

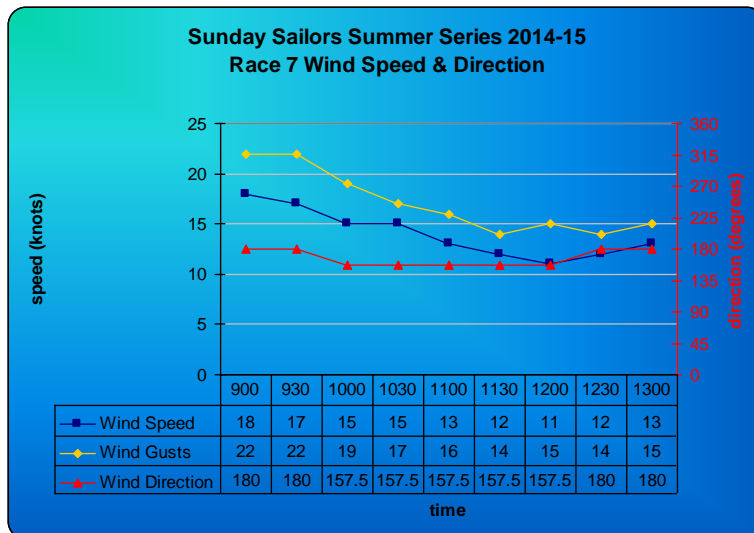
Sunday Sailors Race 7 Bright Finish after a Dull Start



The first race of 2015 started in dull and overcast conditions with a swell of 1.5 to 2 metres. As the race progressed blue sky replaced cloud, the swell subsided and the breeze decreased from 18 knots to about 13 knots. All the fleet of 12 yachts completed the 7 leg, 8.5 nautical mile course 13 which ended in bright sunshine.



Fawkner Beacon observations indicated the breeze was around 17 knots at the start but eased as the race progressed to be around 12 knots at the end – an average of 14 knots for the race.





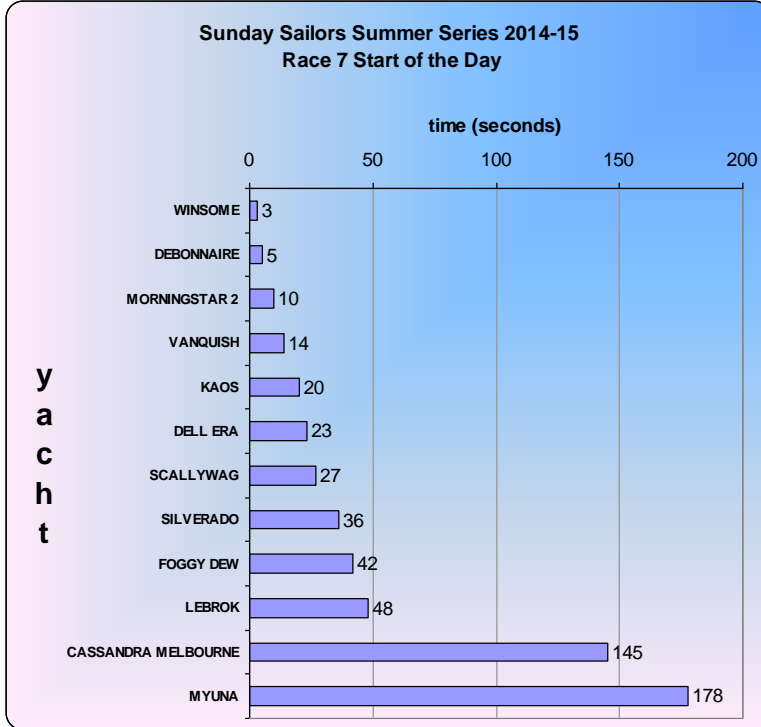
SCALLYWAG (Bill Hutchison) won the first race of 2015, overtaking VANQUISH (Bob Beresford) on the final leg of course 13. SCALLYWAG started 27 seconds late for her 23 minute start from 8th place. After sailing for 48 minutes 18 seconds she rounded number 4 in 7th place. SCALLYWAG sailed the last 3 legs of the course in 47 minutes 50 seconds crossing the finish line at 11:38:35 – 2 minutes 20 seconds ahead of VANQUISH. This was the 4th race completed by SCALLYWAG and she is 17th in the aggregate.

Starting from 2nd place only 14 seconds late for her 6 minute start was VANQUISH (Bob Beresford). She had some advantage starting in a stronger breeze. After sailing for 55 minutes 52 seconds she led the fleet at the first rounding of number 4 when she arrived at 10:32:36. It took longer for Vanquish to sail the last 3 legs of the race which she completed in 1:08:49 and crossed the line at 11:40:55 in 2nd place. This was the fourth race and first podium finish for VANQUISH who is 18th in the aggregate.

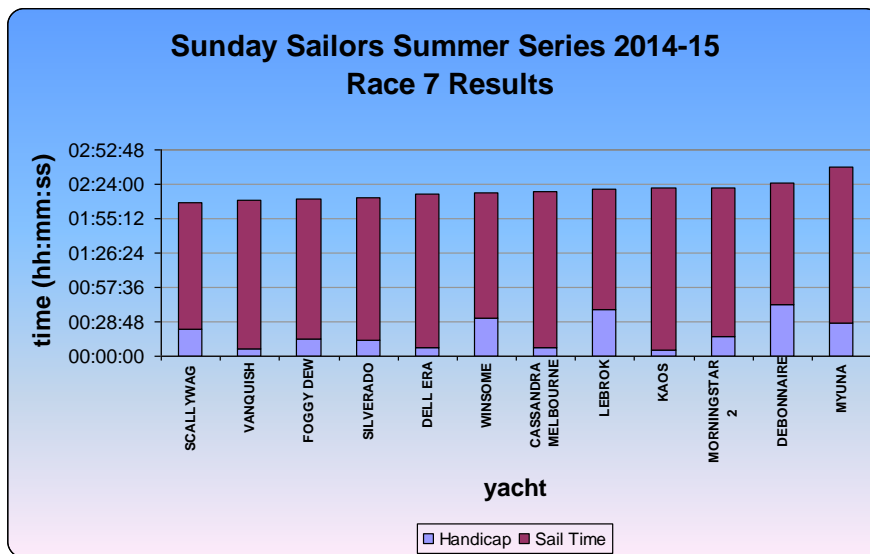


FOGGY DEW (Frank Hilliard & Joe O'Grady) was the 6th yacht to start the race, 42 seconds late for her 14 minute handicap. She rounded number 4 for the first time only 6 seconds ahead of CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves). FOGGY DEW had a very good final three legs which she sailed in 53 minutes 53 seconds and picked up another two places. She crossed the line in 3rd place at 11:41:48 after sailing for 1:57:06. FOGGY DEW has completed 6 of the 7 races she commenced but this was her first podium finish and puts her 3rd in the aggregate on 52 points.

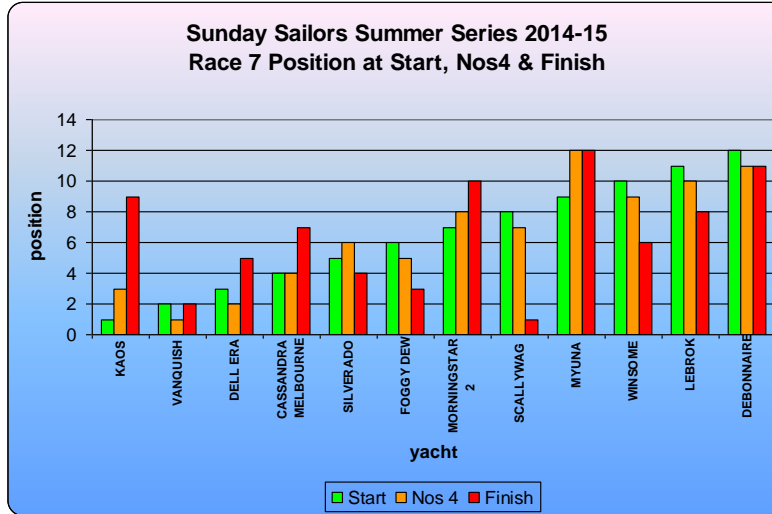
Start of the day was won by WINSOME (Simon Hemingway) 3 seconds late for her 32 minute start. DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) was 2nd starting 5 seconds late for her 43 minute handicap whilst MORNING STAR 2 was 3rd starting 10 seconds late for her 16 minute start.



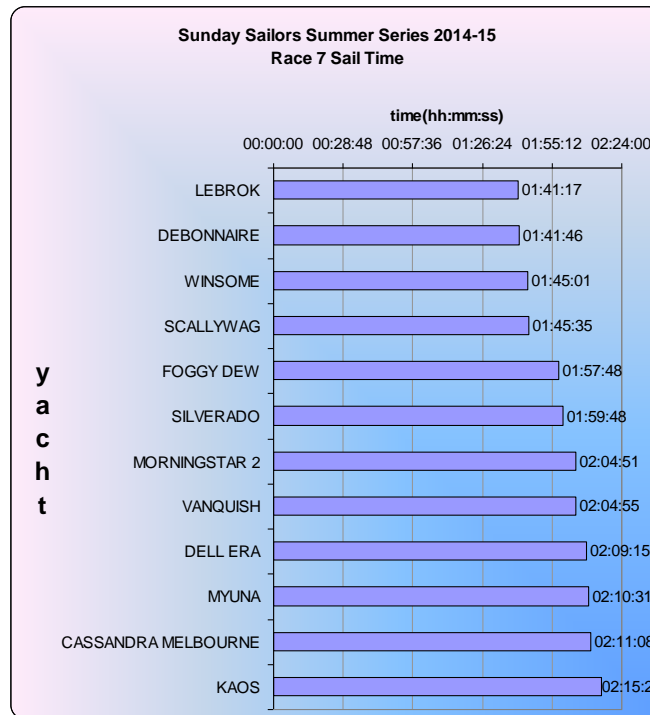
The 12 yachts started the race 37 minutes apart. By the first rounding of number 4 the gap had reduced to 25 minutes 36 seconds and increased to 29 minutes 56 seconds at the finish.



Only one yacht that was amongst the first 4 to start finished amongst the first 4. Three mid fleet starters were in the top 4 finishers, with one finishing in the last 4 whilst 2 of the late starters finished mid fleet, with the remaining 2 finishing amongst the last 4.

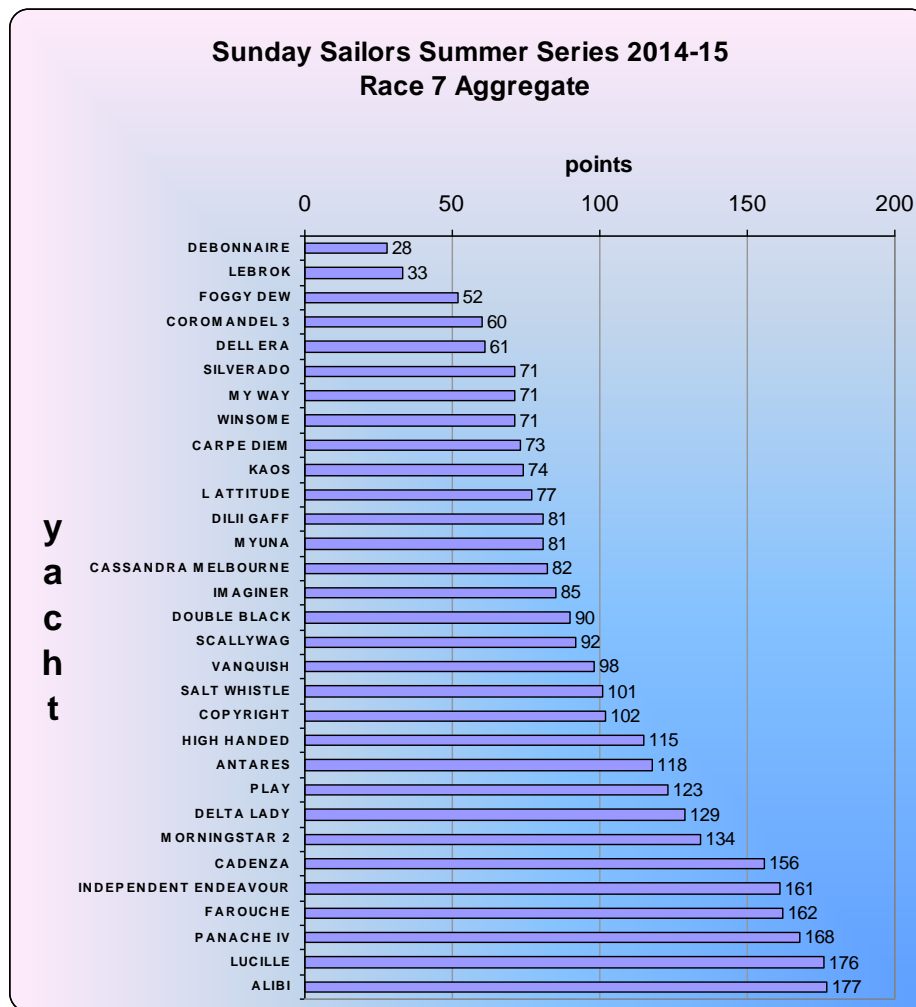


Following a 3 minute adjustment for flying a spinnaker, DEBONNAIRE recorded the second fastest sail time of the race. It was LEBROK (Theo Korbel) that recorded the fastest time of 1:41:17.



The average sail time was 1:58:57 with 24 minutes 10 seconds separating fastest from slowest.

All 7 scheduled races in the series have been completed although it has been necessary to shorten three. Only DEBONNAIRE has completed all 7 races, with 6 other yachts completing 6 races. The 7 races have produced 6 different winners and provided 14 yachts with podium finishes. The standings at completion of race 7 are shown in the graph below.



Sunday Sailors race 8 is scheduled for 18 Jan 2015

