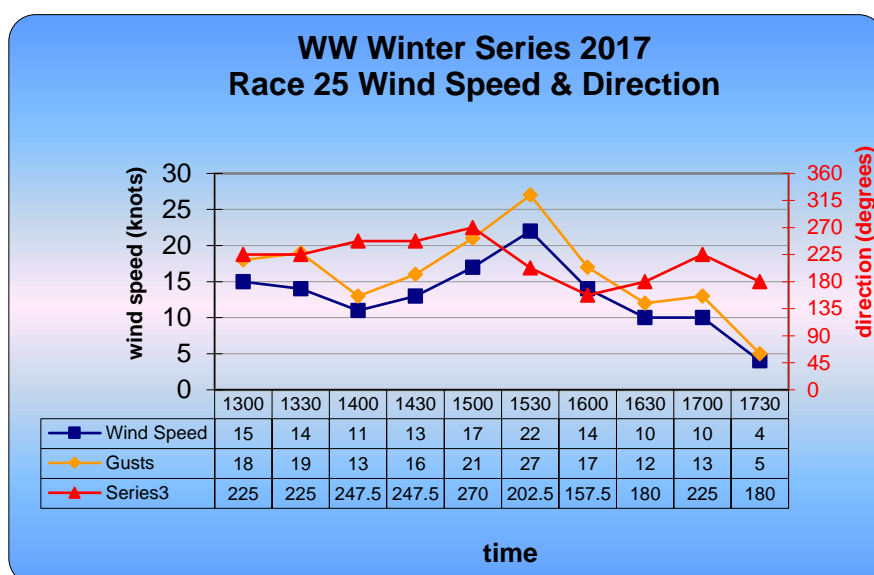


Fastest Race of the Series
Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2018 Race 25
 (19 Sep 2018)



Race 25 had the best median start time of the series; the fastest median elapsed time of the series; and, the three podium finishers each recorded their best result of the series. But the race will probably be best remembered for the squall that engulfed most of the fleet as they approached SYC 1. Fawkner Beacon recorded a wind gust of 27 knots along with a significant wind shift at about 1530. Three of the 29 yacht fleet retired from the race, whilst the rest sailed to the finish in winds that decreased just as quickly as they increased.



There was a new winner for Start of the Day when CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) crossed the start line only 1 second late for her 18 minute handicap. WILLARIE (Graeme Kaufman) was first across the finish line by 20 seconds making this her first win of the series. In second place was BABYDOLL (Brendan Kruger) her best result in 17 completed races. MARIBEL had her first podium finish of the series by finishing third. For the 5th time in 8 races CARPE DIEM (Paul Commins) sailed the course in the fastest time – 1 minute 29 seconds faster than ULUWATU (Mal Billings) and 2 minutes 18 seconds faster than THE SECRETARY (George Shaw).

The win by WILLARIE put her back on top of the aggregate, with ARCH DE TRIOMPHE slipping into 2nd place and PHOENIX (Alex Tseberg) moving up into 3rd place. After one week out of the top ten WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft) is back up there in 10th place at the expense of WHITE NOISE (Daniel Edwards) who moves down to 11th place. With one race remaining in the series 9.5 points separate the top four yachts in the aggregate.



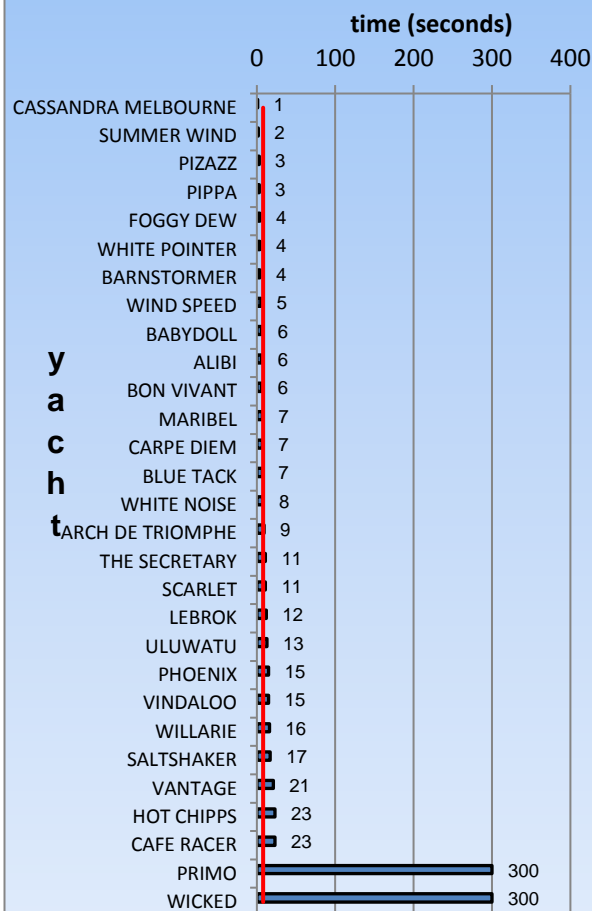
WILLARIE is one of three yachts to have completed all 20 races this series. She has collected 8 top ten finishes in average wind strengths ranging from 5 to 18 knots. This is a very good record for one of the shortest yachts in the fleet. WILLARIE was the 2nd yacht to start this race 16 seconds late for her 5 minute handicap. She was the first yacht to round SYC 4 and had built a 5 minute 39 second lead over MARIBEL. WILLARIE sailed the last 3 legs of the course in 28 minutes 35 seconds and was first across the finish line at 15:29:55. She has remained in the aggregate top ten since race 7 and first made it to the top after race 19. Following her win in this race she is back on top of the aggregate with a lead of 4.5 points.

BABYDOLL began the series with a 37 minute handicap but throughout her 17 races this has been gradually reduced to 33 minutes. Starting from 12th place she was only 6 seconds late for her 33 minute handicap. BABYDOLL completed the first 4 legs of course 24 in 59 minutes 56 seconds and rounded SYC 4 in 9th place, 8 minutes 21 seconds behind the leader. She sailed the final 3 legs of the course in 27 minutes 13 seconds to finish 20 seconds behind the winner. BABYDOLL has completed 17 races this series and recorded 4 top ten finishes. This was her best result of the series and helps her from 25th to 21st place in the aggregate – her highest ranking this series.



The Oceanis 34, MARIBEL has made some good starts this series including winning start of the day in race 3 with a perfect start. She was only 7 seconds late for her 19 minute handicap in this race when she started from 5th place. She moved into 2nd place when rounding SYC 4, 1 minute 42 seconds ahead of BABYDOLL. In the last 3 legs of the race MARIBEL was overtaken by BABYDOLL who finished 2 minutes 4 seconds ahead. MARIBEL sailed the course in 1:43:19 and crossed the finish line in 3rd place at 15:32:19. She has completed 16 races and now has 3 top ten finishes. MARIBEL has spent most of the series in the aggregate 20's and this 3rd place helps her from 27th to 25th place.

WW Winter Series 2018 Race 25 Start of the Day

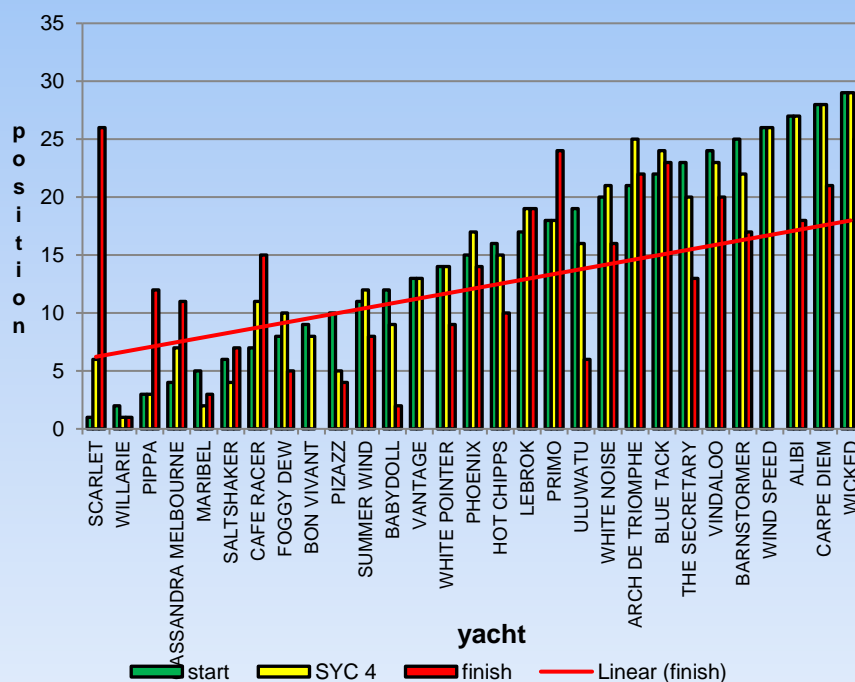


CASSANDRA became the 17th yacht to win a start. All but 2 yachts started within 23 seconds of their handicaps to produce the best median start of the series. Unfortunately both PRIMO (Steve Copley) and WICKED (Mark Welsh) started too soon by 2 seconds and 1 second respectively. The 5 minute penalty cost PRIMO 8 places at the finish line but WICKED would have finished in the same place.

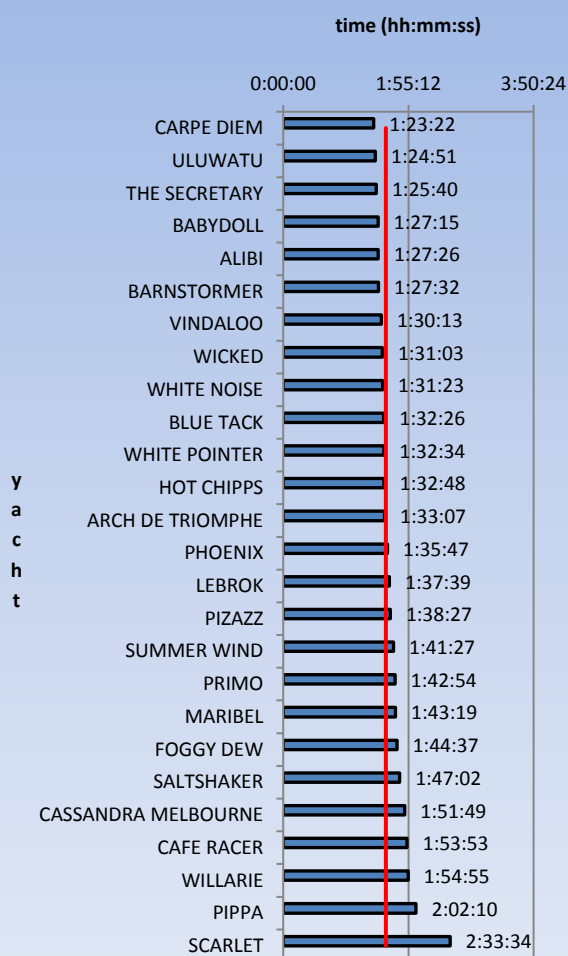


With 5 early starters and 5 mid fleet starters making up the first 10 yachts across the finish line the late starters had difficulty making an impression in this race. The fleet started 58 minutes 56 seconds apart, at SYC 4 the yachts were 21 minutes 56 seconds apart and finished 28 minutes 39 seconds apart.

WW Winter Series 2018 Race 25 Position at Start & Finish



WW Winter Series 2018 Race 25 Elapsed Time



The median elapsed time of 1:34:27 was the fastest this series. As mentioned earlier CARPE DIEM recorded the fastest time for the race. ULUWATU was the 2nd fastest. Perhaps the surprise of the race was BABYDOLL who had the 4th fastest elapsed time. She is usually about the 18th fastest.



The aggregate top ten is still compact with 3 points separating 6 yachts in positions 5 to 10.

WW Winter Series 2018 Aggregate Top Ten				
Place	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	Points
1	SM315	WILLARIE	Graeme Kaufman	68.5
2	SM3131	ARCH DE TRIOMPHE	Murray/Davis /Taylor	73
3	SM927	PHOENIX	Alex Tseberg	75
4	SM3639	WIND SPEED	Les Browne	78
5	SM178	ALIBI	Dennis Hambleton	85
6	SM9988	BRANNEW	Clive Sondheim	86
7	AUS214	BLUE TACK	Andy Lynch	87
8	SM377	BACARDI	Martin Power	87
9	SM104	CAFE RACER	Alan Clapham	88
10	SM430	WHITE POINTER	Tom Raft	88



(Left) SCARLET finished her first WW race of the series.

(Right) BON VIVANT was one of 3 yachts to retire from the race.

(Below) PIZAZZ, FOGGY DEW & SUMMER WIND finished 4th, 5th, & 8th respectively.



Like the majority of late starters BLUE TACK (left) and WICKED (right) were unable to chase down the early starters.





PRIMO finished 24th whilst the other Beneteau 367, LEBROK, finished 19th.

The sky to the east looked more inviting than that to the west.



*Windward
Quay*