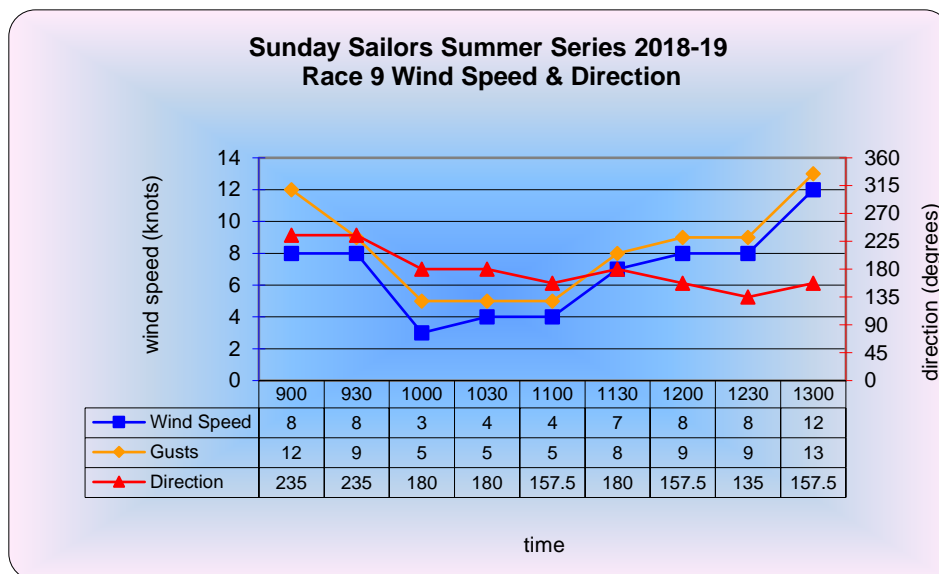


Breeze Takes a Break Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2018-19 Race 9



Within minutes of the start of the race the breeze quickly eased from about 8 to 3 knots. The 23 yachts had difficulty creating a good sail shape and half the fleet were still waiting to round the first mark, SYC 3 – a distance of about 0.6 of a mile – 60 minutes after the race start. The breeze started to win its battle with an opposing northerly and slowly picked up as the morning progressed to average around 7 knots with a shift from the south west to south east. The 7 leg 9.8 nautical mile course was shortened to a 4 leg 6.1 mile course but 3 yachts were unable to finish within the time limit.



With a time of 5 seconds DELL ERA (Mike Coulter) won Start of the Day – no mean feat under the conditions. First to finish and recording a second win in the series was the Beneteau First 45 DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez). There was a gap of 6 minutes 48 seconds before RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp) crossed the line in 2nd place with WHITE ONYX (Ben & Katherine Solly) finishing 3rd.

This week's win takes DEBONNAIRE to the top of the aggregate with LEBROK (Theo Korbel) slipping into 2nd place. She has spent only 1 week out of the aggregate top three this series and WHITE ONYX is back in 3rd place up from 9th position.



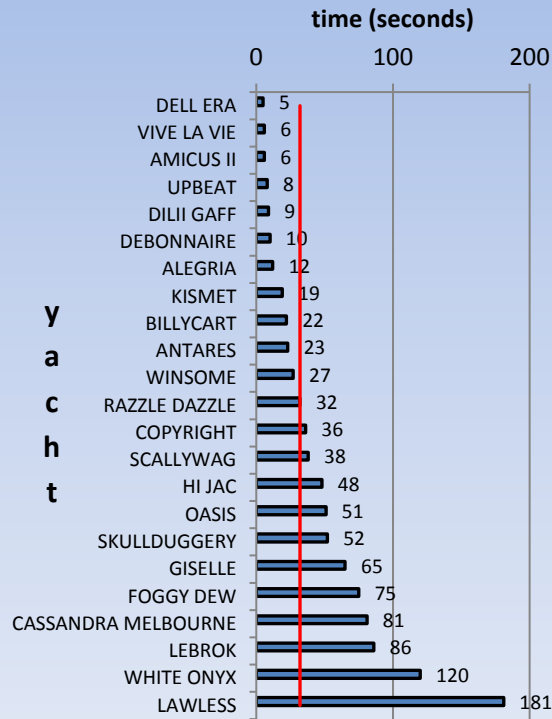
DEBONNAIRE has collected 6 top ten finishes including 4 podium finishes in her 8 races. This was her second win of the series around course 24 but may have been the least expected especially when the course was shortened. She was the last yacht to start the race 10 seconds late for her 49 minute handicap. She led the fleet in what became the final leg of the race and was first across the finish line at 12:03:33. DEBONNAIRE sailed the course in 1:44:33 – the fastest elapsed time of the race. She won the 2018 winter series aggregate and is the current leader of this summer’s aggregate – a strong contender for the Summer Plate.

This was the first podium finish in six completed races this series for RAZZLE DAZZLE. She was one of four yachts to fly a spinnaker using it on the first and last legs of the race. RAZZLE DAZZLE started from 17th place 32 seconds late for her 34 minute handicap. She started 1 place and 20 seconds ahead of SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) but extended this lead during the race to finish 2 minutes 19 seconds and 4 places ahead. RAZZLE DAZZLE sailed the course in 2:06:21 – the 6th fastest time of the day and crossed the finish line at 12:10:21. Despite her 2nd place she drops one place in the aggregate from 11th to 12th.



WHITE ONYX is having a very successful summer series with 4 podium finishes from 6 races. She did not compete in races 7 and 8 and started this race from 22nd place 2 minutes late for her 46 minute handicap. This was her highest handicap for the series and her slowest start. Nevertheless, she sailed the course in 1:54:40 – the second fastest time of the race and crossed the finish line at 12:10:40 just 19 seconds behind RAZZLE DAZZLE. WHITE ONYX has been in the aggregate top ten from the start of the summer and this 3rd place takes her up from 9th into 3rd position.

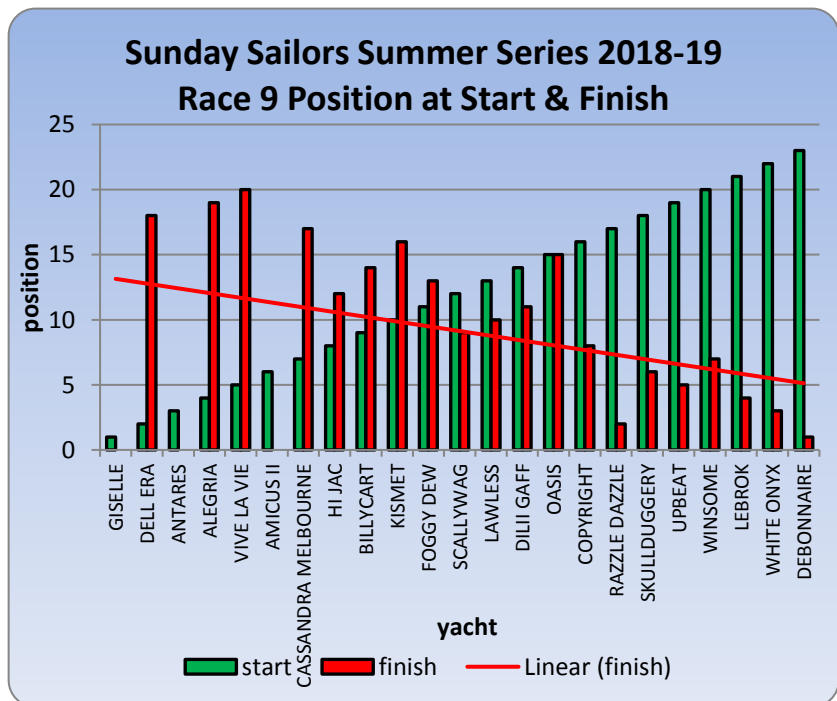
Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2018-19 Race 9 Start of the Day



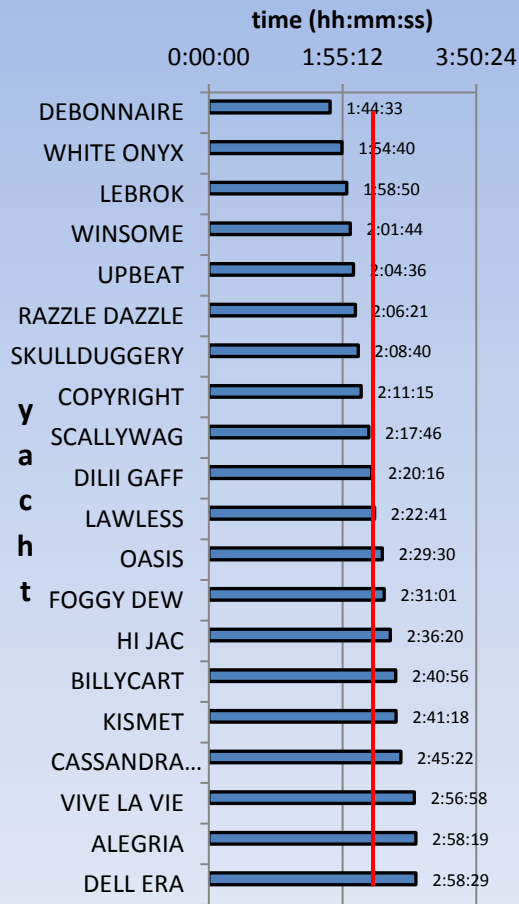
The breeze was in steady decline for the start of the race making a good start difficult. Six yachts were more than a minute late. The median start time was 32 seconds with DELL ERA winning the start with a time of 5 seconds.



Even though the race was around a shortened course it was the late starters that dominated the finish. The first eight yachts across the finish line were the last eight to start the race. The three yachts recording a DNF were among the first 6 to start. The 23 yachts started the race 46 minutes 5 seconds apart and finished within 32 minutes 25 seconds of each other.



Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2018-19 Race 9 Elapsed Time



At about 6.1 nautical miles this was the shortest course of the summer but with a median elapsed time of 2:21:29 all but three yachts had more than a 2 hour sail. DEBONNAIRE had the fastest elapsed time – 10 minutes 7 seconds faster than her closest rival and 1:13:56 faster than DELL ERA. Both DILII GAFF and LAWLESS sailed within 73 seconds of the elapsed time.



(Left) A cautious approach to the start line by COPYRIGHT, UPBEAT & SKULLDUGGERY.



(Right) OASIS looking for enough breeze to fill a large jib.





(Left) Both WINSOME & LEBROK had a slow start to the race but finished 7th and 4th respectively.



(Below) Sailing the 0.6 nautical miles to SYC 3 took longer than expected.

(Right) SCALLYWAG started from 12th place and finished 9th.

(Below) KISMET leads CASSANDRA & DELL ERA to the finish line.





(Left) HI JAC finished her 5th race of the series in 12th place.

(Right) VIVE LA VIE had her best start of the series and was the last yacht to finish.



(Below) GISELLE, AMICUS II & ANTARES were all starters but recorded DNF.



Race 10 is scheduled for the 17th Feb 2019

Windward Buoy