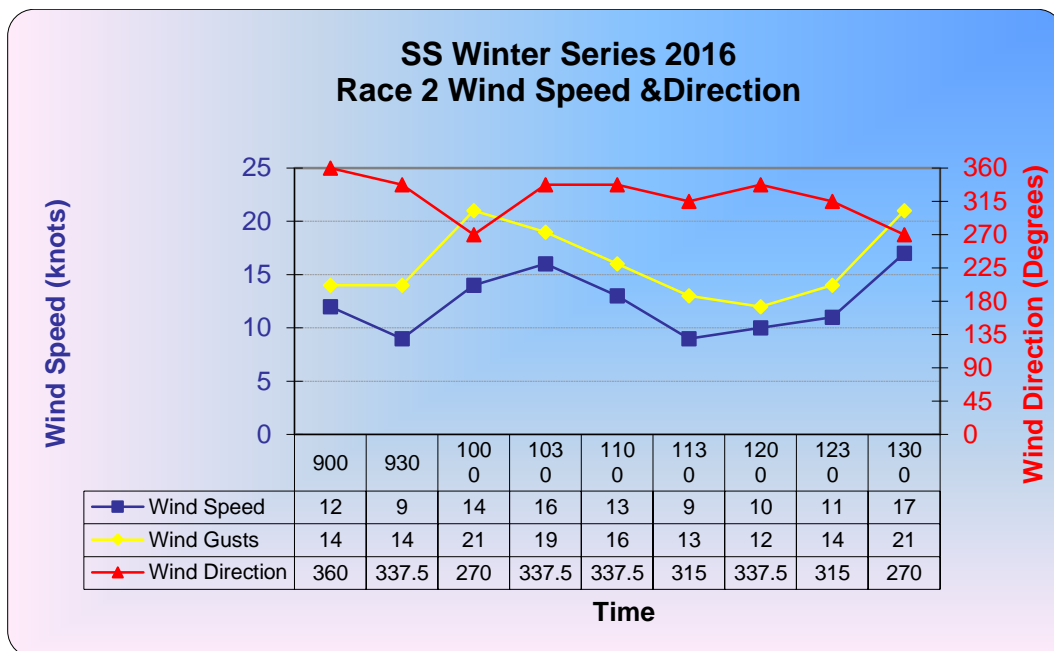


Late but Great Start to the Series



After abandonment of race 1 this became the first race of the winter series. The good conditions attracted a strong fleet of 22 yachts including 4 casual entries. All 22 yachts completed the race within the time limit after sailing around the 7 leg 10.8 nautical mile course 8. The average elapsed time for the race was 1:57:43. The fastest elapsed time of 1:30:06 was recorded by THE SECRETARY (George Shaw) without the aid of a spinnaker. She was 11 seconds faster than her closest rival, PLAYLIST (Mathew Powell) who did fly a spinnaker. Observations at Fawkner Beacon indicated the breeze ranged from 9 to 16 knots and averaged a little over 12 knots for the race. It shifted between westerly and north north westerly throughout the morning.



It was a race that saw the late starters finish particularly well, with 5 of them finishing among the early finishers. Five yachts opted to fly spinnakers but were still no match for the Beneteau 27.7 PLAY (Ian Pridgeon). She won the race by 5 minutes 40 seconds from DILII GAFF (Paul Macbain) in 2nd place. XPRESSO finished 3rd after a 3 minute spinnaker adjustment to her finish time. (She actually crossed the finish line in 2nd place but the adjustment put her 4 seconds after DILII GAFF). There was a tie

for Start of the Day between ANTARES (G Stewart & D Pearce) and PANACHE IV (Egils E. Stokans). Both yachts were 4 seconds late for their respective handicaps.



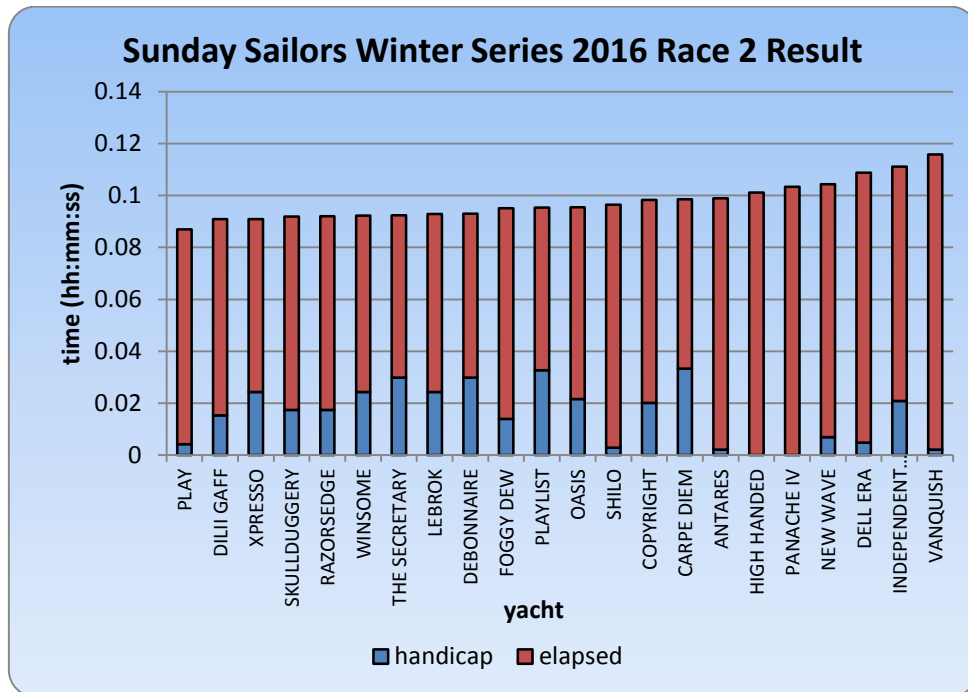
PLAY took part in the summer aggregate and although she only completed 4 races all but one of her results was in the top ten including a podium finish. PLAY started this series from 6th place 58 seconds late for her 6 minute handicap – not the best of starts. Nevertheless, she was able to build a handy lead throughout the race crossing the line 2 minutes 44 seconds ahead of her closest rival. PLAY was first across the finish line at 11:35:10 after sailing the course in 1:59:10.

DILII GAFF also took part in the summer series finishing 3rd in the aggregate only 2 points behind the leader. She continued her good form into this series being only 10 seconds late for her 22 minute handicap and starting from 10th place. DILII GAFF produced the 11th fastest elapsed time of 1:48:50 crossing the finish line at 11:40:50.



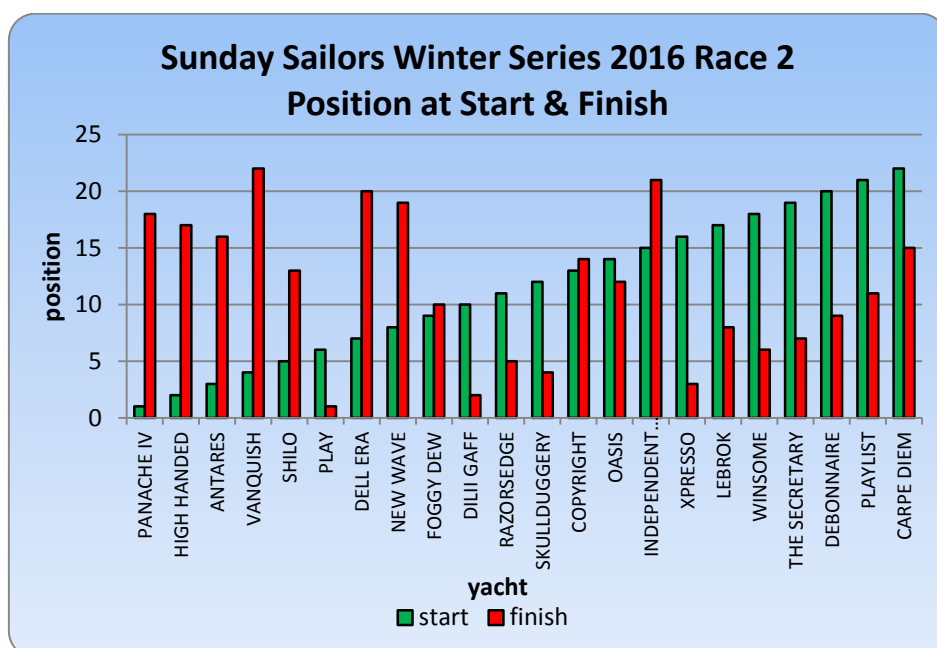
Recording the best result of the yachts that flew spinnakers was the 35 foot X-Yacht XPRESSO. She had the 5th fastest elapsed time of 1:35:54 and recorded a finish time of 11:40:54. XPRESSO started the race from 16th place only 6 seconds late for her 35 minute handicap. Her improvement from 16th to finish 3rd was the best of the race.

It is always difficult to know whether flying a spinnaker will trigger a different result. However, in this race of the 5 yachts that flew spinnakers 2 (XPRESSO and SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) were among the first 4 yachts to finish the race. Moreover, of the 5 fastest yachts, 3 of them (PLAYLIST, XPRESSO and CARPE DIEM (Paul Commins) flew spinnakers.

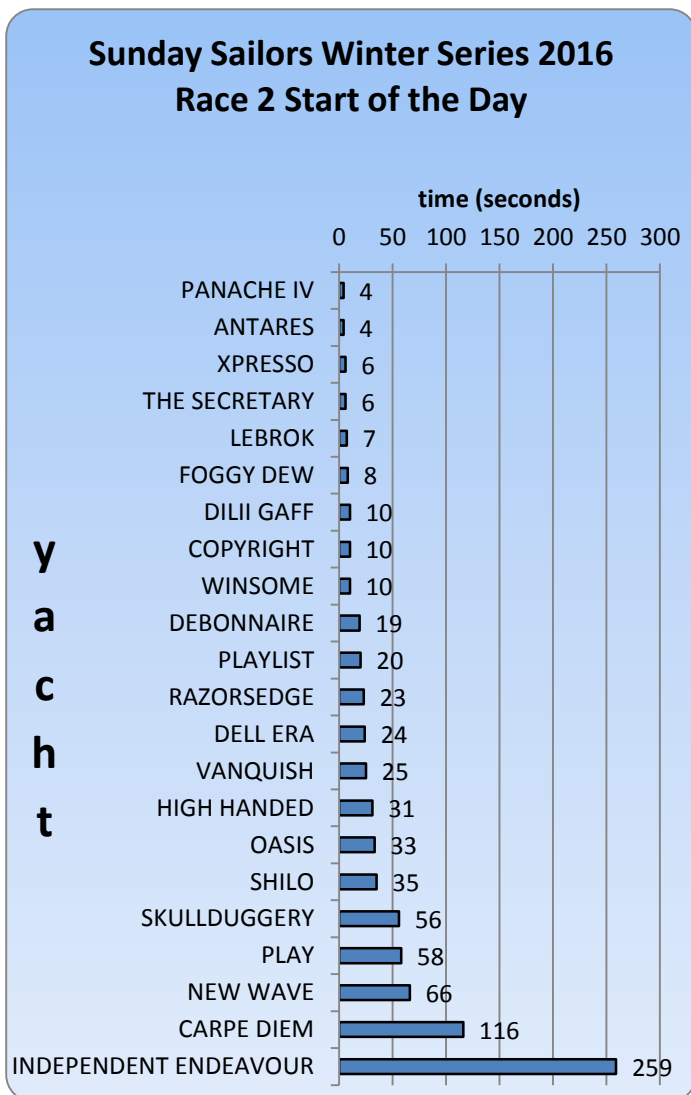


The 22 yacht fleet started 49 minutes and 52 seconds apart and finished 41 minutes 34 seconds apart.

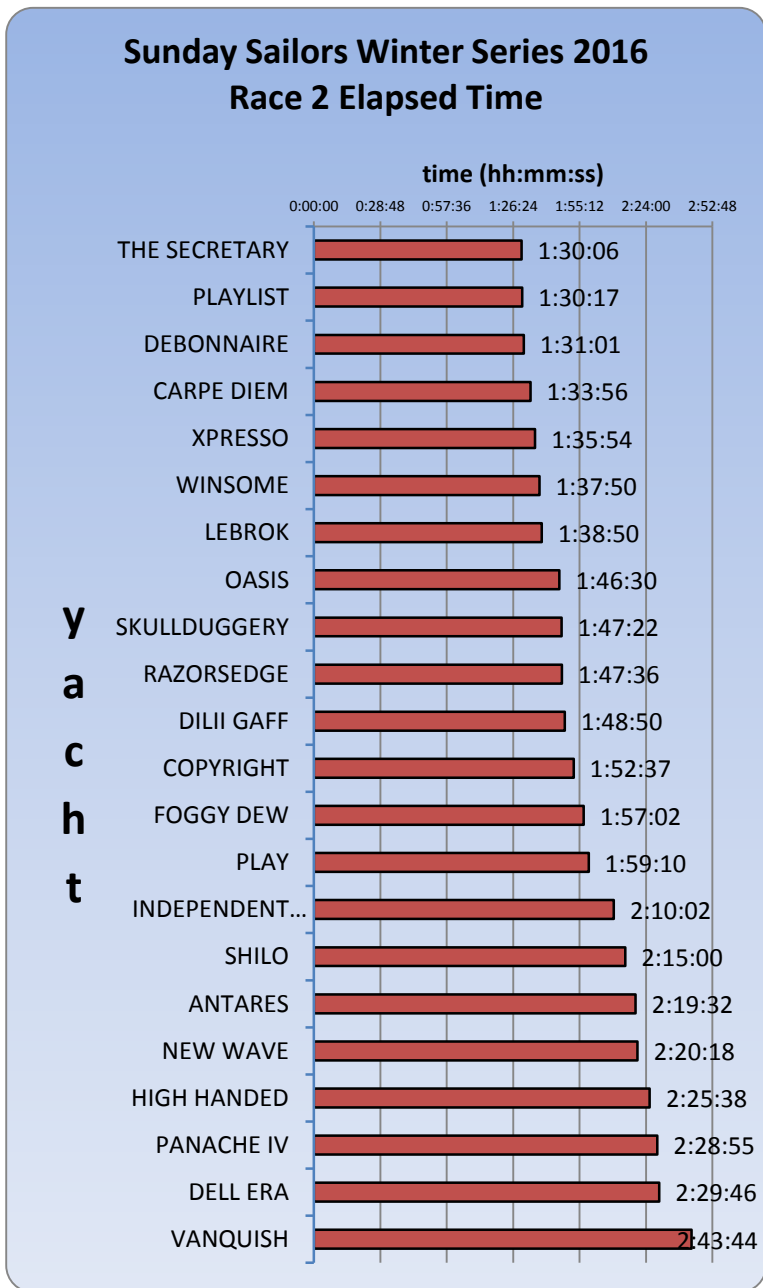
Of the first 7 yachts to start the race only PLAY was among the first 7 to finish. None of the last 7 yachts to start were among the last 7 to finish.



As mentioned earlier there was a tie for Start of the Day between PANACHE IV and ANTARES. Seventeen yachts started within 35 seconds or less of their handicap. The remaining 5 were 56 seconds or more late for theirs. The median start time was 20 seconds.



The average elapsed time for the race was 1:57:43 but there was a large gap of 1:13:38 between the fastest and slowest elapsed time. Eight yachts were able to enjoy a sail of over 2 hours.



There were a couple of yachts in the aggregate that took part in this race - possibly their first (?) in Sunday Sailors. The Beneteau 477 PLAYLIST (Mathew Powell) finished 11th in the race but sailed the course in the second fastest time. The second

yacht is the Green 25, NEW WAVE (N Derricks) who started from a 10 minute handicap and finished 19th.



The next race, Race 3, is scheduled for 29 May 2016

*Windward
Buoy*