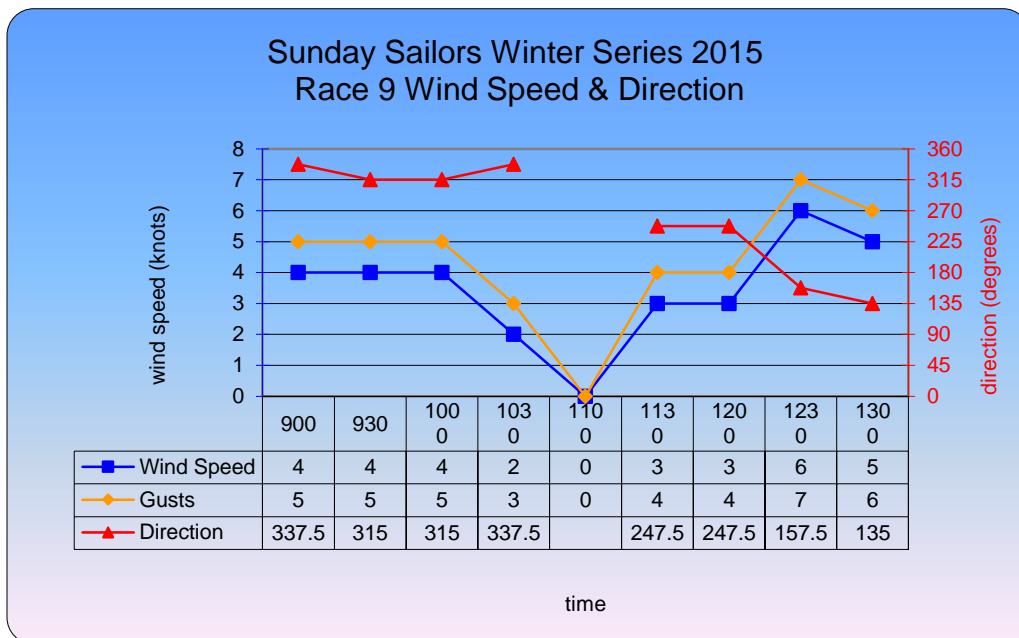


Frustration, Elation and a Surprise Morning Out for Race Management

Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2015 Race 9



Anyone arriving at SYC early on Sunday morning would have noticed an almost perfect reflection of yachts and their masts in the marina. It was a lovely day but not much breeze. By the start of the race there was about 4 knots from the north west which was to ease as the morning progressed. By 1100 Fawkner Beacon indicated calm conditions with a light southerly breeze slowly returning from around 1130. The breeze averaged almost 3.5 knots for the morning.



Completion of the 6 leg 9.5 nautical mile course in such a light breeze was always going to be difficult to achieve and became frustrating. Although some yachts started well, the light breeze generally made prompt starts difficult. It was after completion of the first leg – from 4

to 3 – that frustration started to take hold. Some idea of the cause of the frustration is indicated by the average yacht speed – 1.36 knots. This compares to 4.8 knots for race 8. At one time or another light sails, heavy sails and spinnakers were all hanging limply waiting for something to happen. Eventually it did with a shifting south westerly breeze starting to increase about 1130. Better was to come with the radio announcement that the course would be shortened at number 5. The skippers and crews were elated and race management enjoyed a surprise boat trip on the bay. However, there was disappointment with 5 yachts narrowly missing the 1230 finish time.



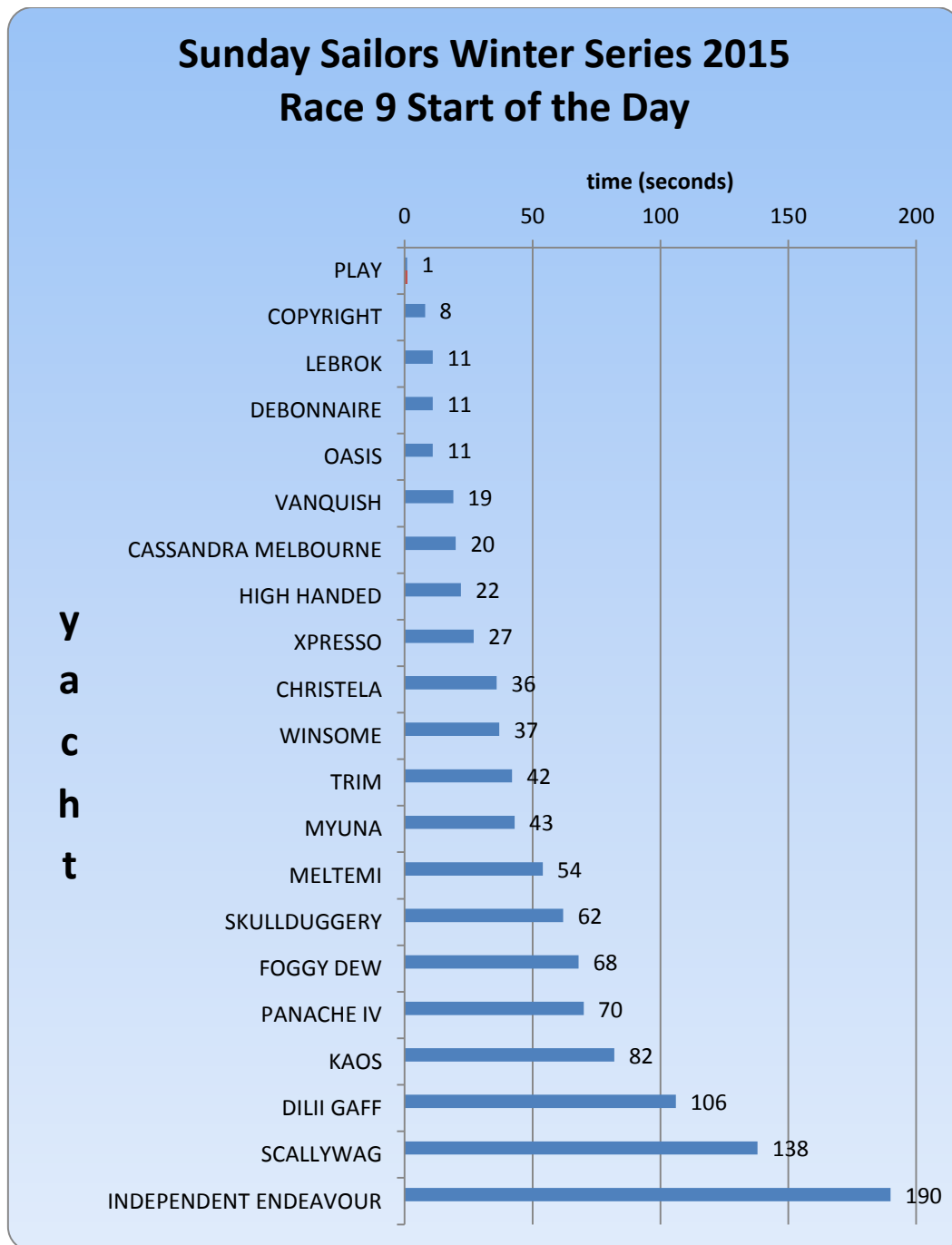
It was the Defiance 30 KAOS (Dawn Cleaver) that claimed line honours crossing the finish line at 12:03:32. KAOS started from 6th place not with the best of starts 82 seconds late for her 5 minute handicap. She sailed the shortened course in 2:28:32 her slowest time of her 3 races. Nevertheless it was enough to help her into 19th place in the aggregate.

Sailing her 6th race of the series and finishing in 2nd place was the Beneteau 27.7 PLAY (Ian Pridgeon). PLAY began the race from 5th place only 1 second late for her 5 minute handicap. This was enough to earn her Start of the Day. She sailed the course in 2:30:48 to finish 2 minutes 16 seconds behind KAOS at 12:05:48. PLAY is now lying 12th in the aggregate.

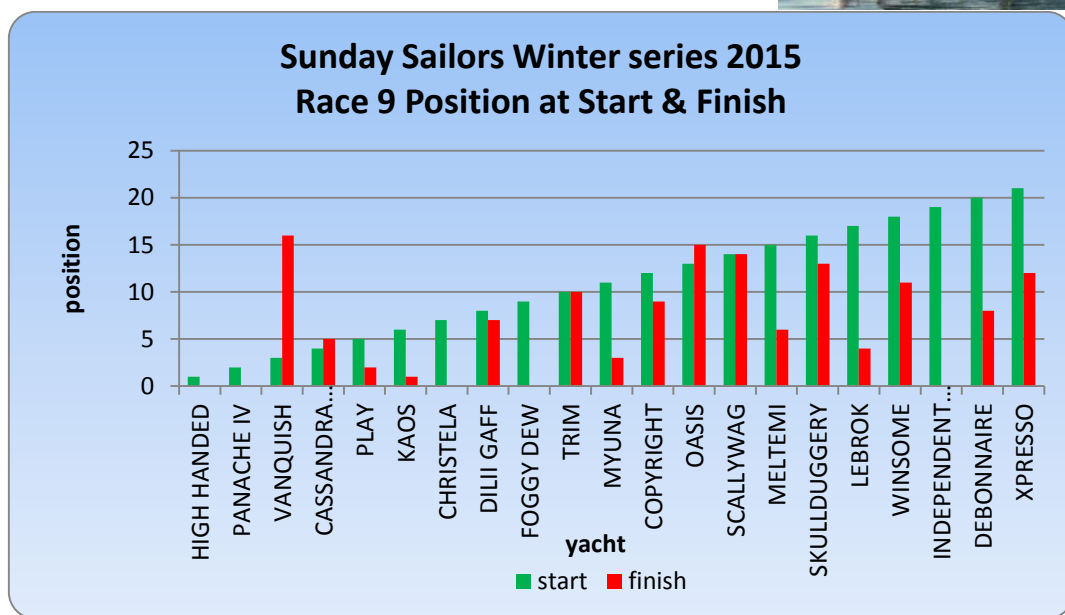
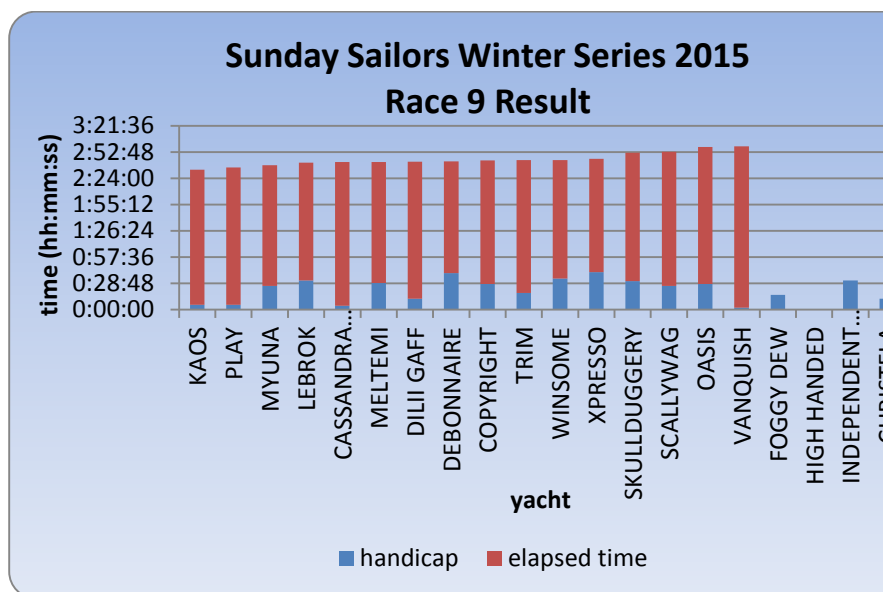


The Cavalier 37 MYUNA (Geoffrey Nixon) was 43 seconds late for her 26 minute handicap but the yacht was kept moving so that she finished 3rd. She had the 5th fastest elapsed time of the race completing the 2 legs in 2:12:16. MYUNA recorded her 2nd podium finish of the series when she crossed the finish line at 12:08:16. She has completed 3 races in the series and is currently 17th in the aggregate.

As already mentioned it was PLAY that won Start of the Day only 1 second late for her handicap. Her nearest rival was COPYRIGHT (Stuart Morrison Jack) with a 8 second start. A third of the starters were more than a minute late and the median start time was 37 seconds.

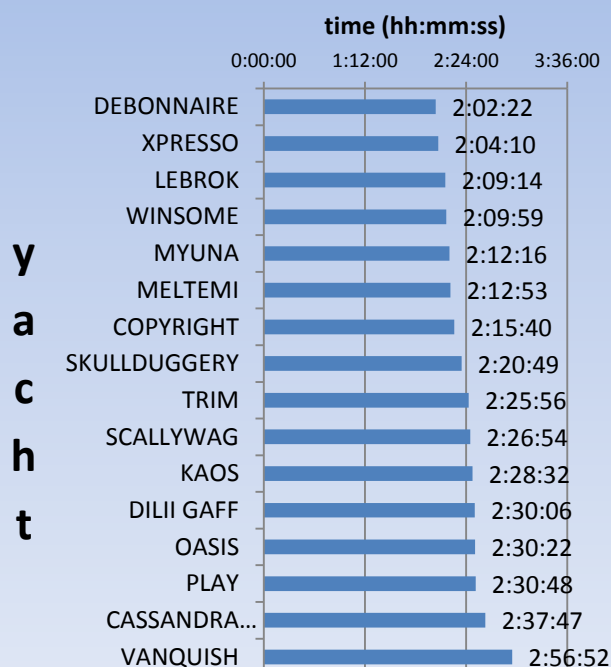


There was a gap of 41 minutes and 5 seconds between the 21 yachts at the start of the race. This gap was reduced by the end to 25 minutes 20 seconds between the 16 yachts that finished. There was only 3 seconds separating TRIM (Phil Atkins) from WINSOME (Simon Hemingway) in 11th and 12th place. Six yachts opted to fly spinnakers and the best result was CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) who finished 5th.



Of the first 7 yachts to start the race, 3 were amongst the first 7 to finish whilst unfortunately 3 failed to finish. MELTEMI (Ian Haworth) and LEBROK (Theo Korbel) were amongst the late starters that found their way into the early finishers. The remaining late starters finished either mid fleet or recorded DNF.

Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2015 Race 9 Elapsed Time



DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) sailed the course in the fastest time 1 minute 48 seconds faster than XPRESSO (D & A Abrahams). DILLI GAFF (Paul MacBain) sailed the course a mere 16 seconds faster than OASIS (David Keyes-Tilley).



There are 2 scheduled races remaining in the series with the next race on Sunday 6 Sept 2015. It looks like being a close finish to the series with only 3 points separating the top 4 yachts in the aggregate.

Place	Ties	Sail No	Boat Name	Skipper	POINTS
1		SM451	DEBONNAIRE	Phil Gomez	30
2		SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	31
3		SM1068	COPYRIGHT	Stuart Morrison-Jack	32
4		SM6737	XPRESSO	D&A Abrahams	33
5		SM32	FOGGY DEW	Joe Jones F Hilliard	40
6		SM180	SILVERADO	John Barbieri	45
7		SM367	LEBROK	Theo Korbel	49
8	6.0S	SM5558	YOUNG ONES	Ian Miller	53
9		SM1147	CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	Bob Reeves	53
10		SM5277	L ATTITUDE	J Fiske P Gray	59

Windward
Buoy