough for PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) to reclaim top position and the yellow WW flag. SUMMER WIND moved into 2nd place with WHITE POINTER 3rd. BON VIVANT (Russell Keays) entered the aggregate top ten for the first time this series, whilst WIND SPEED (Les Browne) re entered the top ten after an absence of 5 weeks.



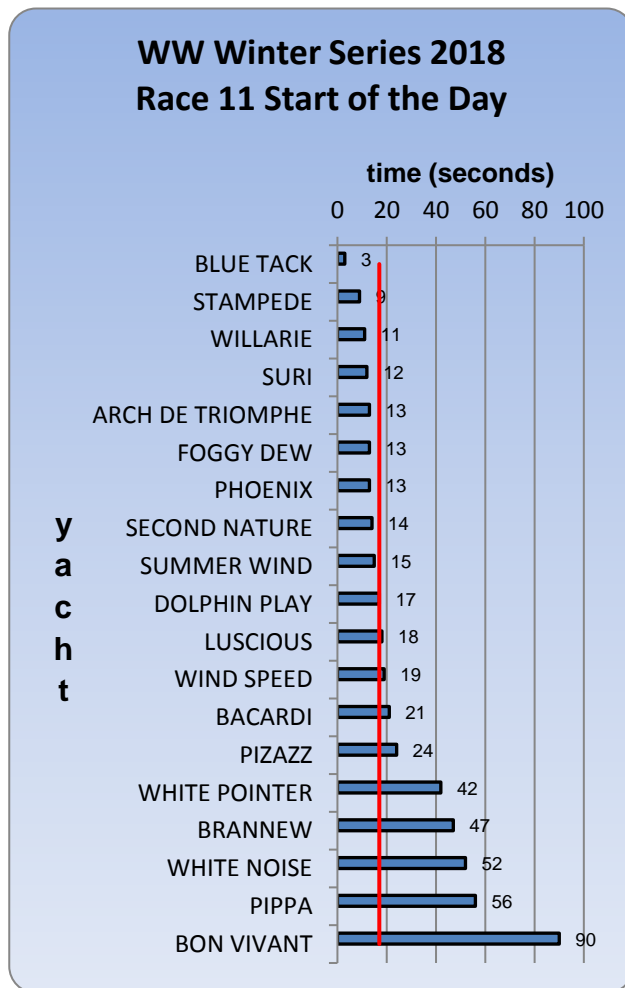
This was the 9th race for SUMMER WIND. She started from 9th place with her worst start (15 seconds) on her highest handicap (26 minutes) for the series. She wasted no time in making her way through the yachts ahead and by the first rounding of number 4 she was already in 2nd place behind DOLPHIN PLAY. DOLPHIN PLAY'S retirement from the race saw SUMMER WIND take the lead and after sailing for 1:54:15 she was first across the finish line at 15:50:15. She had started the race 1 minute 57 seconds after LUSCIOUS (Michael Butler) but was 1 minute 57 seconds ahead at the first rounding of number 4. SUMMER WIND extended her lead over LUSCIOUS in the last 3 legs of the race and finished 2 minutes and 3 seconds ahead. SUMMER WIND moved up from 8th to 2nd place in the aggregate equal on 42 points with WHITE POINTER.

This was the best result this series for the Petersen 44 BACARDI. Her previous best was a 5th place in race 5. She started race 11 from 16th place 21 seconds late for her 44 minute handicap. She started 1 minute 18 seconds and one place behind BLUE TACK. By the time she completed the first 3 legs of the course BACARDI had moved into 12th spot- 2 ahead of BLUE TACK. She sailed the last 3 legs of the course in 34 minutes 50 seconds and her total elapsed time was 1:36:35 – the second fastest of the race and the same time as BRANNEW (Clive Sondheim). BACARDI crossed the finish line in 2nd place at 15:50:35 just 1 minute 58 seconds ahead of BLUE TACK. This 2nd place helped BACARDI from 36th to 27th in the aggregate.

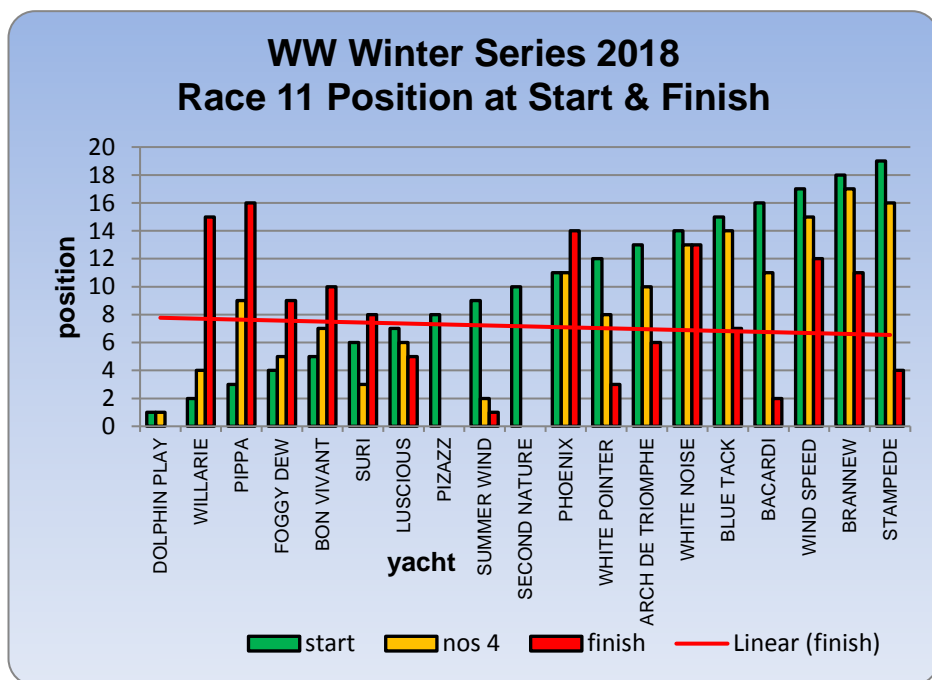


WHITE POINTER is one of 6 yachts to have completed all 11 races. She has accumulated 4 top ten finishes including this one – her 2nd podium finish. She was the 12th yacht to start this race 42 seconds late for her 38 minute handicap. She completed the first three legs of the course in 1:04:21 moving into 8th place still 12 minutes 17 seconds behind the leader. WHITE POINTER sailed the last 3 legs in 38 minutes 18 seconds to be 3rd across the finish line at 15:50:21. WHITE POINTER won the summer aggregate after holding top position for 18 consecutive weeks. She is accumulating some good results in this winter series and moves from 7th into 3rd place.

BLUE TACK with 3 seconds won Start of the Day. This was her best start in 10 races. Four other yachts also made their best starts in this race. They were BACARDI, DOLPHIN PLAY FOGGY DEW and WILLARIE. Only one yacht started more than a minute late and none started too soon. The median start was 17 seconds (red Line).

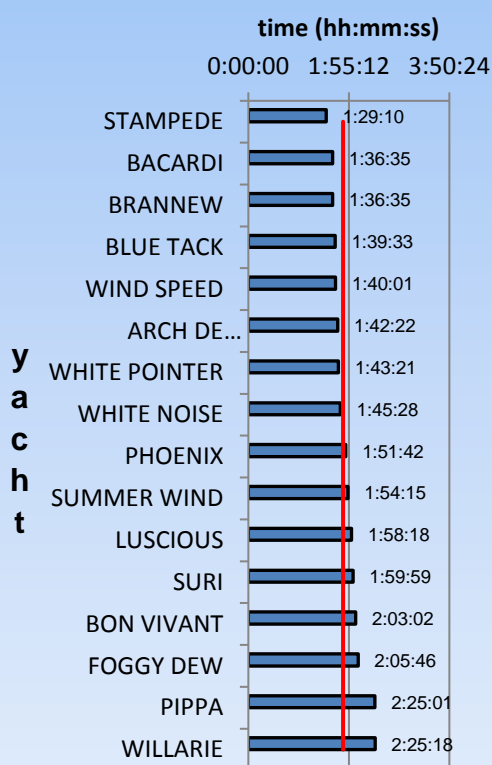


The first 6 yachts to start all finished in a worse position than when they started. Only one yacht that started mid fleet failed to improve upon their start position. However, 2 mid starters retired from the race. The late starters all improved upon their start positions with BACARDI (2nd) and STAMPEDE (4th) recording the best results.



Six yachts recorded their best result so far this series. In addition to the three podium finishers there was STAMPEDE (4th), LUSCIOUS (5th) and ARCH DE TRIOMPHE (6th)

WW Winter Series 2018 Race 11 Elapsed Time



The median elapsed time for the race was 1:48:35 (red line) with 56 minutes 8 seconds the range of elapsed times. The handicap range was 56 minutes. Only one yacht recorded her best elapsed time for the series and that was BACARDI. For the 4th time this series STAMPEDE sailed the fastest time for the race.

By the Way

The table below shows aggregate winning scores and number of contributing scores for the past 8 Wednesday Wonders series. If history is anything to go by then it seems that the series aggregate winner has an average finish position each race of 6th to 7th or better. The top three yachts in the aggregate PIPPA, SUMMER WIND and WHITE POINTER are doing just that.

WW Aggregate Winning Scores			
SERIES	SCORE	NOS OF RACES	AVE SCORE per RACE
2018	38	6	6.3
2017-18	74	10	7.4
2017	90.5	11	8.2
2016-17	79	12	6.6
2016	49	10	4.9
2015-16	71.5	11	6.5
2015	70.5	12	5.9
2014-15	71.5	13	5.5





What a difference a week makes. (Top Left) WHITE NOISE & BLUE TACK race 11. (Above) same yachts race 10.



(Above Right) BON VIVANT sails on to finish 10th

(Above Left) The foredeck can sometimes lose a bit of its appeal.



(Left) PIZAZZ digs deep in race 11, plain sailing in race 10.





Both LUSCIOUS (left) and ARCH DE TRIOMPHE (below) are on their way to record their best result of the series.

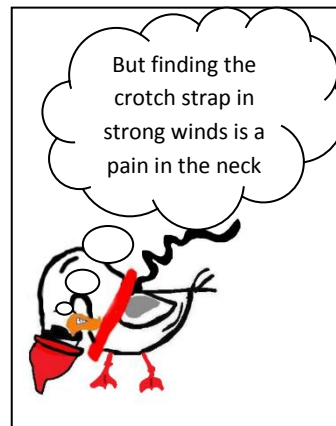
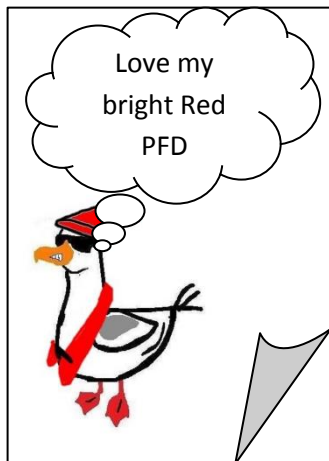


Photos

Bruce Parry (race 11)

Iain Whitbread (race 10)

Sami the
Seagull



Windward
Quay