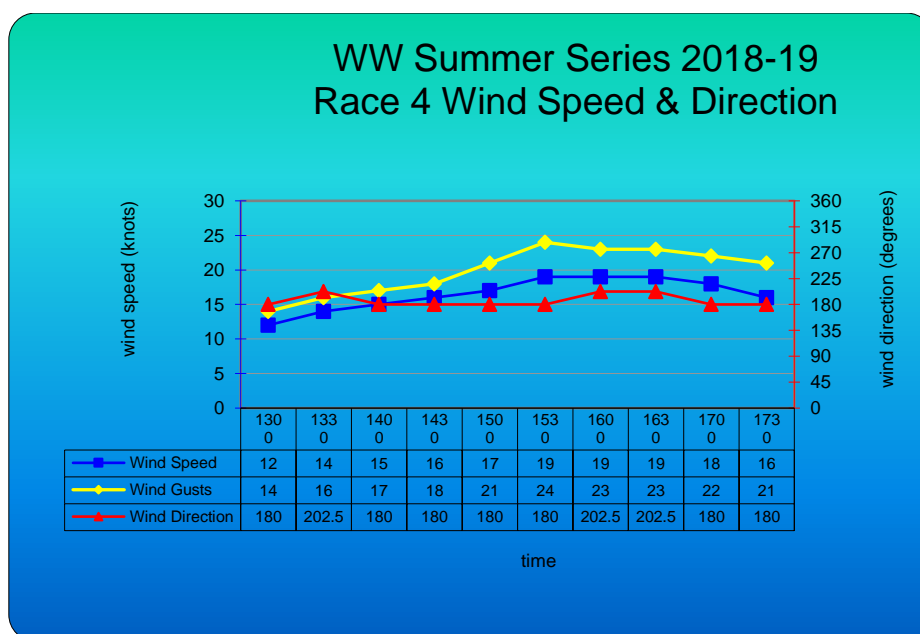


A Good Breeze Produces a Tight Finish Wednesday Wonders Summer Series 2018-19 Race 4

(24 Oct 2018)



The 38 yacht fleet found itself with an increasing breeze and choppiier waters as race 4 progressed. The race started with a breeze about 14 to 15 knots which increased to 19 knots by the time it ended. It averaged 17 knots for the afternoon – the highest recorded so far this series. Four yachts retired from the race whilst others contemplated reefing sails. The race around the triangular course 26 included two windward legs which accounted for 45% to 50% of the 9.9 nautical mile rhumb line length. There was plenty of opportunity for the pursuers to run down the pursued and yachts starting mid fleet did particularly well. There was a tight finish with 26 yachts finishing in less than 7 minutes of each other.



Among the trophies for the second time this series was LUSCIOUS (Michael Butler) who won start of the day with a perfect start. The Oceanis 34 PIZAZZ (Philip Martyn & Russell Kemp) won the race. She held both THE SECRETARY (George Shaw) and ESPRIT (Garry Anderson) at bay to claim the major trophy. These two had started well back in the fleet and overtook 29 and 33 yachts respectively to claim 2nd and 3rd place. In doing so ESPRIT recorded the fastest elapsed time for the race.

Her 2nd place was enough to take THE SECRETARY to the top of the aggregate. CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) finished 5th and moved into 2nd place whilst FOGGY DEW, last week's aggregate leader, moved into 3rd position.



In her first race of the series PIZAZZ finished 16th out of a fleet of 36 yachts. There was a bit more breeze for this race and she had a better result. PIZAZZ was one of 4 yachts with a 24 minute handicap and she started from 12th place only 9 seconds late. After sailing for 66 minutes 32 seconds she rounded SYC 4 for the first time in 7th place ahead of the three other yachts with 24 minute handicaps. She completed the final 3 laps of the course in 46 minutes 34 seconds and was first across the finish line at 15:47:15. As a result of her win PIZAZZ moved from 23rd in the aggregate to be in 8th place.

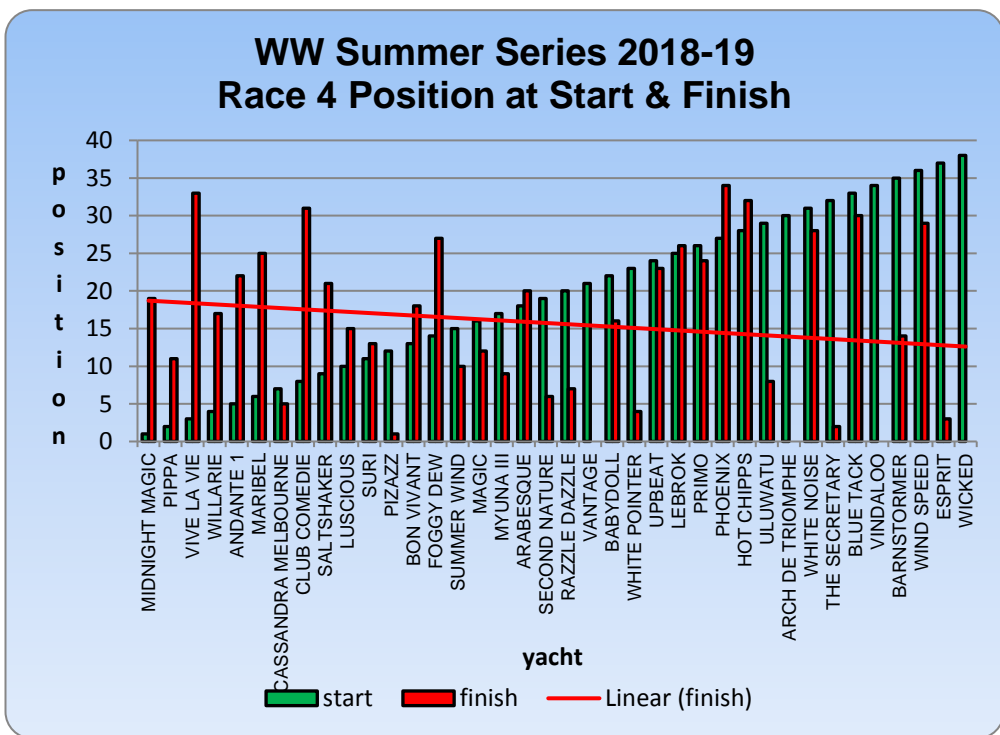
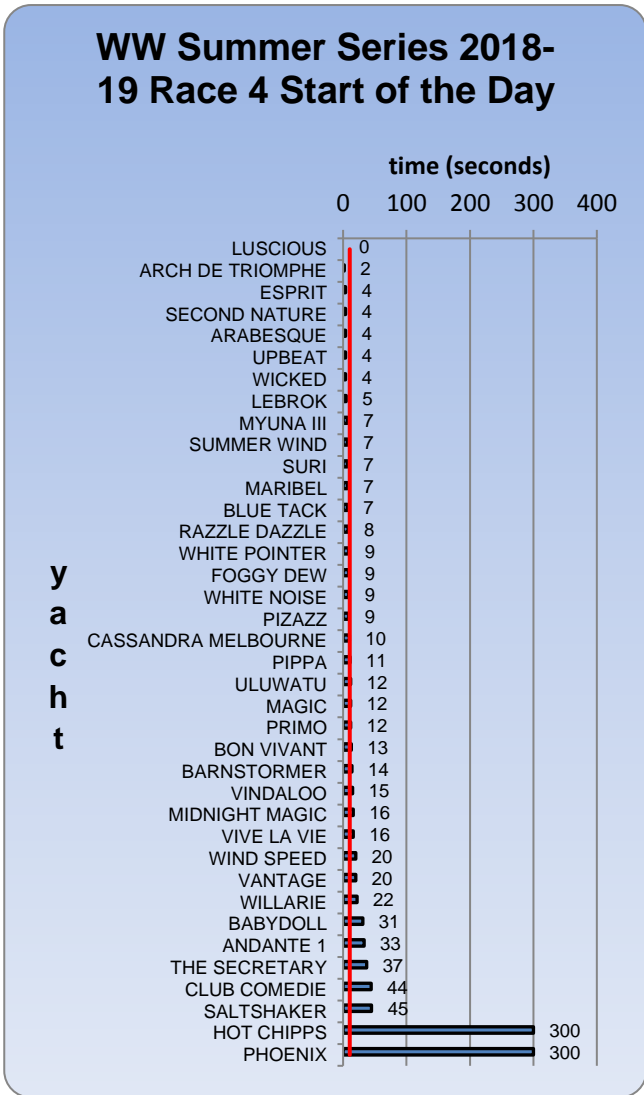
Moving up to the top of the aggregate from 8th place is THE SECRETARY. This is probably her best start to a WW series for some time. She has already recorded a 4th and now a 2nd place in her 3 completed races. THE SECRETARY crossed the start line in 31st place 37 seconds late for her 44 minute handicap. By the first rounding of SYC 4 she was 22nd - ten places ahead of WHITE NOISE who had started one place before her. She sailed the last three legs of the course in 40 minutes and 4 seconds and crossed the finish line in 2nd place 1 minute 29 seconds behind PIZAZZ. THE SECRETARY sailed the entire course in 1:34:44 - the second best elapsed time of the race.



ESPRIT has completed all three races in the series and has improved her result each race. She was the next to the last yacht to start only 4 seconds late for her 49 minute handicap. By the first rounding of SYC 4 ESPRIT was 8 places ahead of WICKED - the last yacht to start the race. During the last three legs of the race ESPRIT overtook another 25 yachts to cross the finish line at 15:48:49 only 5 seconds behind THE SECRETARY. ESPRIT sailed the course in 1:29:49 the fastest elapsed time of the race – 4 minutes 55 seconds faster than her closest rival. She has moved from 34th to 19th in the aggregate.



The median start for the race was 10.5 seconds. This is the worst of the series so far. On the other hand all but 2 yachts started within 45 seconds or less of their handicaps. The remaining 2 yachts, HOT CHIPPS and PHOENIX, started 31 and 2 seconds too soon. LUSCIOUS became the second yacht in the series to win start of the day with a perfect start.



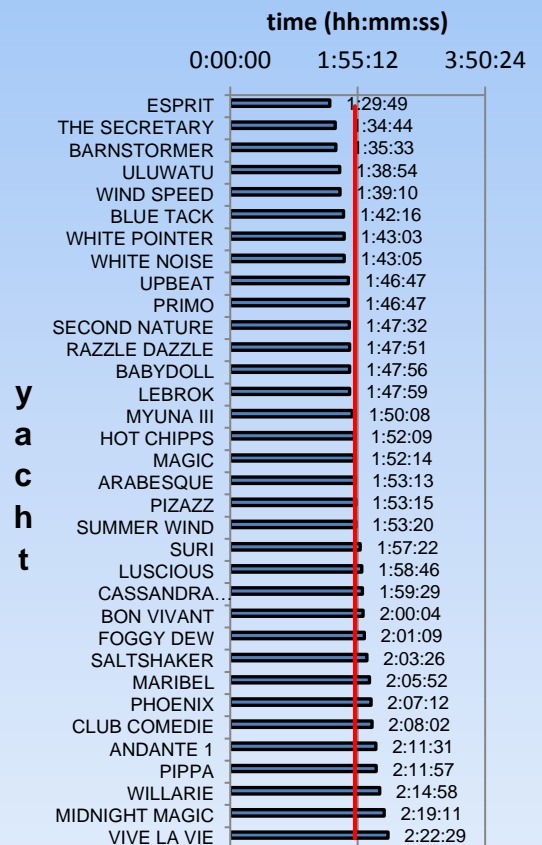
Only two of the first twelve yachts to start were better placed at the finish. VIVE LA VIE started from 3rd place and finished in 33rd place whilst CLUB COMEDIE started 8th and finished 31st. As well as ESPRIT and THE SECRETARY, ULUWATU and WHITE POINTER greatly improved upon their start positions.

The median elapsed time for the race was 1:52:43 whilst the range was 52 minutes 40 seconds. The range of handicaps for the race was 47 minutes. PRIMO and UPBEAT, both Beneteau 367's, recorded the same elapsed time of 1:46:47 – a most unusual occurrence. They were allocated handicaps of 39 and 38 minutes respectively. Two yachts with quite different handicaps, WHITE POINTER and WHITE NOISE, sailed the course in 1:43:03 and 1:43:05 respectively. ULUWATU (below) recorded



the 4th fastest elapsed time of the race.

WW Summer Series 2018-19 Race 4 Elapsed Time



There was plenty of action out on the water.





Some fancy footwork was on display on one yacht whilst a more relaxed atmosphere was to be had on another.



Spring is in the air when yachts start leaping out of the water.



(Left) MYUNA III finished 9th.
(Below) CASSANDRA sailed well to finish in 5th place.



(Below) WIND SPEED started 36th and finished 29th.



(Right) MIDNIGHT MAGIC in her first race of the summer series.



(Left) Winner of both the last winter series & Century Class WILLARIE looks in good shape for the summer.

Not everyone was "on the water" last Wednesday. Some were able to get above it.



Race 5 is the scheduled to be the first race in the Summer Century Class series.

Likely contenders are

ARABESQUE

BON VIVANT

CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE

DOLPHIN PLAY

FUN & GAMES

MAGIC

MIDNIGHT MAGIC

PIPPA

RAZZLE DAZZLE

SALTSHAKER

THE SECRETARY

WILLARIE

OLD ROPES -Thank You

Margaret received enough old ropes for her requirements. No more needed.

Photos

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&

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*Windward
Buoy*