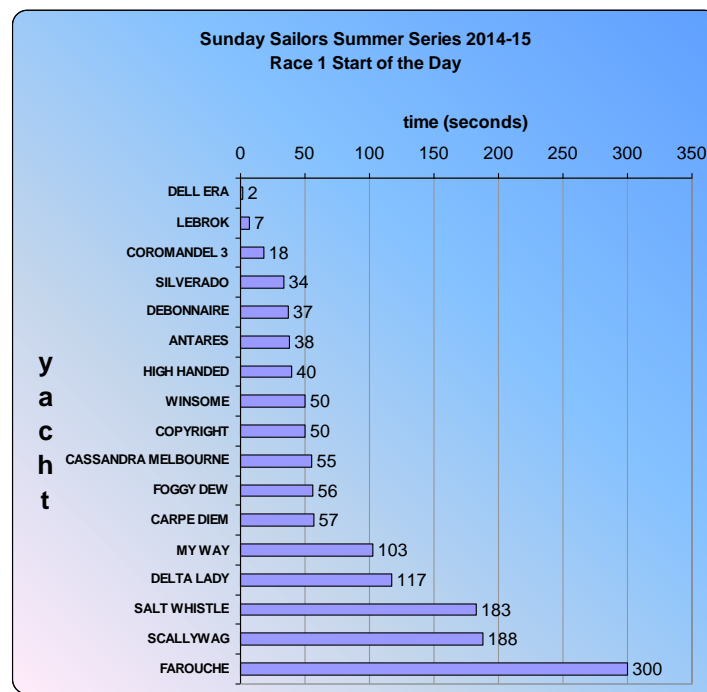


Race 1 Not Quite Enough Breeze

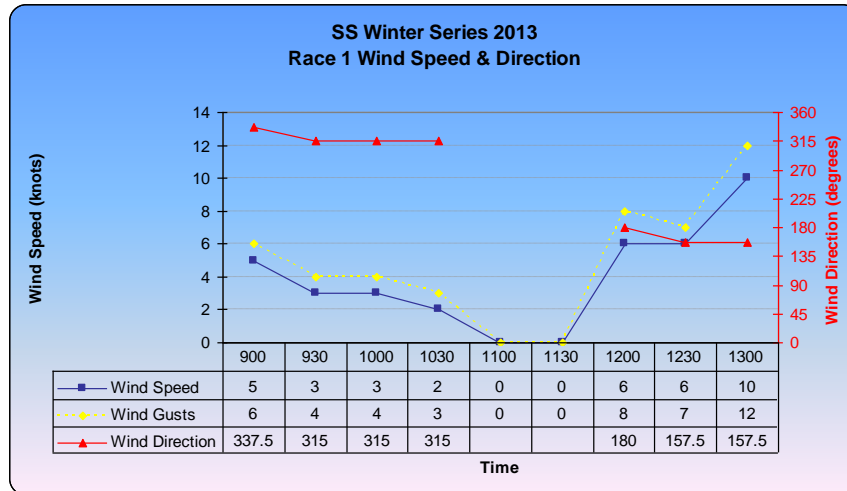
It was a beautiful morning for the first race of the summer series with a fleet of 17 yachts venturing out on the water. The forecast for Port Philip was for variable winds of less than 10 knots increasing throughout the day to a possible 30 knots in the evening.



By race start the breeze recorded at Fawkner Beacon was below 5 knots making a timely start difficult. The median start time was 50 seconds. One yacht started too soon, incurring the 5 minute penalty, 5 yachts were over a minute late with three more than 3 minutes late. It was DELL ERA (Mike Coulter) who won Start of the Day only 2 seconds late for her handicap.



Although all yachts started, it was disappointing only five were able to finish – there just wasn't enough breeze. By 1100 there was no breeze recorded at Fawkner Beacon but it did re appear after 1130 when the north north westerly became a southerly and continued to strengthen for the remainder of the morning.



Although course 6 was shortened to a rhumb line distance of 4.2 nautical miles the last yacht to finish did so only just in time – one minute 8 seconds before the cut off time. This was 7 minutes 58 seconds behind the finish time recorded by the winning yacht LEBROK (Theo Korbel).



LEBROK had the second best start of the day only 7 seconds late for her 28 minute handicap. She sailed the course in 2:22:54 to win the race at 12:20:54. This duplicates her start to the Wednesday Wonders summer series when she was the convincing winner of race 1.

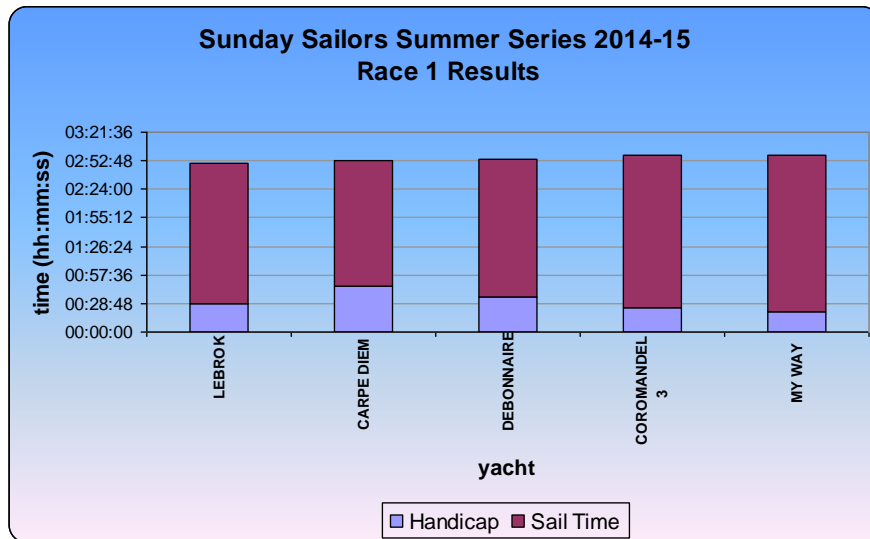
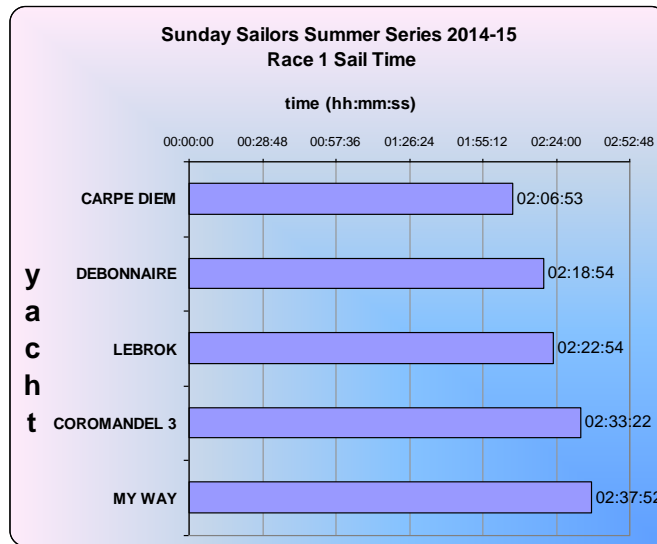
It was good to see the return of CARPE DIEM (Paul Commins) after missing the winter series. Despite the lay off she was back on the podium with a 2nd place in the first race of the series. She sailed with a spinnaker so was allocated the 3 minute penalty. CARPE DIEM was 57 seconds late for her 46 minute start but sailed the fastest time of the day completing the course in 2:06:53 and crossed the finish line at 12:22:53.



Crossing the finish line in 3rd place driven by the distinctive red spinnaker was DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez). She was one of 4 yachts to opt for a spinnaker in the race and sailed the shortened course in the second fastest time of the day. It took her 2:18:54 to sail the course and crossed the finish line at 12:24:54.

The only two other yachts to complete the course in the time limit were COROMANDEL 3 (Gus McLennan) and MY WAY (Magdi Eskander). COROMANDEL 3 made it with 1 minute 38 seconds to spare whilst MY WAY crossed the finish line 1 minute 8 seconds before the end.

All the 5 yachts completing the course spent over 2 hours on the water with an average time of 2:23:59. There was a gap of 30 minutes 59 seconds between the longest and shortest time.



The second race in the series is scheduled for 26 Oct 2014.

*Windward
Buooy*