

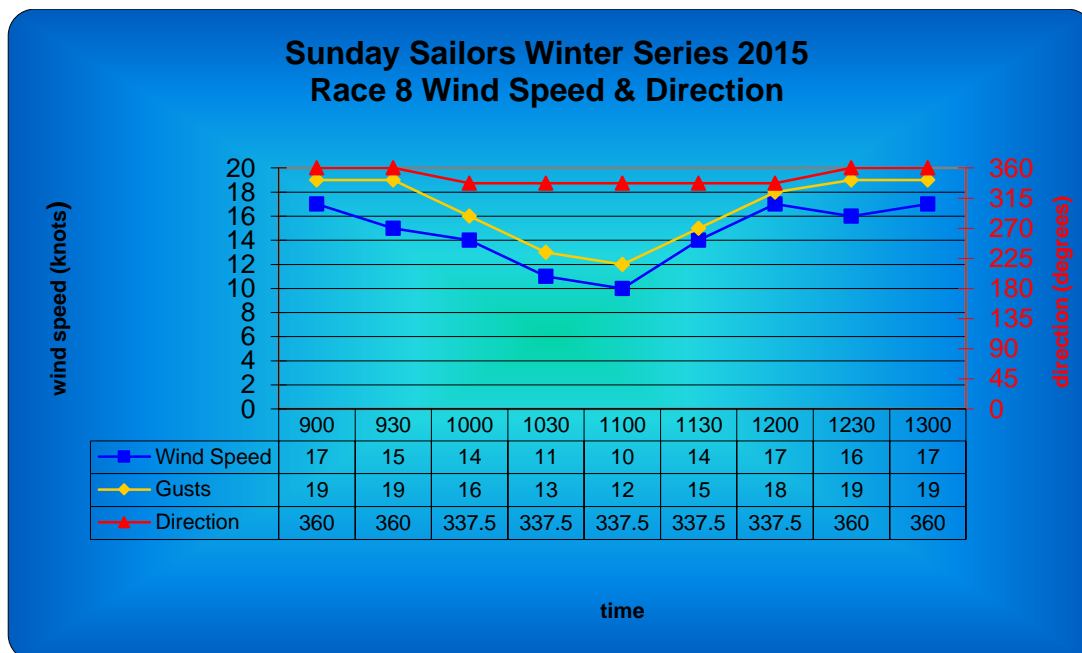
SS Race 8 Forty Foot Plus Yachts Sail Well



With race 7 abandoned this was the first race in 4 weeks for Sunday Sailors and it proved to be a good one. It was around the 7 leg, 9.8 nautical mile course 7. Race 6 used the same course but on that occasion the breeze averaged about 16 knots from the south west rather than 15 knots from the north. The average sail time for race 6 – 1:25:36 – was significantly less than the 2:04:34 for this race. However the high cloud and absence of rain made it far more enjoyable.

All 19 starters in the race completed the race with a further yacht taking part but recorded as “not entered”. No yachts started too soon and all were within 60 seconds (just) or less of their handicaps. Although 2 of the 3 podium finishers were amongst the last 6 yachts to start, the late starters did not dominate the race. The Swanson 30, AMICUS II (Warwick Stenford) put in a stoic effort to be the only yacht to start and finish amongst the first six. However it did help if the yacht was 40 foot or more in length. Even though there were 2 good runs, from number 2 to number 5 then from number 3 to number 1, no one used a spinnaker. It would have been interesting to see the result if that had happened.

The breeze was more consistent in direction than it was in speed. Although it was around 15 knots at Fawkner Beacon at the start of the race it decreased as the race progressed. It was around 10 knots at 1100 but increased to be about 16 knots by the end of the race.



It was the Beneteau First 45, DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) that crossed the line in first place for her first podium finish of the series. She has completed 6 races and finished in the top ten in all but one. She started the race from 18th place 10 seconds late for her 36 minute handicap. She recorded the fastest elapsed time of the race sailing the course in 1:38:51 – 6 minutes 35 seconds faster than her nearest rival. She crossed the finish at 11:44:51. She is tied for 2nd place in the aggregate on 35 points.



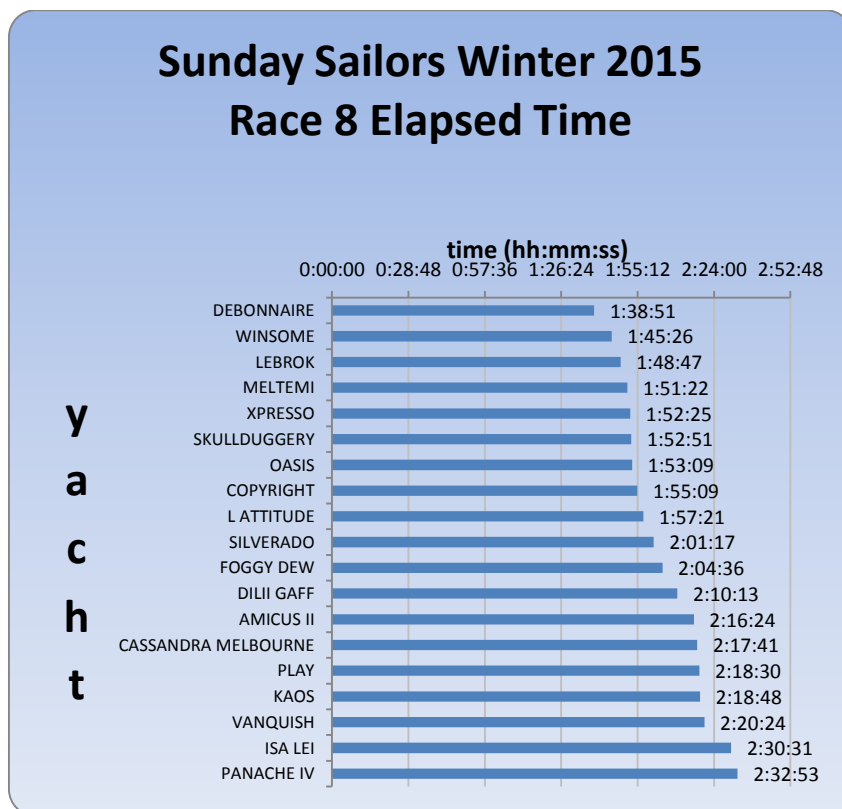
Also completing her 6th race of the series and finishing in 2nd place was the Jeanneau Sunfast 40, WINSOME (Simon Hemingway). WINSOME started from 15th place 15 seconds late for her 32 minute handicap. She sailed the course in 1:45:26 - the 2nd fastest time of the day. WINSOME crossed the finish line at 11:47:26 to record her 2nd podium finish of the series. She was 2 minutes 35 seconds behind DEBONNAIRE. This 2nd place was enough to help return WINSOME to the top of the aggregate with 31 points.

Completing her 3rd race for the series and recording her first podium finish was the Wauquiez Centurion 40S MELTEMI (Ian Howarth). MELTEMI didn't have the best start being 52 seconds late for her 27 minute handicap from 12th position. Nevertheless she sailed a good race sailing the course in the 4th fastest time of the day – 1:51:22. She was only 56 seconds behind WINSOME and 1 minute 2 seconds ahead of AMICUS II when she crossed the finish line in 3rd place at 11:48:22. MELTEMI has been well placed in two of her 3 races but is currently 17th in the aggregate.

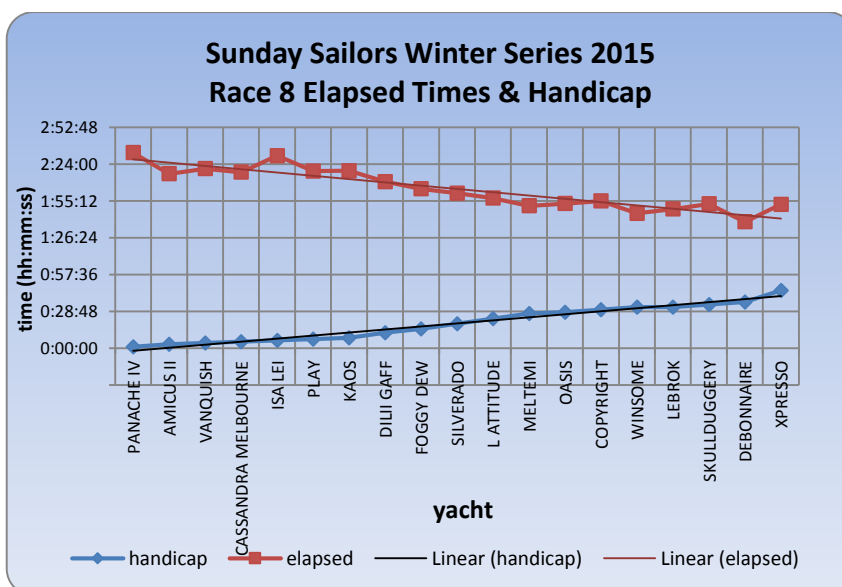


DEBBONNAIRE recorded the fastest elapsed time but quite some margin in race 8. The average elapsed time was over 2 hours at 2:04:34. The range of elapsed times was 54

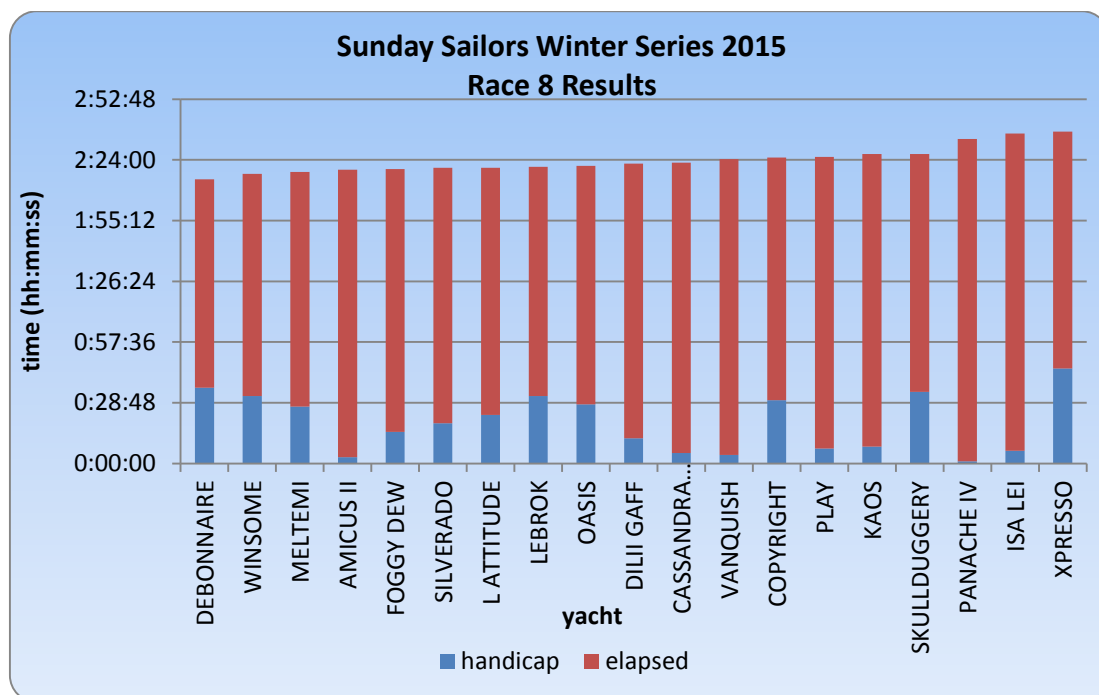
minutes 2 seconds but there were some fine differences. XPRESSO (D&A Abrahams) was only 26 seconds faster than SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) whilst 18 seconds separated PLAY (Ian Pridgeon) from KAOS (Dawn Cleaver)



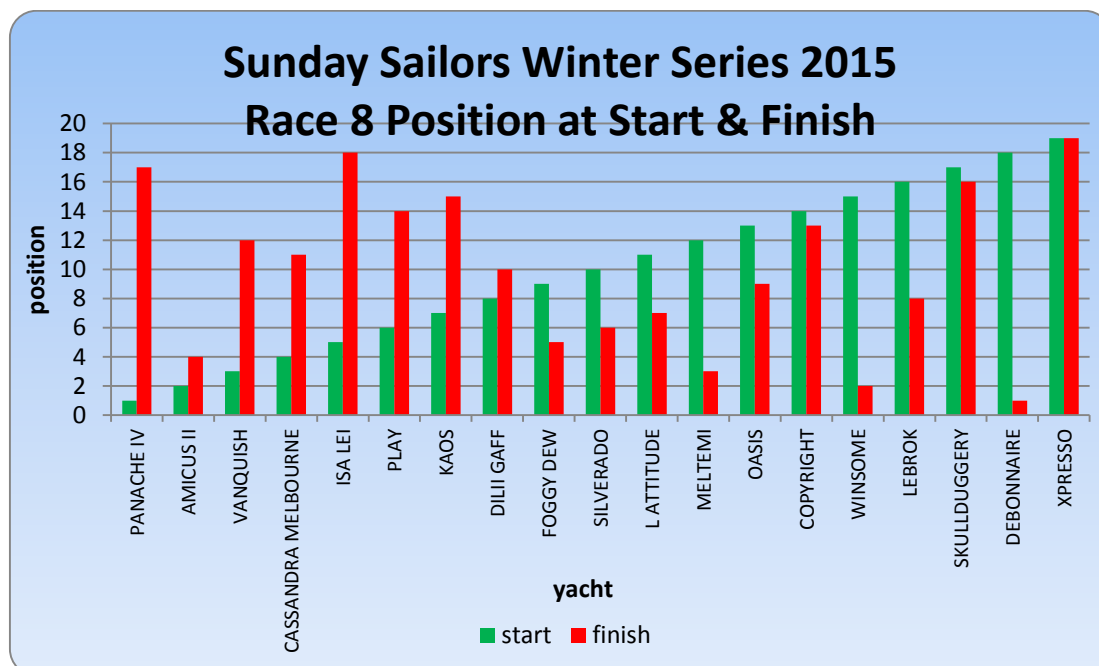
The chart below indicates that, in general, handicaps increased as elapsed time decreased. However, ISA LEI (Andrew Chapman) and XPRESSO didn't sail as fast in these conditions as their handicaps suggest. Of the other yachts, notably the 3 podium finishers seem to have outperformed their handicaps.



The fleet began the race 44 minutes and 1 second apart which was reduced at the finish line to 22 minutes and 34 seconds. The closest finish was 3 seconds between KAOS and SKULLDUGGERY with 4 seconds separating SILVERADO (John Barbieri) from L'ATTITUDE (J Fiske & P Grey).



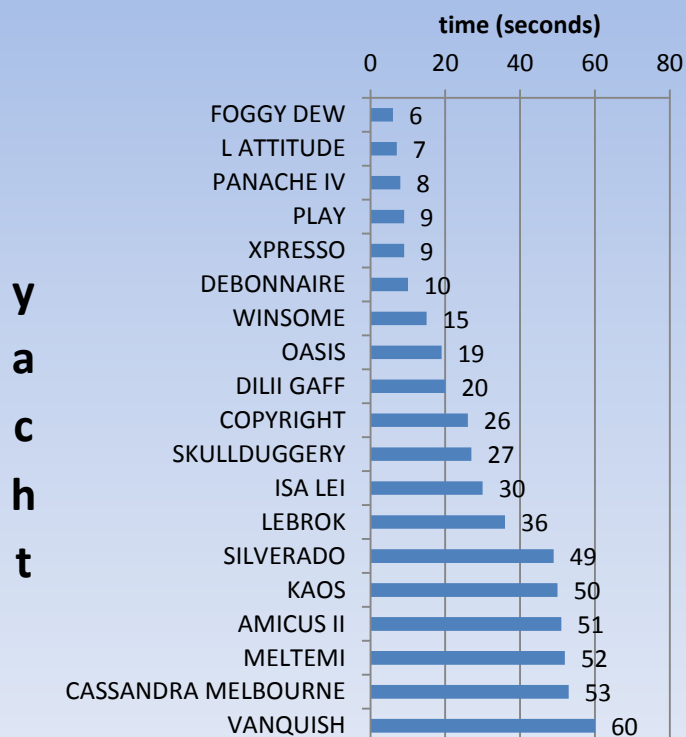
All of the first 8 yachts to start the race had lost ground by race end. In contrast all the other yachts improved their positions except for XPRESSO who started and finished in the same position.



FOGGY DEW won start of the day 6 seconds late for her handicap. She was closely followed by L'ATTITUDE on 7 seconds then PANACHE IV (Egils Stokans). The median start time was a little better than the 27 second average at 26 seconds.



Sunday Sailors Winter 2015 Race 8 Start of the Day



There are 3 scheduled races remaining in the 11 race series with a tight contest developing at the top of the aggregate with 5 points separating the top 4 yachts.

YACHT	SKIPPER	POINTS
WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	31
COPYRIGHT	Stuart Morrison-Jack	35
DEBONNAIRE	Phil Gomez	35
XPRESSO	D&A Abrahams	36
FOGGY DEW	Joe Jones / F Hilliard	40
SILVERADO	John Barbieri	45
YOUNG ONES	Ian Miller	53
L'ATTITUDE	J Fiske P Gray	63
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	Bob Reeves	68
VANQUISH	Bob Beresford	69

Race 9 is scheduled for 23 August 2015.

NOTE: Some local roads will be closed on this day.

Details at Link Below

<http://www.syc.com.au/club-events/local-road-closure-sunday-23-august/>

*Windward
Buoy*