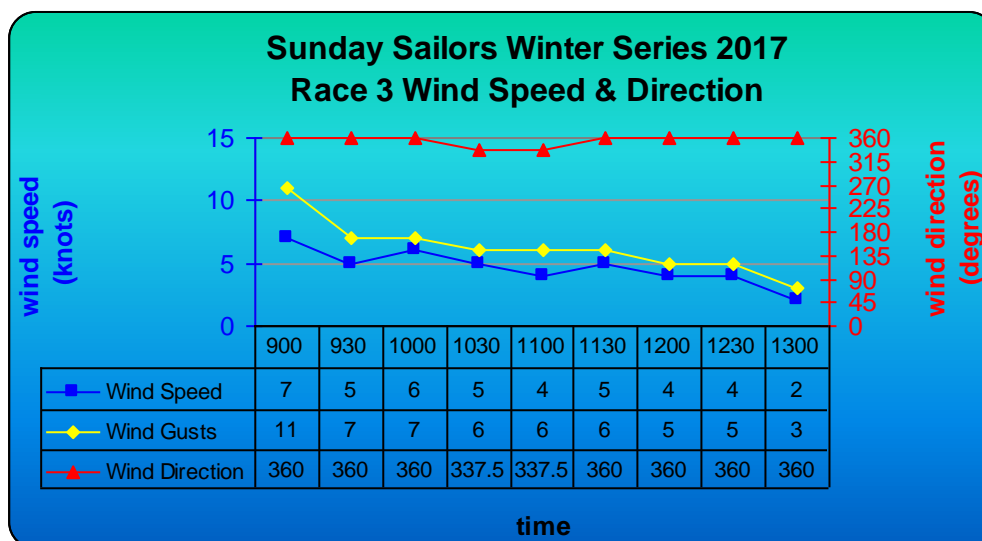


A Good day for Spinnakers Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 3



By the time the hooter sounded for the start of the race, the mist surrounding the bay had begun to clear at least enough to reveal the next mark. The presence of the mist was a sign that there was little breeze and what there was tended to ease as the morning progressed. The selected course was at 8.2 nautical miles, one of the shorter ones but this had to be shortened further and even then only 15 of the 21 starters completed the course. It was a good course for yachts that choose to fly spinnakers. Two legs, about 54% of the course was downwind.



The race brought three yachts to the podium for the first time this series. First across the finish line was EPRESSO (Damian & Ari Abrahams) who successfully flew her spinnaker during the 2nd and 3rd legs of the race. Ten seconds behind in second place was the Beneteau 367 LEBROK (Theo Korbel) with COPYRIGHT (Stewart Morrison Jack) finishing 3rd. Although unable to finish the race KISMET (Doug Jackson) won start of the day with a time of 17 seconds. The median start time for the fleet was 98 seconds the highest for a long time, if not the highest ever in Sunday Sailors. EXPRESSO not only won the race but also sailed the course in the fastest time. Second fastest was LEBROK with BLUE TACK (Andy Lynch) 3rd fastest. Of the 6 fastest yachts, 3 opted to fly spinnakers.

After finishing 5th RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp) moved from 11th following race 2 to the top of the aggregate. SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) finished 6th and slipped from the top into 2nd place whilst LEBROK moved up from 4th into 3rd place.



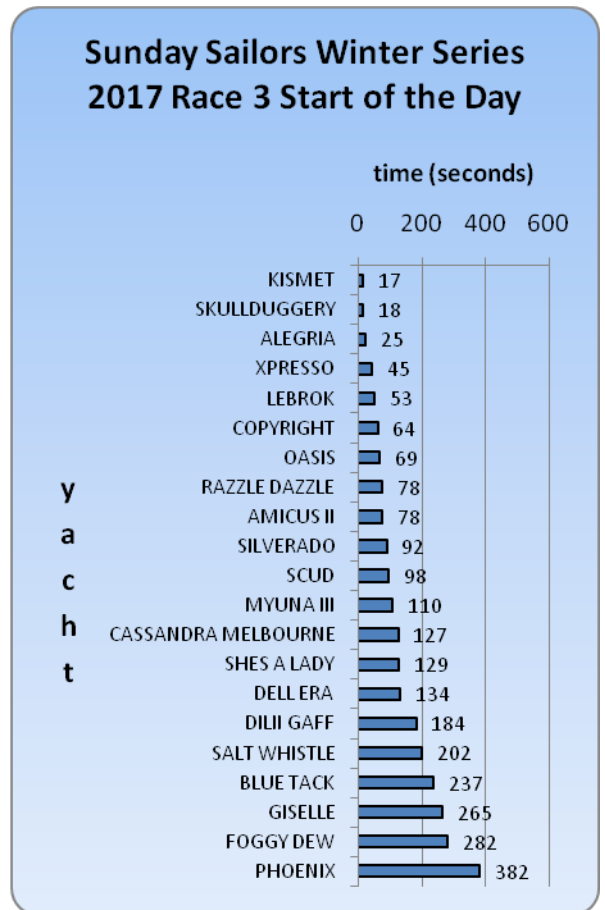
Despite winning the race XPRESSO remains 8th in the aggregate. She has sailed all 3 races this series but this was her first podium finish. She started the race from 20th place 45 seconds late for her 42 minute handicap. With the help of a spinnaker on legs 2 and 3 XPRESSO sailed the shortened course in 1:34:50 and crossed the finish line at 11:46:50. She started the race 4 minutes 12 seconds ahead of BLUE TACK and sailed so well as to finish 10 minutes ahead.

LEBROK has also completed all 3 races in the series and registered 3 top ten finishes. LEBROK started one place and 4 minutes 52 seconds ahead of XPRESSO and sailed the course without the help of a spinnaker. She recorded an elapsed time 1:40:00 – the 2nd fastest of the morning and crossed the finish line at 11:47:00. This was only 10 seconds behind XPRESSO. After race 2 LEBROK was placed 4th in the aggregate. This 2nd place lifted her into 3rd place.

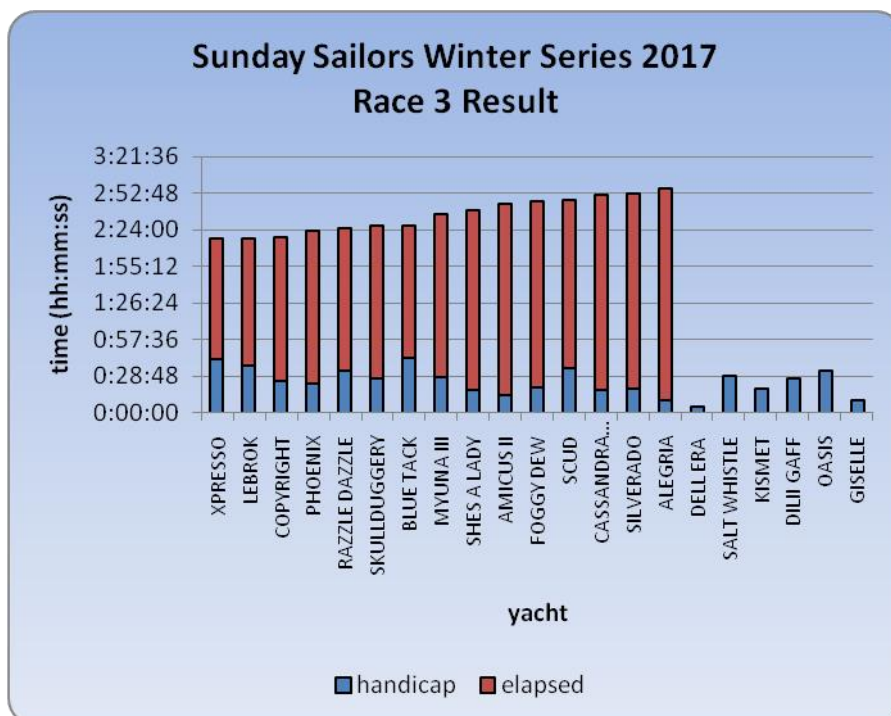


COPYRIGHT had the worst start in 3 races this series. She started 64 seconds late for 25 minute handicap from 10th place. COPYRIGHT sailed the course in 1:52:51 – the 5th fastest time of the race and crossed the finish line at 11:47:51 - 51 seconds behind LEBROK. COPYRIGHT started 1 minute 22 seconds after FOGGY DEW (Joe O’Grady) but after sailing the course 33 minutes 12 seconds faster she finished 28 minutes 12 seconds ahead. COPYRIGHT moved up from 5th to 4th in the aggregate.

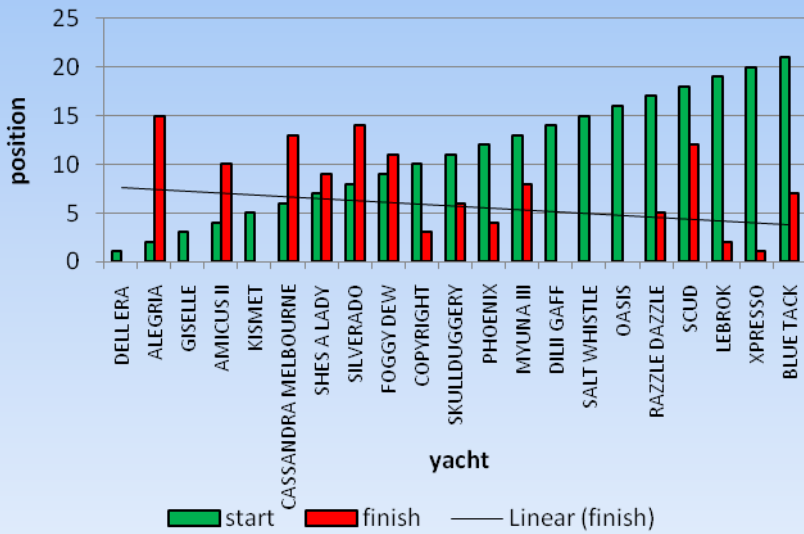
Only 5 of the 21 starters were able to start within 60 seconds or less of their handicap in possibly the slowest start of Sunday Sailors. KISMET won the start with a time of 17 seconds with SKULLDUGGERY starting 18 seconds late in 2nd and ALEGRIA (Simon May) 3rd.



The most remarkable feature of the race was that the fleet started 39 minutes 43 seconds apart and finished 39 minutes 43 seconds apart. That is likely to be a record in pursuit racing. The closest finish of the race was 9 seconds that separated CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE from SILVERADO (John Barbieri) in their battle for 13th place. Only 5 yachts finished within 10 minutes of the winner and 6 yachts failed to complete the shortened course.



Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 3 Position at Start & Finish

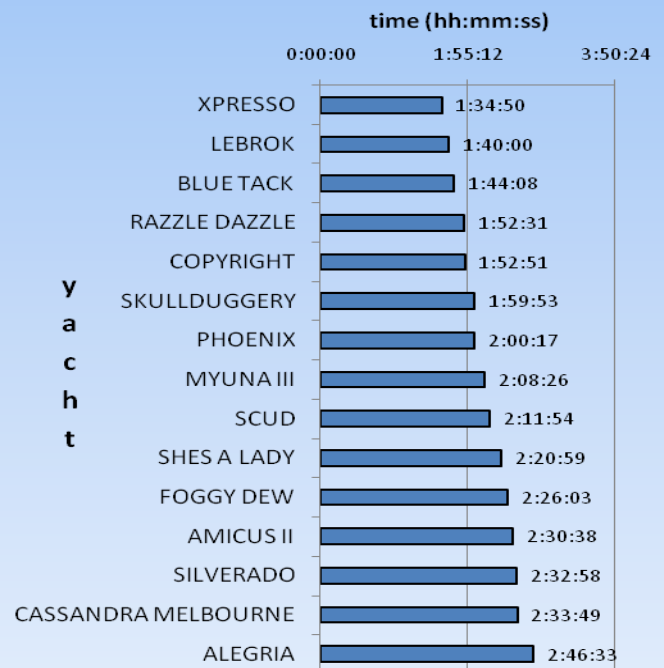


It was a successful race for the late and mid fleet starters. Three mid fleet and 4 late starters made up the first seven yachts to cross the finish line. Of the seven yachts listed as flying spinnakers 5 of them finished the race, the remaining 2 were scored DNF. The only yacht to fly a black spinnaker was SKULLDUGGERY a yacht to watch out for in future.



This was by far the shortest course of the series so far but it took the longest to sail. The median elapsed time was 2:08:26 and the range of elapsed times was 1:11:43.

Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 3 Elapsed Time



RACE 4 IS SCHEDULED FOR 19 JUNE 2017

