

Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2014-15 - Race 13 KAOS Has a Resounding Victory



Starting the race from 1st place 5 minutes 28 seconds ahead of the next yacht, the Defiance 30 KAOS (Dawn Cleaver) built on this lead to finish 15 minutes 29 seconds ahead of her closest rival. This is a record winning margin for both this and the previous three series. Her record was created around course 7 which was shortened to 6.1 nautical miles in an easing breeze. KAOS didn't make the best of starts being 1 minute 14 seconds late for her 4 minute handicap but she made amends by sailing the course in the 5th fastest time of the day. She led the race from start to finish and crossed the line at 11:14:34 to record her 2nd win of the series. This was the 3rd podium finish from 12 races for KAOS who is tied for 7th place in the aggregate.

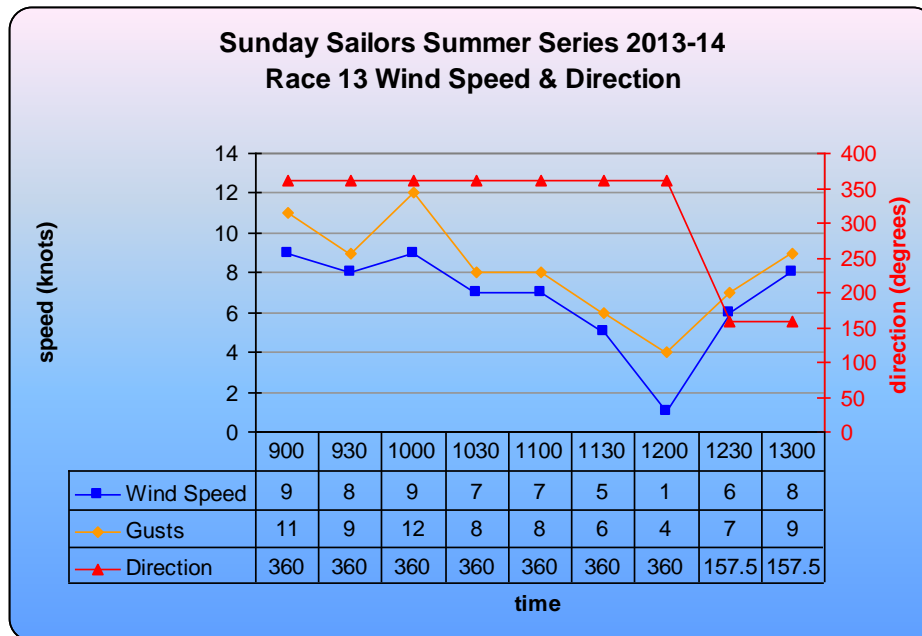


Finishing way behind KAOS in 2nd place was the S80, IMAGINER (Chris Byrne). IMAGINER had started from 10th place 12 seconds late for her 24 minute handicap. She sailed the course remarkably well to record the 2nd fastest time of the race completing the four legs in 1:36:03. IMAGINER passed 8 other yachts to cross the finish line in 2nd place at 11:30:03. She has completed 6 races in the series and has collected 4 top ten places including 2 podium finishes. She shares 15th place in the aggregate with DELTA LADY (Eric Clarke).

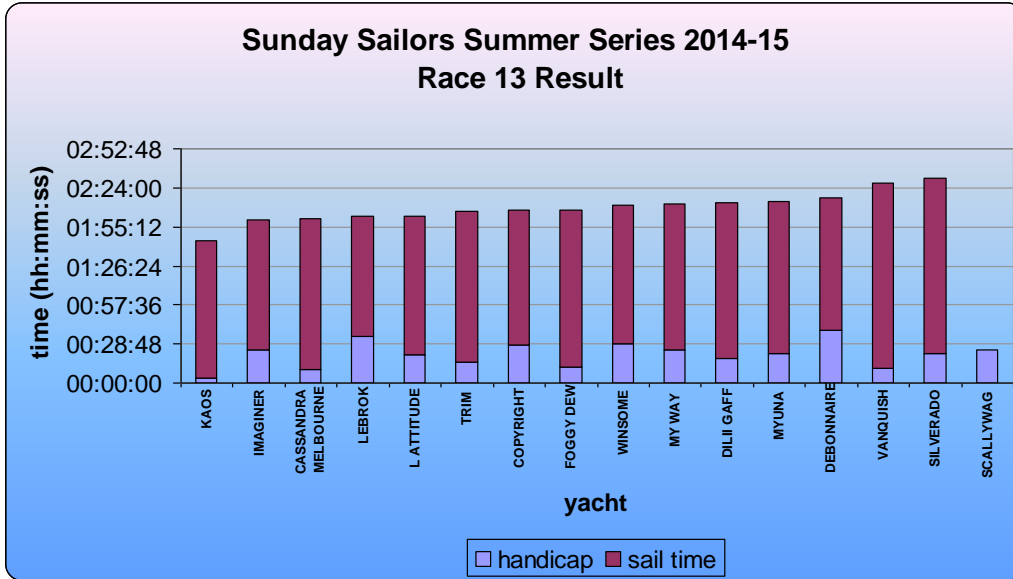
The 2nd yacht to start the race 42 seconds late for a 10 minute handicap was CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves). CASSANDRA is one of 6 yachts to have completed 12 races in the series. Out of the 12 completed races she has 8 top ten finishes with 2 being in the top 3. Although CASSANDRA was overtaken by IMAGINER she had no difficulty holding onto 3rd place sailing the shortened course in 1:51:31 and crossing the finish line at 11:31:31. She hangs on to 7th place in the aggregate which she shares with KAOS.



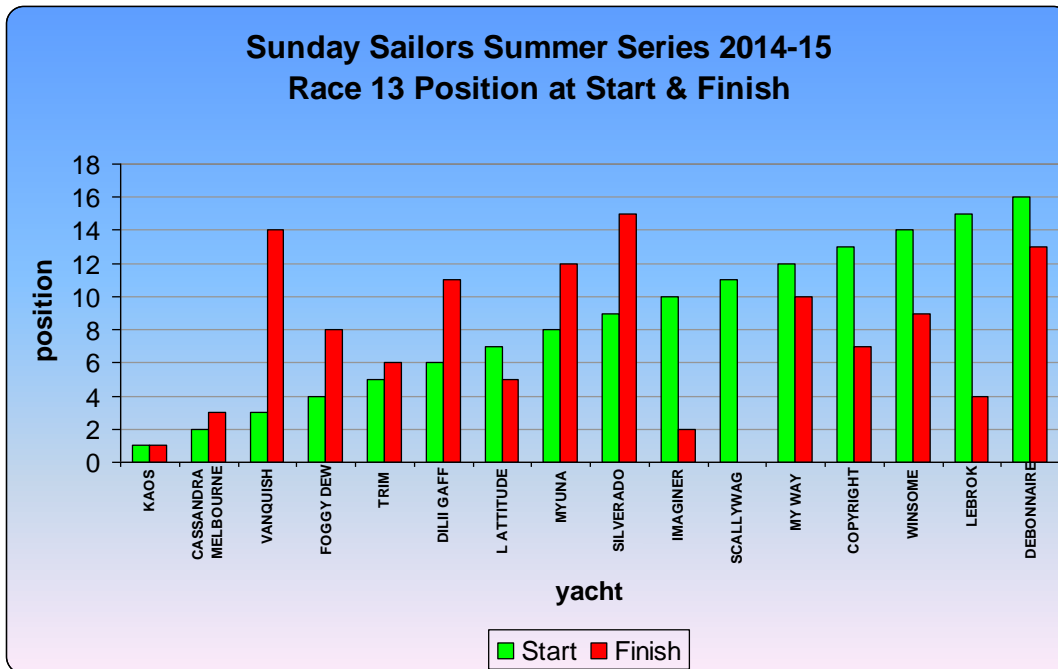
Observations taken at Fawkner Beacon indicated the breeze for the race averaged around 7 knots. However the northerly eased during the race until it reach 1 knot at around 1200 before shifting to the south south east and increasing.



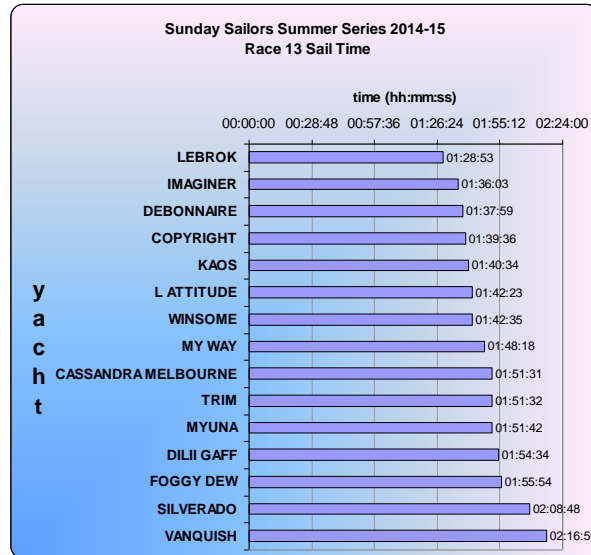
In general it was the early starters that got the best of breeze with two of them finishing 1st and 3rd. The only late starter to find her way into the first 5 yachts to finish was LEBROK (Theo Korbel) who started from 15th and finished 4th.



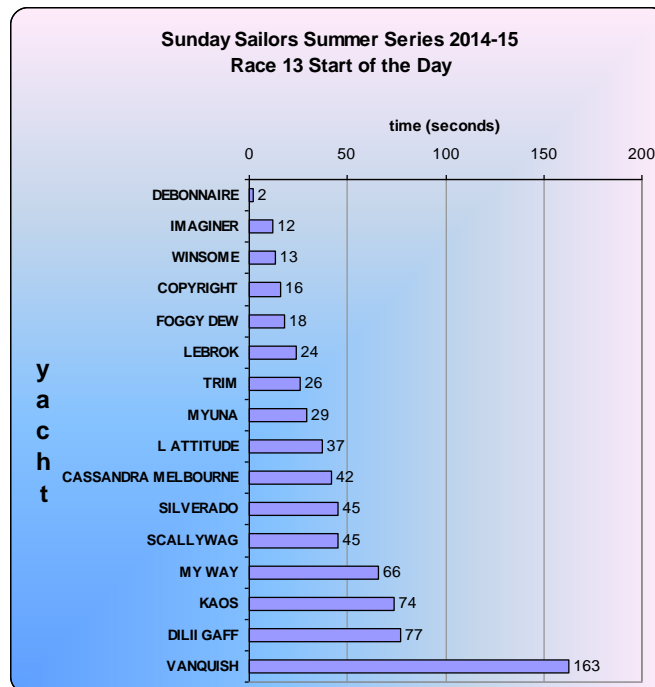
The difference between the start times of the yachts was 33 minutes 48 seconds and rather than finishing closer together the fleet finished 46 minutes 14 seconds apart. One noticeable characteristic of this series has been the reduced level of breeze. So far the breeze has averaged 10.9 knots this series, 3 knots less than the previous series, when the average was 13.9 knots. In part this as made it necessary to shorten 5 of the 13 races.



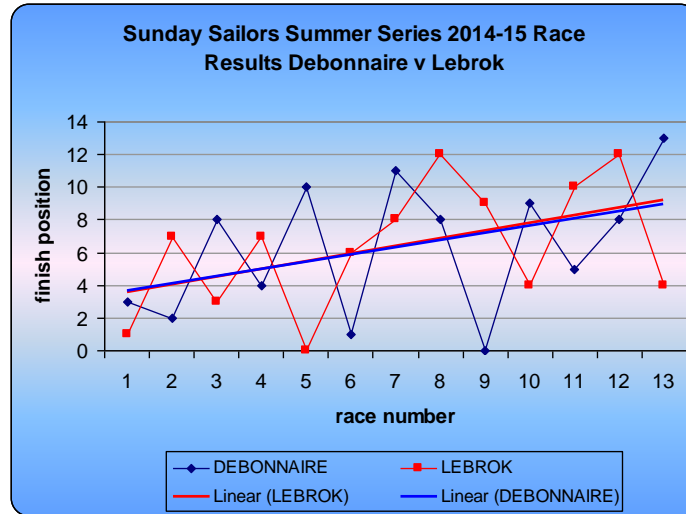
The average time to sail the shortened course was 1:48:29 with LEBROK sailing the course in the fastest time of 1:28:53. CASSANDRA sailed the course in 1:51:31 one second faster than TRIM (Phil Atkins) who started 4 minutes 44 seconds later.



It was the last yacht to start, DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) that won Start of the Day only 2 seconds late for her handicap. The median start was 29 seconds with 4 yachts more than a minute late for their respective starts.



Only one race remains in the series and this will decide the aggregate winner. Two points separate DEBONNAIRE from LEBROK at the top of the aggregate. These two yachts have led the aggregate for the entire series with DEBONNAIRE occupying top position for 11 of the 13 races. They have had a cat and mouse competition throughout the series with one beating the other in alternate races.



Further down the table L'ATTITUDE and MY WAY are tied for 5th place both on 78 points. On 79 points are KAOS and CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE in 7th position.

The final race of the series is scheduled for 12 April 2015.

Windward Bury

PS. Good to see COPYRIGHT back on the water after a long break.

