Sandringham Yacht Club Noorden Property Wednesday Wonders Race 25 of the winter series, held 20 Sep 2023

An overcast morning, a strong wind warning and the threat of rain discouraged all but the brave and bold; only 16 boats crossed the start line. At the start, the wind was from the west, varying between 12 and 20 knots with occasional gusts up to 25 knots. The RO chose course 20 with a length of 12NM and two decent westward legs out to SYC6 and SYC2.

However, as the fleet approached SYC4 for the first time, the RO saw the signs of a strong front appearing from the west and wisely called for a shortened course at 9.3NM. This was a good call as the front brought gusts of 35 knots with some recording up to 40 knots. No doubt, these claims will become further embellished as surviving warriors recount their efforts in returning to the marina.

Race management

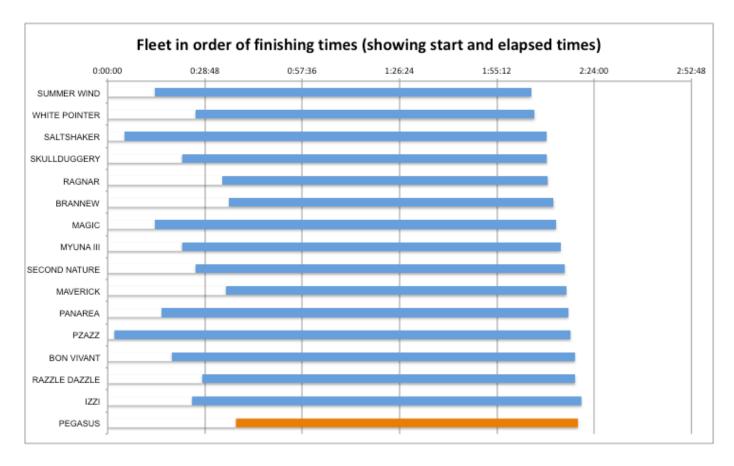
A big "thank you" goes to the race management crew: Margaret Whitbread as RO ably assisted by Cathy Higgins and Peter Graham. This was Peter's first time in the tower. Thanks Peter.

And thanks also to the boating office for having a rescue rib on stand-by and for coming to the assistance of a couple of boats which had difficulty in returning to their marina pens in the 35 knot wind squall.

Pursuit race results

- 1st **Summer Wind** (Martyn Sly) started on a handicap of 14 min, sailed for 1:51:19 and finished a respectable 1 min 02 sec ahead of...
- 2nd **White Pointer** (Mal Billings & Tom Raft) started on a handicap of 28 min, sailed for 1:40:21 and finished 3 min 32 sec ahead of ...
- 3rd **Salt Shaker** (Ken Gayler) started on a handicap of 5 min, sailed for 2:04:53 and finished just 10 sec ahead of **Skullduggery** (Garry McCarten).

The following bar chart lists all competitors in the order of their finishing times. The blue bar represents a boat's elapsed time – each blue bar starts after the elapse of the boat's handicap and ends after it crosses the finish line.



Pegasus (David Lynch) earned a penalty for failing to sign on via MemberPoint.

Fleet in order of finishing times						
Place		H'cap	Elapsed	Finish	Score	
1	SUMMER WIND	0:14:00	1:51:19	15:35:19	1	
2	WHITE POINTER	0:26:00	1:40:21	15:36:21	2	
3	SALTSHAKER	0:05:00	2:04:53	15:39:53	3	
4	SKULLDUGGERY	0:22:00	1:48:03	15:40:03	4	
5	RAGNAR	0:34:00	1:36:19	15:40:19	5	
6	BRANNEW	0:36:00	1:36:01	15:42:01	6	
7	MAGIC	0:14:00	1:58:41	15:42:41	7	
8	MYUNA III	0:22:00	1:52:02	15:44:02	8	
9	SECOND NATURE	0:26:00	1:49:22	15:45:22	9	
10	MAVERICK	0:35:00	1:40:44	15:45:44	10	
11	PANAREA	0:16:00	2:00:15	15:46:15	11	
12	PZAZZ	0:02:00	2:15:00	15:47:00	12	
13	BON VIVANT	0:19:00	1:59:16	15:48:16	13	
14	RAZZLE DAZZLE	0:28:00	1:50:23	15:48:23	14	
15	IZZI	0:25:00	1:55:14	15:50:14	16	
ENP	PEGASUS	0:38:00	1:41:13	15:49:13	17	

Fastest times around the course

Brannew (Clive Sondheim) – went around the course in 1:36:01, which was a mere 18 sec faster than ...

Ragnar (Richard Ekberg) – completed the course in 1:36:19, which was a significant 4 min 02 sec sec faster than ...

White Pointer (Mal Billings & Tom Raft) - completed the course in 1:40:21.

This was [the new] *Ragnar's* second appearance in the Wednesday fleet. Richard should be very happy with the performance of the boat and crew. Your correspondent didn't get close enough to verify his suspicion that *Ragnar* was comfortably planing some of the time on the downwind leg from SYC6.



Start of the day

Start of the day was won by *Myuna III* (Geoffrey Nixon) crossing the line just 1 second after her allocated start time.

Series aggregate

Club Comedie (Darren Eger) continues to hold the lead in the aggregate competition on 48 points followed by *Izzi* (Pat O'Brien and Bruce Parry) on 76 points then *Pzazz* (Michael Vandertop) on 80.

Series aggregate leaders					
Place	Boat Name	Series Score			
1	CLUB COMEDIE	48			
2	IZZI	76			
3	PZAZZ	80			
4	BON VIVANT	81			
5	RAZZLE DAZZLE	82			
6	PANAREA	86			
7	BACARDI	87			
8	SKULLDUGGERY	90			
9	WHITE POINTER	92			
10	WINSOME	93			

Scheduled races = 25; Abandoned = 4; Races completed = 21; Races counted = 11 best

About our sponsor

There are many players who make the Wednesday Wonders series a success, one being our generous sponsor Noorden Property.

Noorden is a boutique real estate company which specializes in off-the-plan marketing, sales and property management. Take a look at the Noorden web site and please keep Noorden in mind should you choose to investigate moving to a new home or starting or adding to an investment portfolio.

Good sailing **David Lynch**