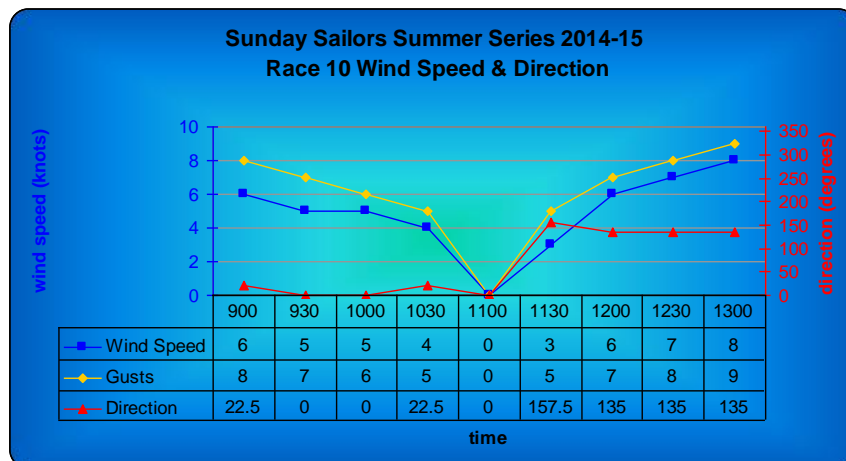


Sunday Sailors Summer Series Race 10 Slow & Steady Wins the Race

Anyone looking at the Port Philip forecast for Sunday morning would not have been surprised to find light and variable breezes out on the water. They gave rise to some problematic race conditions. There were occasional slivers of wind but they were not always easy to find. Start of the day is normally won with an average time of 3 seconds. The winning time for race 10 was 12 seconds. Some yachts hesitated before rounding number 7 and several informal gatherings developed before proceeding into the next leg of the course. The average sail time for the race, 2:25:16, was the slowest this series



Fawkner Beacon observations showed the breeze was in the north at the start of the race but eased in strength until 1100 when no breeze was recorded. It shifted to the south east and increased to be about 7 knots at 1230 and averaged a little less than 5 knots for the race. Even though course 6 was shortened to a rhumb line distance of 4.8 nautical miles, two of the 18 starters narrowly failed to complete the course by the 1230 cut off time.





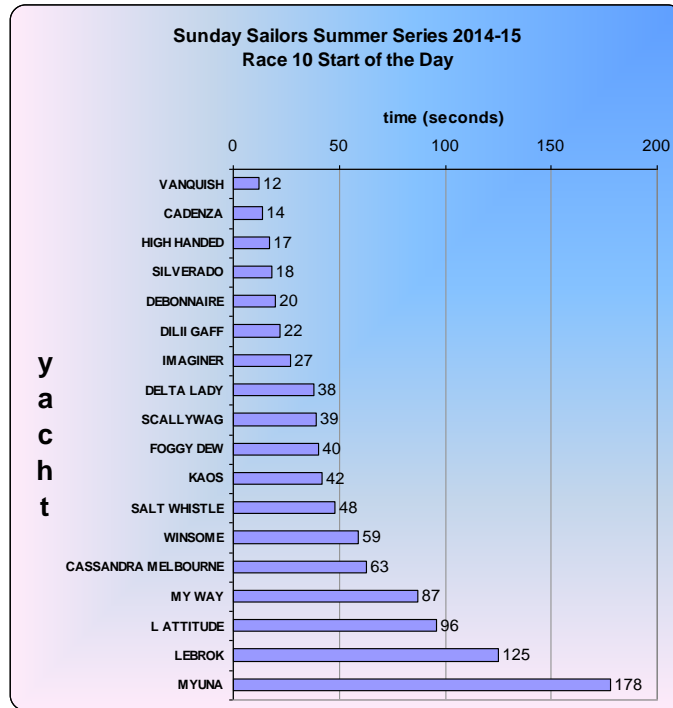
L'ATTITUDE (Peter Grey) didn't get the best start of the day, 96 seconds late for her 21 minute handicap from 10th place but things did get better. She recorded the third fastest time of the morning (2:11:42) and crossed the finish line 12:02:42 to win race 10. L'ATTITUDE has completed 7 races this series and this was her first win and 3rd podium finish so far. She is in 6th place in the aggregate with a total of 73 points.

Crossing the finish line 2 minutes 41 seconds behind L'ATTITUDE was the Beneteau 367, MY WAY (Magdy Iskander). MY WAY started from 11th place 1 minute 27 seconds late for her 23 minute handicap. She sailed the course well to record the 4th fastest time of the day of 2:12:23. After moving up 10 places MY WAY crossed the finish line in 2nd place at 12:05:23. This was the first podium finish in 8 races for MY WAY and put her back in the aggregate top ten on 68 points in 5th place.

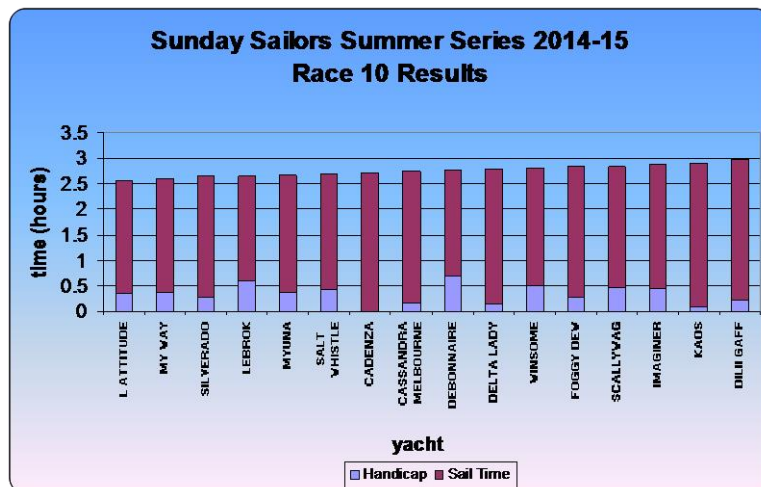


Finishing in 3rd place was SILVERADO (John Barbieri). SILVERADO has sailed in all 10 races and recorded 5 top ten positions. She started from 8th place, 18 seconds late for her 17 minute handicap. SILVERADO sailed the shortened course in 2:21:29 to finish 3rd at 12:08:29 – 3 minutes 6 seconds astern of MY WAY. SILVERADO has been gradually making her way up the aggregate and she is currently in 4th place.

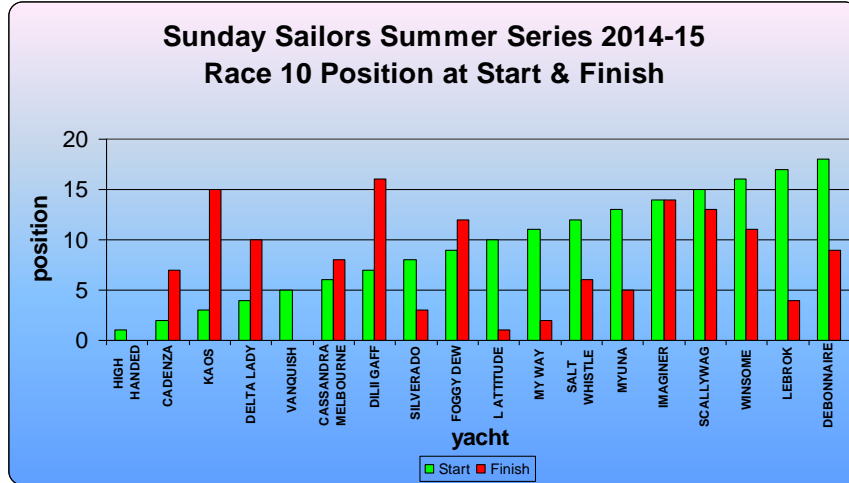
START of the DAY was won by VANQUISH (Bob Beresford) with a winning time of 12 seconds. Overall, this was a comparatively slow start for the fleet with a median start time of 39 seconds. Five of the 18 starters were more than a minute late for their handicap.



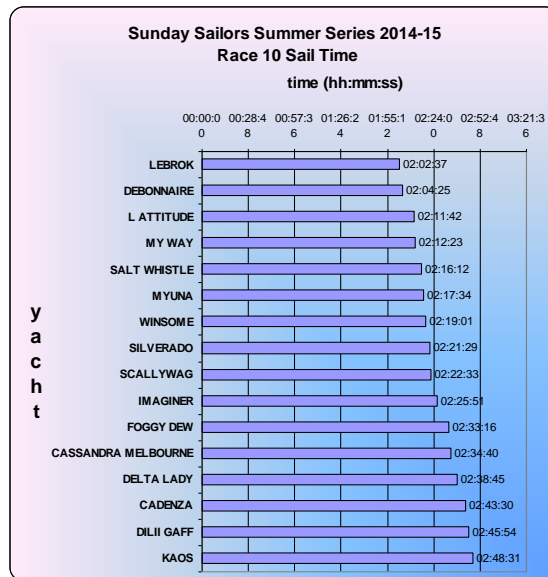
Eighteen yachts started the race 43 minutes apart. Two of the 18 starters were unable to finish the race by the 1230 time limit and the remaining 16 finished the 4 leg race 26 minutes 12 seconds apart.



It was the mid fleet and late starters that achieved the better results in this race. Three each of the mid fleet and late starters occupied the first six positions. Three each of the early and late starters were amongst the mid fleet finisher but there were no early starters amongst the early finishers.



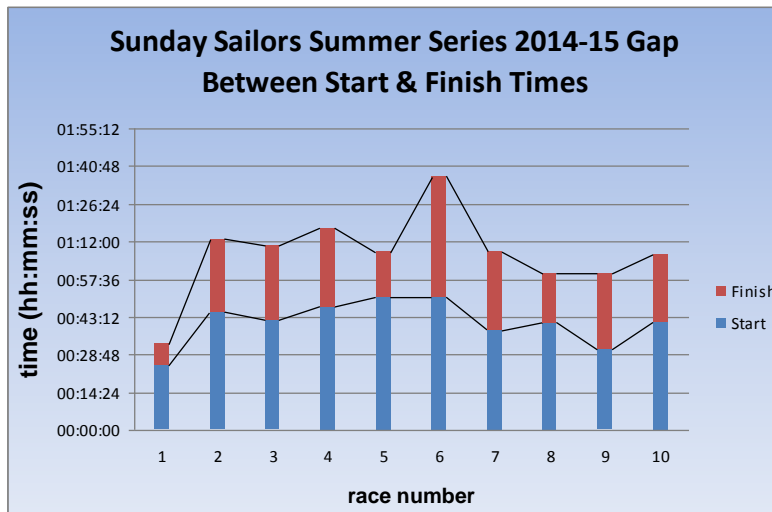
As already noted the average sail time of 2:25:16 is the slowest so far this series with no yacht sailing the course in less than 2 hours. LEBROK (Theo Korbel) recorded the fastest time of 2:01:25, 1 minute 48 seconds faster than DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez).



Sunday Sailors have been fortunate this series with all 10 scheduled races going ahead as planned, although 4 have required shortening as a result of insufficient breeze. The breeze for this series has averaged about 10.6 knots noticeably less

than the average breeze for the 2013-14 series which was about 13.2 knots. Nevertheless, the total rhumb line distance for the 10 courses sailed to date is 81.3 nautical miles.

The theory of pursuit racing is trying to arrange for the fleet to finish the race at the same time. This is probably impossible to achieve in practice but getting the fleet to finish closer together is than when they started is a regular occurrence. So far this series the average difference between the start times of the entire fleet has been 41 minutes 24 seconds and they have come closer together to finish an average of 26 minutes 8 seconds apart. Something is working.



There are still 3 scheduled races remaining in this series with race 11 on Sunday 1st March 2015.

Weymouth Buoys