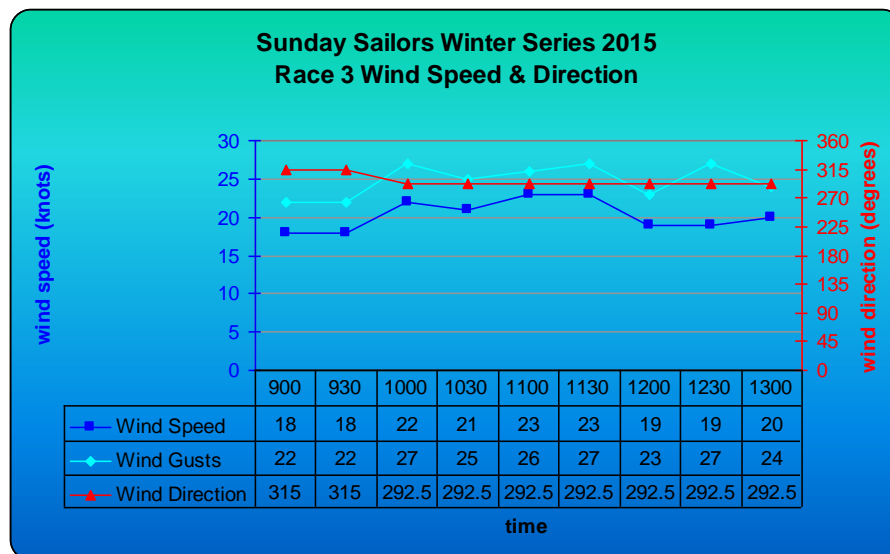


## Sunday Sailors Race 3 A good Breeze Ensures a Close Finish

The first two races of this series were run over shortened courses with an average rhumb line length of about 6 miles. Race 1 came to an end at 12:29:38 and race 2 ended at 11:58:57. In stark contrast race 3 ended more than 30 minutes earlier after sailing a longer course. The last yacht crossed the finish line at 11:27:48 after sailing the 9.8 mile course 7. With an average elapsed time of 1:28:41 this was the fastest race around the longest course this series. It resulted in the fleet of 14 yachts having the closest finish so far. They finished 16 minutes 56 seconds apart after starting 40 minutes apart. A surprisingly close finish when, at one stage, the fleet was spread over 3 separate legs of the 7 leg course. Two of the three place getters appeared on the podium for the first time.



The race commenced in breezy conditions but there was plenty of blue sky around. BOM issued a strong wind warning for Sunday with the weather deteriorating as the day progressed. Fawkner Beacon observations showed the race starting in a north westerly breeze of about 18 knots which increased and shifted west north westerly as the morning progressed.





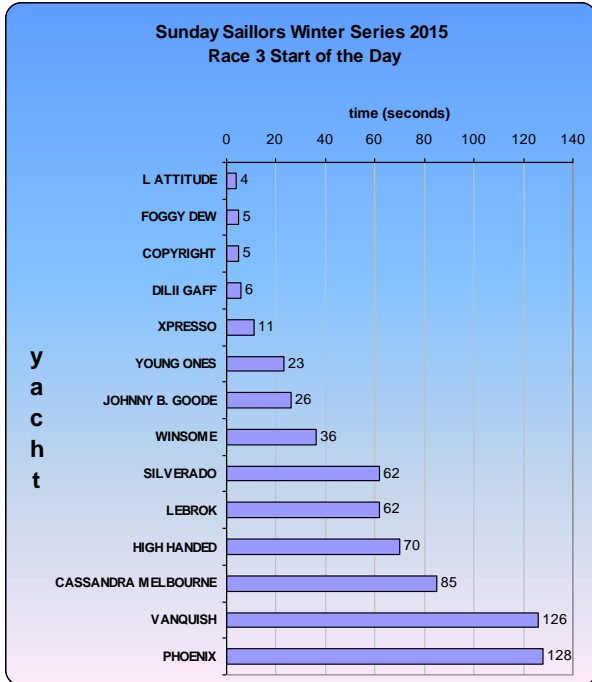
Making the best of the conditions was the S&S 34 VANQUISH (Bob Beresford) a yacht probably designed to sail well in conditions such as these. She didn't take full advantage of her 3 minute handicap from 2<sup>nd</sup> place being 2 minutes 6 seconds late for her start. Nevertheless she had overcome that setback and led the fleet at the rounding of number 5. VANQUISH was first across the finish line at 11:10:52 after sailing the course in 1:37:52 – the 12<sup>th</sup> fastest time of the day. This was her first podium finish of the series and after sailing all 3 races in the series VANQUISH is 10<sup>th</sup> in the aggregate.



Finishing 37 seconds behind VANQUISH was the Beneteau Oceanis 40, DILII GAFF (Paul MacBain). She had a good start only 7 seconds late for her 13 minute handicap – her lowest for the series. DILII GAFF sailed the course in 1:28:29 to finish the race at 11:11:29 in second place. This was her first podium finish for the series and helps put her in a tie for 10<sup>th</sup> position on 36 points. This is 20 points behind aggregate leader WINSOME (Simon Hemingway).



Crossing the line in 3<sup>rd</sup> place to record her 2<sup>nd</sup> podium finish in the series was a regular competitor in pursuit races, the Bavaria 32 FOGGY DEW (J Jones & F Hilliard). (She did well in the 2014-15 summer series finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.) FOGGY DEW started this race from 6<sup>th</sup> place only 5 seconds late for her 15 minute handicap. She sailed the course 1:30:45 crossing the finish line at 11:15:45 – 4 minutes 16 seconds behind DILII GAFF. FOGGY DEW has completed all 3 races in this series and is currently 2<sup>nd</sup> in the aggregate on 19 points.

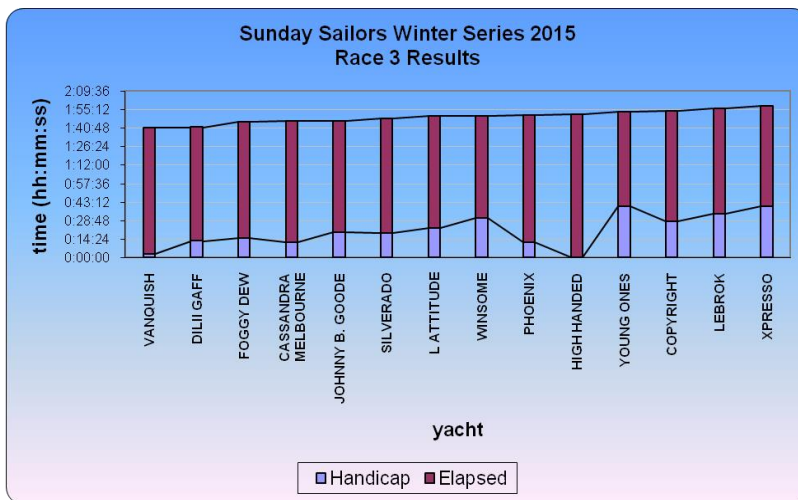


Start of the Day was won by L'ATTITUDE (J Fiske & P Gray) with a start of 4 seconds. She was

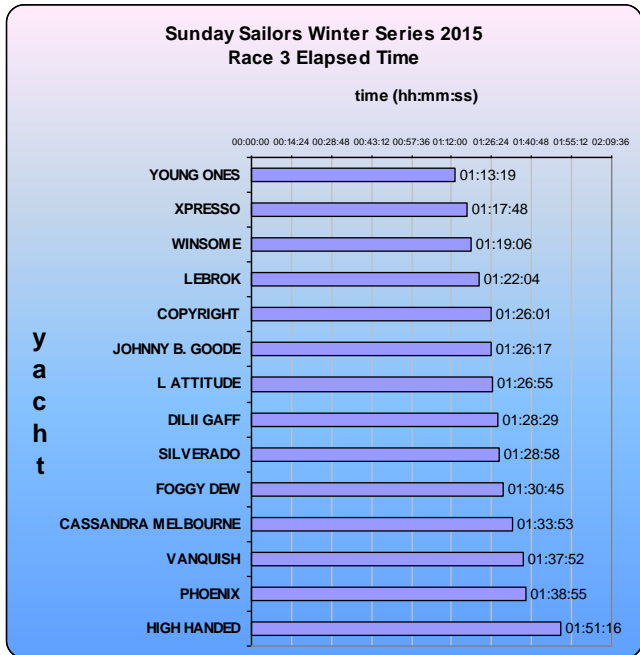
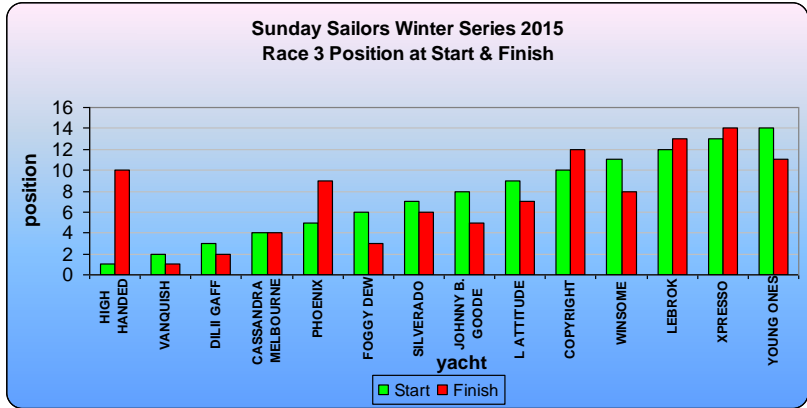


followed closely by both FOGGY DEW and COPYRIGHT (Stuart Morrison Jack) who both had 5 second starts. The median start time was 26 seconds with 6 yachts starting more than a minute late for their respective handicap.

This was the closest finish to a race this series, with a yacht crossing the finish line every 1 minute 13 seconds. This compares with a yacht finishing every 2 minutes 14 seconds in race 1 and a yacht finishing every 1 minute 28 seconds in race 2.



The early starters dominated the finish with 3 of them amongst the early finishers. WINSOME (Simon Hemingway) was the only late starter not to finish amongst the late finishers when she crossed the line in 8<sup>th</sup> place.



The Young 11, YOUNG ONES (Ian Miller) sailed the course in the fastest time of 1:13:19, 4 minutes 29 seconds faster than EXPRESSO (D&A Abrahams).



The average time to sail course 7 was 1:28:41. All the 14 starters completed the race and were probably tied up in the marina before the building clouds delivered the rain.



Race 4 is scheduled for 14 June 2015.

*Windward Buoy*