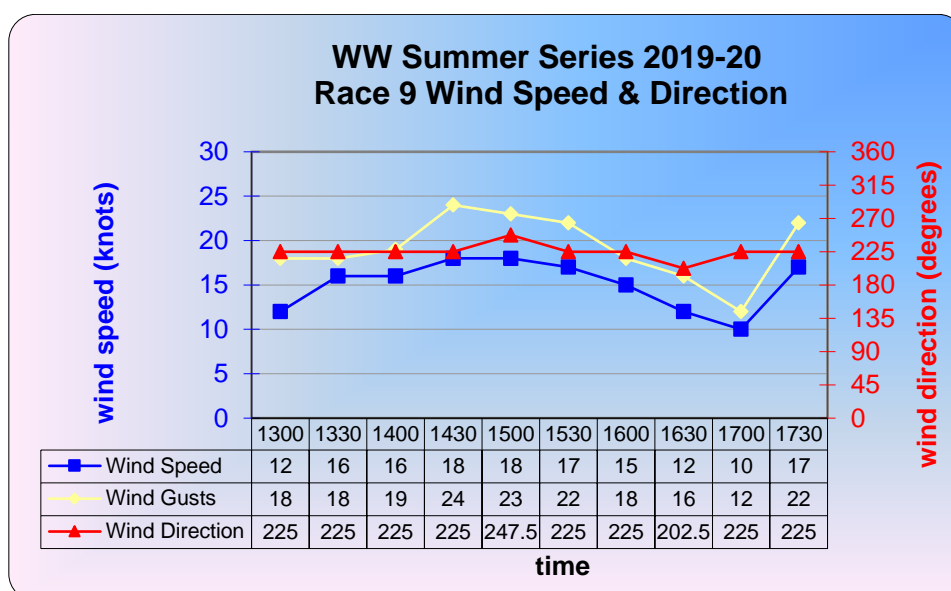


Fastest Race of the Summer WW Summer Series 2019-20 Race 9

(4 Dec 2019)



Despite a 2 minute handicap increase for the majority of yachts in the race it was not enough to prevent the completion of the fastest race of the summer. A south westerly breeze of about 15 knots with choppy seas helped the fleet sail an 8 leg 10.2 nautical mile course in a median elapsed time of 1:39:30 – by far the quickest this series. It came to an end when the last yacht crossing the finish line at 15:54:02. The strong wind warning issued earlier but later withdrawn probably resulted in the smallest fleet of the series. Thirty one yachts started the race but with 3 yachts retiring only 28 finished. It was a particularly good day for early starters with 6 of them among the first 10 yachts to finish including the 3 podium finishers who started 4th, 2nd, and 3rd.



Start of the day was won by MAGIC (Phil Spry Bailey) with a time of 2 seconds. The three podium finishers were among the first 4 yachts to start the race. CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) recorded her first podium finish of the summer when she was first across the finish line. PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) finished 2nd which was her first podium finish for the series with WILLARIE (Graeme Kaufman) finishing 3rd. The fastest time not only for this race but every race this series was recorded by STAMPEDE (Christopher Gendala) when she completed the 8 legs in a time of 1:18:56.

LUSCIOUS (Michael Butler) remains at the top of the aggregate with a 3 point lead over both PEGASUS (Andy & David Lynch) and PRIMO (Steve Copley). PEGASUS leads a fleet of 42 yachts vying for the Shebessa Shield with RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp & Graeme Jones) and MAGIC 5 and 6 points behind. Leading the challenge for the Noelle Coram Trophy is SKULLDUGGERY Garry McCarten) from DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) with RAZZLE DAZZLE 3rd.



The Mottle 33 CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE revelled in the conditions. This was her 5th race of the series and her best result by far. Her best result in her previous 3 races (in light and variable winds) was 33rd. CASSANDRA made a good start to this race only 8 seconds late for a 17 minute start from 4th place. She was still in 4th place at the first rounding of SYC 4 but was only 3 minutes 10 seconds behind the race leader. It took her 47 minutes 34 seconds to complete the remaining 4 legs of the race and led the fleet across the finish line at 15:37:51 – 1 minute 47 seconds ahead of her closest rival. This first place lifts her from 42nd to 36th in the aggregate; puts her 30th in line for the Shebessa Shield; and 12th in the contest for the Noelle Coram trophy.

PIPPA has completed 6 of the 7 races held so far this summer. She won Start of the Day for race 4 and followed that up with an 8th place in race 7. She started this race from 2nd place only 3 seconds late for her 9 minute handicap. It took her 75 minutes 9 seconds to complete the first 4 legs of the race and led the fleet around SYC 4 on the first occasion. PIPPA sailed the last 4 legs of the course in 52 minutes 31 seconds and crossed the finish line in 2nd place at 15:39:38. She now has 2 top ten finishes and moves from 18th to 10th in the aggregate (her best place so far) and is 7th in the contest for the Shebessa Shield.



WILLARIE is one of 11 yachts to have completed all 7 races this series. She has accumulated 4 top ten finishes including 2 podium finishes. WILLARIE started this race from 3rd place 9 seconds late for her 11 minute handicap. She was still in 3rd place at the first rounding of SYC 4 only 1 minute 30 seconds behind PIPPA. WILLARIE sailed the last 4 legs of the course in 52 minutes 6 seconds, 25 seconds faster than PIPPA but not fast enough to overtake her. WILLARIE crossed the finish line in 3rd place at 15:40:43 after sailing the entire course in 1:59:43. This puts her in 4th place up from 6th in the aggregate and is now 8th in the completion for the Shebessa Shield.

WW Summer Series 2019-20 Race 9 Start of the Day

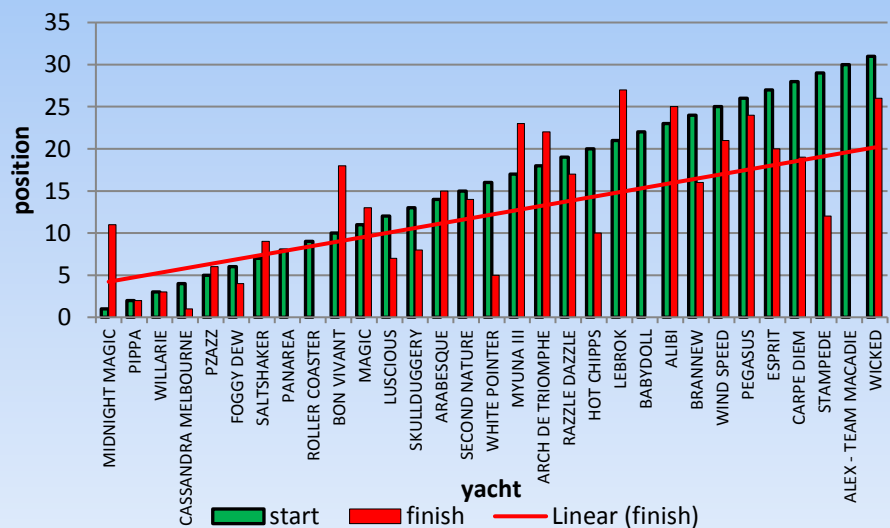


The median start time for the race was 11 seconds, the 2nd best of the series so far. Fifteen yachts started within 9 seconds or less of their handicap whilst 3 started more than a minute late. MAGIC won Start of the Day with her best start for a number of series.

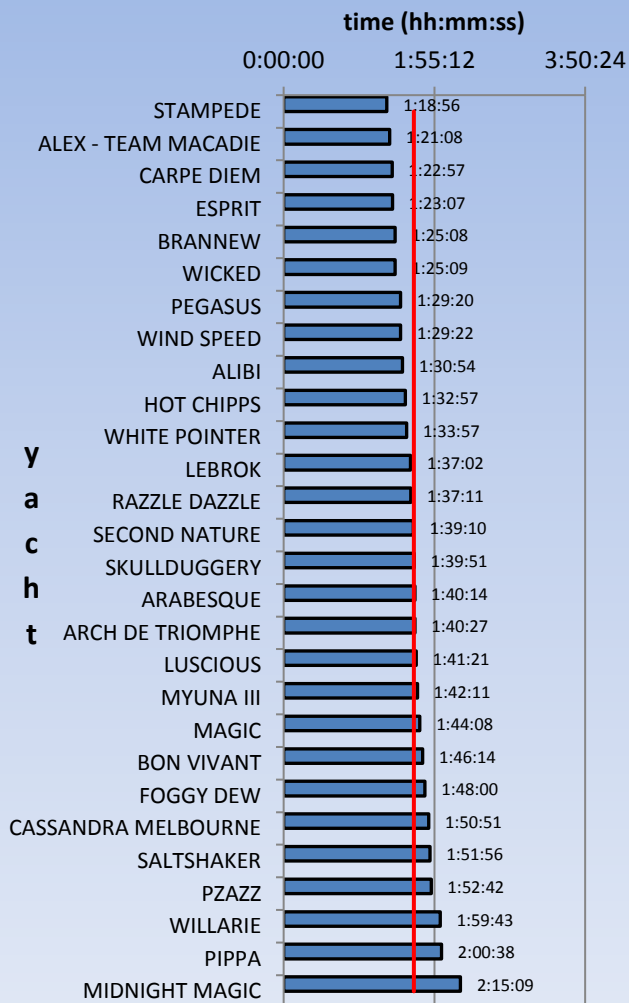


This was the 2nd closest finish of the series with 28 yachts finishing within 16 minutes 11 seconds of each other. On average there was a yacht crossing the finish line every 31 seconds. As mentioned earlier it was a good result for the early starters and not as successful for the late starters. STAMPEDE was the best of the late starters finishing in 12th place. The closest finish was for 9th place with SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler) crossing the finish line 1 second ahead of HOT CHIPPS (John Chipp).

WW Summer Series 2019-20 Race 9 Position at Start & Finish



WW Summer Series 2019-20 Race 9 Elapsed Time



The median elapsed time for the race was 1:39:30 much less than the 3 hours plus of races 3 & 4. For the first time this series STAMPEDE recorded the fastest elapsed time sailing the course 2 minutes 12 seconds faster than her closest rival ALEX-TEAM MACADIE (Jock Macadie).



(Right) LUSCIOUS & SKULLDUGGERY were never too far apart throughout the entire race. They started 9th & 10th were still 9th & 10th at the first rounding of SYC 4 & finished 7th & 8th.





MIDNIGHT MAGIC (above left), ARCH DE TRIOMPHE (centre) & PZAZZ (right) all had their best finish of the summer so far.

(Below) SECOND NATURE on her way to SYC 6.



HOT CHIPPS (right) moved up from 36th to 28th in the aggregate.



(Left) A busy time around SYC 1.
(Right) ARABESQUE moves to 16th in the aggregate.



BRANNEW (left) RAZZLE DAZZLE (centre) & BON VIVANT (right) started almost 21 minutes apart but finished only 6 seconds apart.



Flying a spinnaker in a no extras race raised a few eyebrows but PANAREA did retire.

(Right) LUSCIOUS extends her time at the top of the aggregate to 6 weeks.



Photos
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