



CYAA 2023 Winter Series

Classic Yacht Association
OF AUSTRALIA

Race 9 post race notes Conducted by the Royal Yacht Club of Victoria

3rd Sept 2023

Click [HERE](#) to checkout the **SailWorld** story about the Classic's August 27 race nine and the series

It's all done, the Classic's 2023 Winter Series that is

Click [HERE](#) to check out the Race 9 photo gallery

Click [HERE](#) for the Race 9 to check out results. So many "What If's" in those individual boat results. Although race nine was a pursuit start race, your handicapper checks out the on course and corrected times. Best on course time went to **Mercedes IV** and best corrected time went to **Yvonne** helmed by Jim Hutchinson.

Congratulations to our three race nine podium placing classic's. **Wanita**, **Mercedes III** and **Astrud**. It was a down to the wire finish to the series. What wasn't down to the wire was the recognition by your handicapper of the work put in by all 2023 Winter Series entrants to sustain the mission of the CYAA.

Series Results [PHS] up to Race 9 (Drops = 1)

			Series	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
1	R54 WANITA	Richard Gates	RYCV	36	8	3	8	1	2	4	[20.0C]	8	2
2	R450 MERCEDES III	Martin Ryan	RYCV	37	3	6	3	5	1	10	5	[11.0]	4
3	KA544 ASTRUD	Robert Pullin	HBVC	38	7	8	5	2	3	1	2	[14.0F]	10



Wanita approaching the Race 9 start line



Mercedes waiting for the Race 9 race on decision

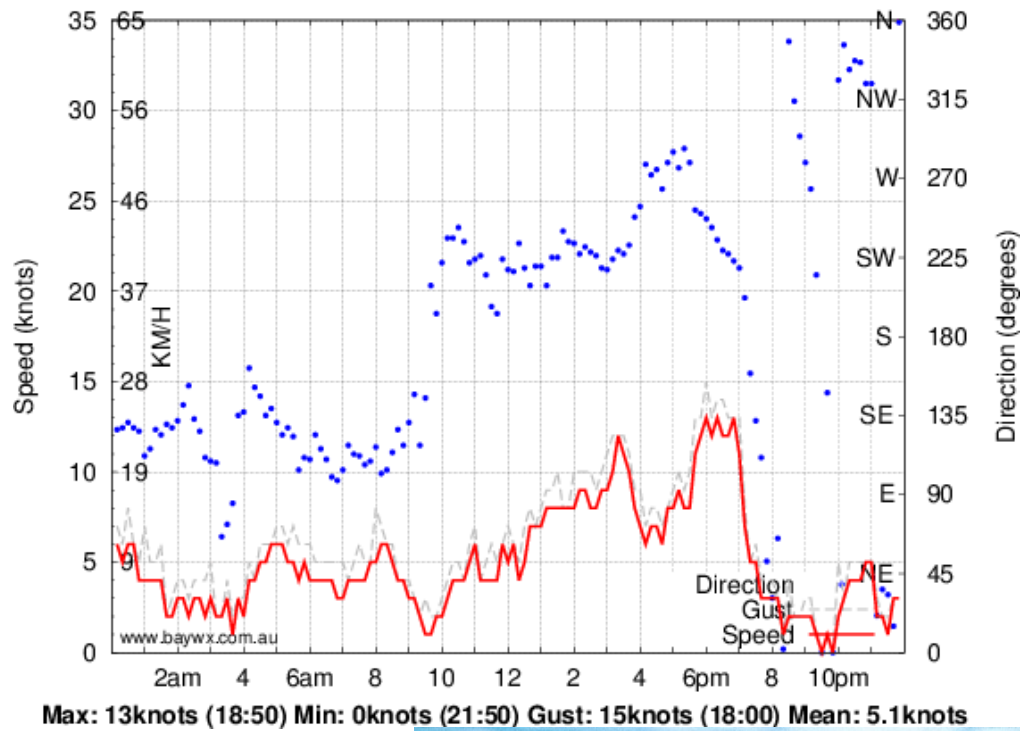


Astrud waiting for the Race 9 race on decision

How Race 9 was made to happen

Going by the adjacent wind graph for Sunday there was no way your race committee could start race 9 on schedule at 10:00am. Up went the expected postponement signal. With an expectation something wind wise was about to happen the decision to start the race was locked in at 10:24. During the five minute start sequence a review of the another postponement decision was made at 10:29:30. That's right, it was a down to the wire go/no go call for the race committee. With the wind strength up by 50% ; ie 2.5 to 3.5 knots it was let's go for it time.

ST KILDA HARBOUR RMYS Wind Speed/Direction for Sun Aug 27 2023



Merlin, the wizard of the line

What a great call from the race committee and the already committed **Merlin** to start race none. With 20 tons of momentum **Merlin** ghosted over the line the start line. The wind strength kept building to 4.5 knots as Merlin with all her sails filled went over down the bay in great style. All things considered, particularly the light wind, Merlin put in a brilliant light wind performance throughout the race.

Attracting the handicapper attention.

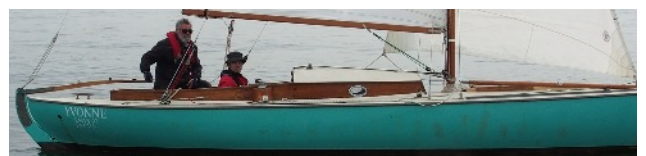
We all know how to keep our heads down and not be noticed by the handicapper. However two race nine starters didn't succeed in this regards.

First was **Tandanya** startling on course performance. The catch word her is on course. The time between her difficulties to get over the the start and finish line was a handicappers attention grabber for sure.

The second handicapper attention grabber during race nine was **Yvonne**. In between those worthy accolades for the best corrected time performance a new entry went into that little black handicapper book.



A Mercedes III sav no more moment



Yvonne with her don't look at us crew

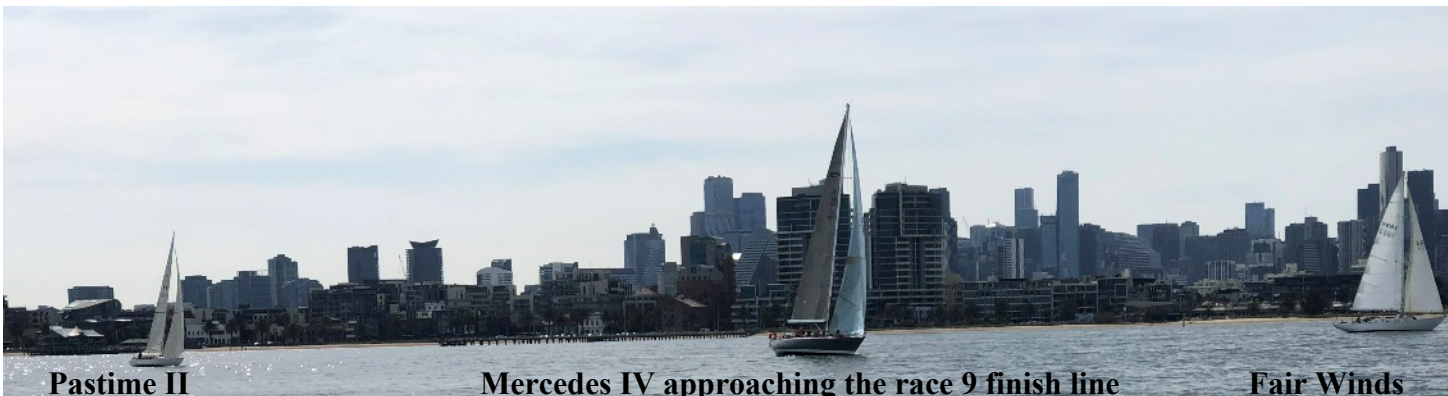


Avian pips Merlin at the finish line with Tandanya making up ground after her delayed start.

Mercedes IV The star of the race nine.

Yes race nine was a big day all round. The leading byline in this regard has to go to **Mercedes IV**. After coming out tops in a thrilling last mark round duel with **Fair Winds** that also saw **Pastime II** in this mix, she went on to salute the handicapper with her first across line. Her first ever race with the Port Phillip classic fleet. Perhaps the bigger story is what it took by her syndicate of owners to put her on to the race nine start line.

All those how it happened were stories across the fleet were rehashed at the bigger than Ben Hur post race celebrations on the RMYS Marina dockside.



Team Mercedes IV celebrates Race 9



Ashley Sharples begins the Mercedes IV celebrations



A silver moment for Mercedes IV and her team in preparation for her 50th golden year and her entry into the world of classic yacht racing.



A smorgasbord of celebrations on Mercedes IV



JUDGING THE JUDGE

Race nine comments from the skipper of **Mercedes III**, Martin Ryan

With the Winter series concluded, it's an opportunity to assess the performance of our beloved handicapper.

After 9 races, only 4 points separated the top 4 yachts:

Wanita 36 pts

Mercedes III 37 pts

Astrud 38 pts

Marama 40 pts.

A stark reminder why it's worth fighting for every place in every race.

Akala carried 2 DNS. If she had raced these 2 races and achieved the average of her placings, she would have finished on 39 points! A stark reminder to sail every race.

So, pretty even results between Div 1 and Div 3 yachts.

So where was Div 2?

Only **Avian** competed in all races, finishing 5th overall. Most of the fleet carried at least 2 DNS.

So the answer is, they didn't sail often enough.

The verdict?

Our beloved handicapper is

Guilty of Outstanding accuracy and fairness, despite numerous attempts to influence, over a range of yachts and weather conditions. The Regatta results for the top 4 yachts, could have been 5, determined in the last race.

APPLAUSE!

2023/2024 Summer Series.

Entries for this series are now being called for. Click [HERE](#) to start your entry process.

As previously noted, we welcome offers to nominate a naming for individual races in this series.

There will be a permanent Royal Yacht Club of Victoria trophy will be used to acknowledge the best performing classic yacht of this series of eight classic yacht races on Port Phillip.

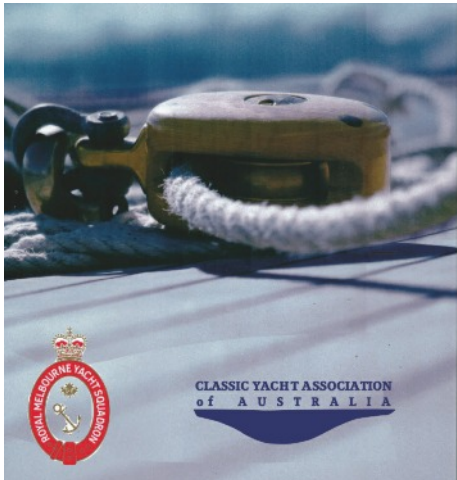
2023 Cup Regatta

Click [HERE](#) to start your entry process. To see who's already entered click [HERE](#). We have a sailpast scheduled for both racing and non racing entrants on the Saturday @ 10:30am

To be part of the big Cup Regatta social program click [HERE](#) That pre Cup Regatta knee's up in Ferdi's shed is a must do.. Be prepared to retire wounded at this one. We have another big one, a dinner @ RYCV that is, on the Saturday evening. Click [HERE](#) to sort out your tickets.

We best finish. Once again thanks to all our members and supporters who made our 2023 Winter Series another notable CYAA classic yacht racing event on Port Phillip.

We're now looking forward to the same with our 2023/2024 Summer Series and 2023 Cup Regatta.



The Sayonara
— Classic —
Summer
— Series —
2023-2024
26 years of classic yacht racing on Port Phillip
This series of classic yacht racing is organised by the Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron for the Classic Yacht Association of Australia
CYAA (Vic) 2023/2024 Summer Series on Port Phillip

Race 1	8 th Oct. 2023	EMYS
Race 2	15 th Oct. 2023	EMYS
Race 3	15 th Nov. 2023	EMYS
Race 4	26 th Nov. 2023	EMYS
Race 5 (PURSUIT)	19 th Dec. 2023	RYCV
Race 6	4 th Feb. 2024	EMYS
Race 7	3 rd March 2024	EMYS
Race 8 (PURSUIT)	17 th March 2024	RYCV



Tumlare Yvonne Sponsors

\$400 plus

Sundisc RMYS

\$500 Mercedes III

\$400 Cyan

\$400 Sayonara Syndicate

\$400 Kingurra

\$200 to \$399

\$200 Mercedes IV

\$200 Zephyr

\$200 to \$399

\$100 Alwyn

\$100 David and Jennie McKenzie

CURRENT TOTAL \$2,700

Footnote: Yvonne Sponsors update

TOTAL now \$2,700. TARGET of \$5,000

This has been contributed by 2 individuals and 8 yachts out of a total 25+ yachts in our fleet. The maths to achieving our TARGET of \$5,000 is simple: we need more yachts to pledge and we will get there..

Click [**HERE**](#) for further details about CYAA General Maintenance Fund

Regards to all,
Peter Costolloe
CYAA (Vic) Handicapper