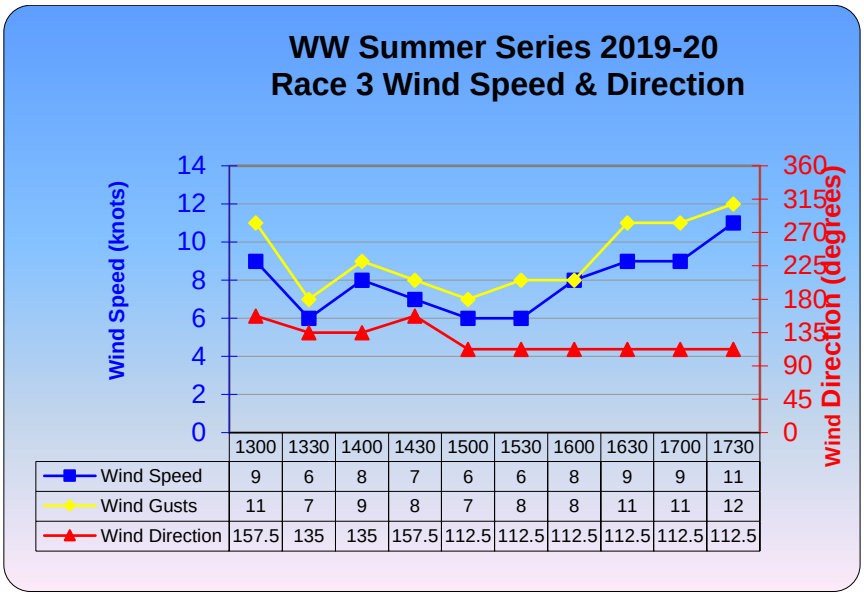
High Handicaps Feature at the Finish
Wednesday Wonders Summer Series 2019-20 Race 3
(23 Oct 2019)

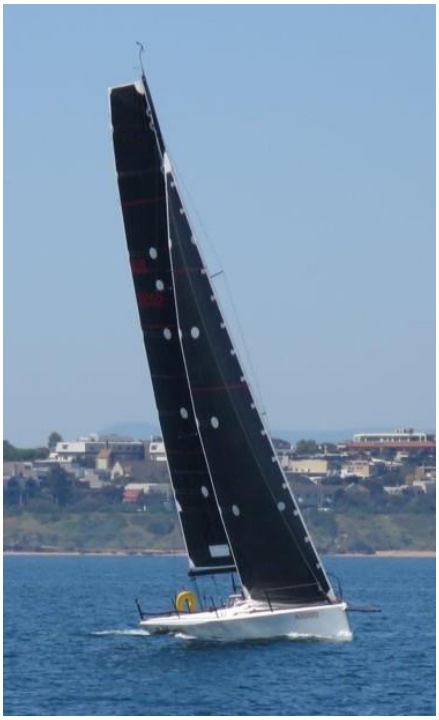
With an average elapsed time of 3:05:20 this was one of the longer Wednesday races on record. It was much longer than any race in the winter series with GISELLE (Robert Freeman) receiving great value for money with a sail time of 4:05:11. Nevertheless, all 41 starters finished the race well within the time limit enjoying the great sailing conditions. The breeze averaged about 8 knots for the afternoon, the sun continued to shine whilst the seas remained flat. After sailing the 9.9 nautical mile course 14 the result was something of a bonanza for the yachts with higher handicaps. All but one of the first 10 yachts to cross the finish line had a handicap of at least 43 minutes.



	1300	1330	1400	1430	1500	1530	1600	1630	1700	1730
Wind Speed	9	6	8	7	6	6	8	9	9	11
Wind Gusts	11	7	9	8	7	8	8	11	11	12
Wind Direction	157.5	135	135	157.5	112.5	112.5	112.5	112.5	112.5	112.5

Winning Start of the Day with a time of 2 seconds was WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft). Sailing the course in the fastest elapsed and first across the finish line with a lead of 7 minutes 12 seconds was VINDALOO (John Taylor). She was followed by BARNSTORMER in 2nd place and sailing her first race of the series and finishing 3rd whilst flying the Australian Red Ensign was WHITE ONYX (Ben & Katherine Solly).

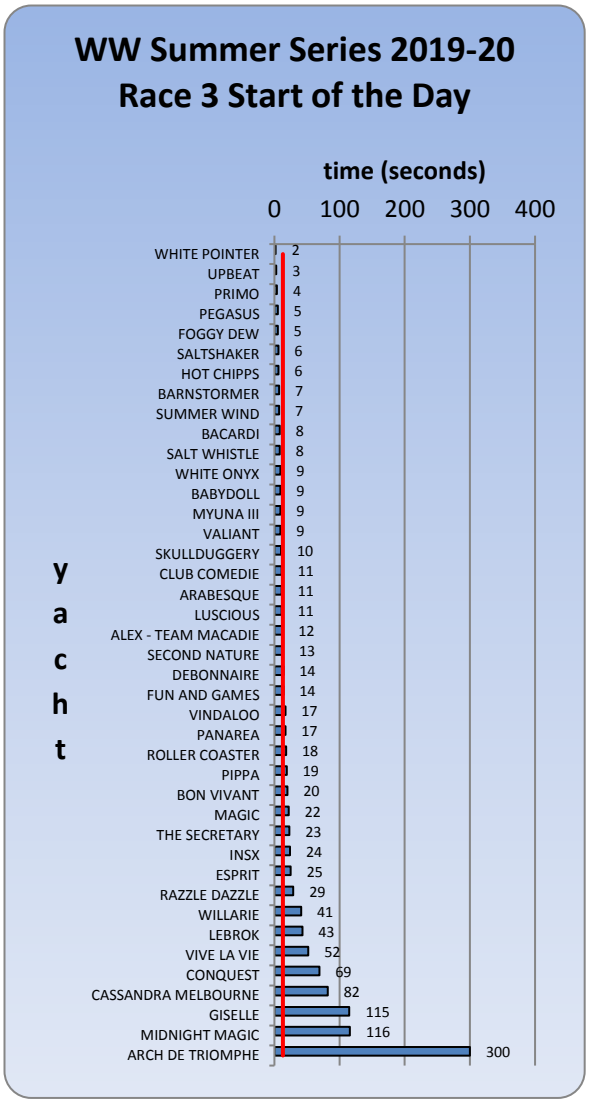
SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) continues to lead the series aggregate with CLUB COMEDIE (Darren Eger) 2nd and ESPRIT (Garry Anderson) moving from 4th into 3rd place. Leading the contest for the Shebassa Shield is PEGASUS on14 points, RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp) is 2nd on 16 points and BACARDI (Martin Power 3rd on 17 points. It is SKULLDUGGERY on 13 points who leads the competition for the Noelle Coram Trophy with FOGGY DEW (Joe O'Grady & Frank Hilliard) 2nd on 27 points and HOT CHIPPS (John Chipp) 3rd with 32 points.



VINDALOO finished 18th out of 37 yachts in race 2. But race 3 was a different matter. She started from 33rd place 17 seconds late for her 45 minute handicap – the same handicap she had for race 2. During the first 3 legs of the course she overtook 32 yachts and held a lead of 3 minutes 8 seconds over the rest of the fleet as she rounded SYC 4. During the last 3 legs of the race she increased her lead and crossed the finish line at 16:41:52. VINDALOO had sailed the course in 2:26:52 the fastest elapsed time of the race. She is 9th in the aggregate with a total of 19.5 points.

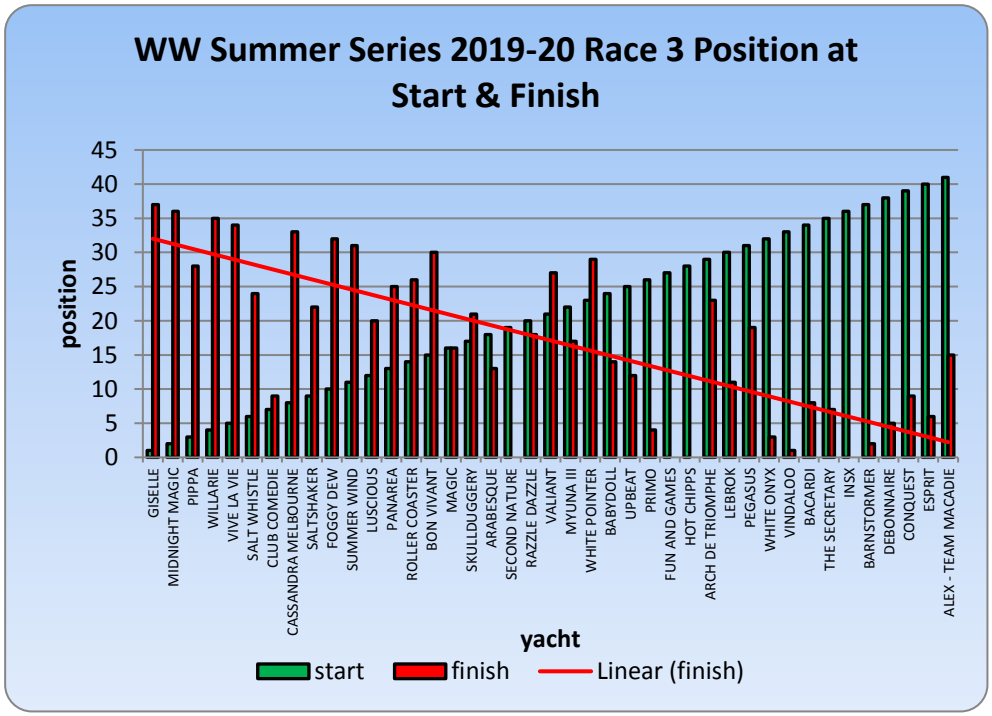
BARNSTORMER has sailed in each of the 3 races this series but this was her best result by far. She started from 37th place 7 seconds late for her 50 minute handicap. This was the best start made by 3 yachts with a 50 minute handicap. BARNSTORMER completed the first 3 legs of the course in 1:35:11 and rounded SYC 4 for the first time in 4th place. It took her 54 minutes 46 seconds to sail the last 3 legs of the race and she was 2nd across the finish line at 16:49:04. This 2nd place helped BARNSTORMER from 27th up to 23rd in the aggregate.

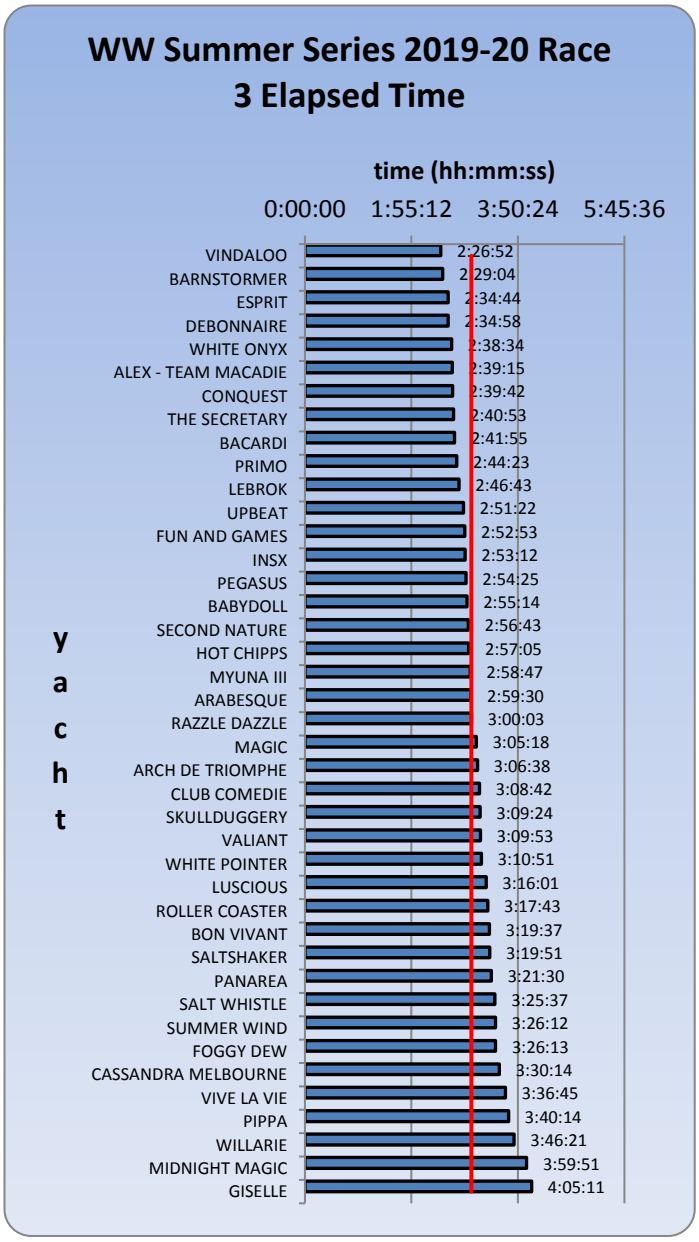
WHITE ONYX who didn't compete in the winter series sailed very well to finish 3rd in her first race of the summer series. She started the race from 32nd place 9 seconds late for her 45 minute handicap. It took her 1:41:32 to complete the first 3 legs of the course and she rounded SYC 4 in 7th place. WHITE ONYX sailed the last 3 legs of the course in 46 minutes 53 seconds was 3rd across the finish line at 16:53:34. She began the race 8 seconds ahead of VINDALOO but finished 11 minutes 42 seconds later. WHITE ONYX is currently 34th in the aggregate.



WHITE POINTER twice won the start in the winter series and this is already her 2nd win in 3 races this series. The median start time was 13 seconds with 16 yachts starting within 10 seconds or less of their handicap. ARCH DE TRIOMPHE crossed the line a mere 1 second early and received a 5 minute penalty.

The 41 yacht fleet finished the race almost as far apart as when they started. They began 54 minutes 17 seconds apart and by the first rounding of SYC 4 this gap was reduced to 29 minutes 25 seconds. However, during the last 3 legs of the race this gap increased and the 41 yachts finished 53 minutes 19 seconds apart. It was a good result for some of the late starters with 9 among the first 14 yachts to finish. There was a tie for 9th place between CONQUEST (Paul Jacka) and CLUB COMEDIE (Darren Eger).





The median elapsed time for the race was 3:00:03 with a range of 1:38:19. Both SUMMER WIND (Martyn Sly) and FOGGY DEW (Joe O'Grady& Frank Hilliard) had handicaps of 24 minutes and SUMMER WIND sailed the course faster by 1 second.

Both UPBEAT (left) and PRIMO (below) made good starts to the race.

(From left to right) SECOND NATURE, INSX & VIVE LA VIE were among 7 yachts sailing there first WW race this series

(Left) enjoying HOT CHIPPS (Below) VALIANT spots something of interest.

(Below left) SKULLDUGGERY currently leads the contest for both the Noelle Coram Trophy and the aggregate but ESPRIT (below right) has 3 top ten finishes in 3 races.

(Above) WHITE POINTER, ALEX & PEGUSUS have their on water get together. (Right) CONQUEST finishes 9th in the race and is 7th in the aggregate.

Three of the "big movers".

BACARDI (left) started 34th finished 8th (right) THE SECRETARY started 35 finished 7th and DEBONNAIRE started 38th and finished 5th.

(Left) Could WW see more of SM1245 in the future?

Photos
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