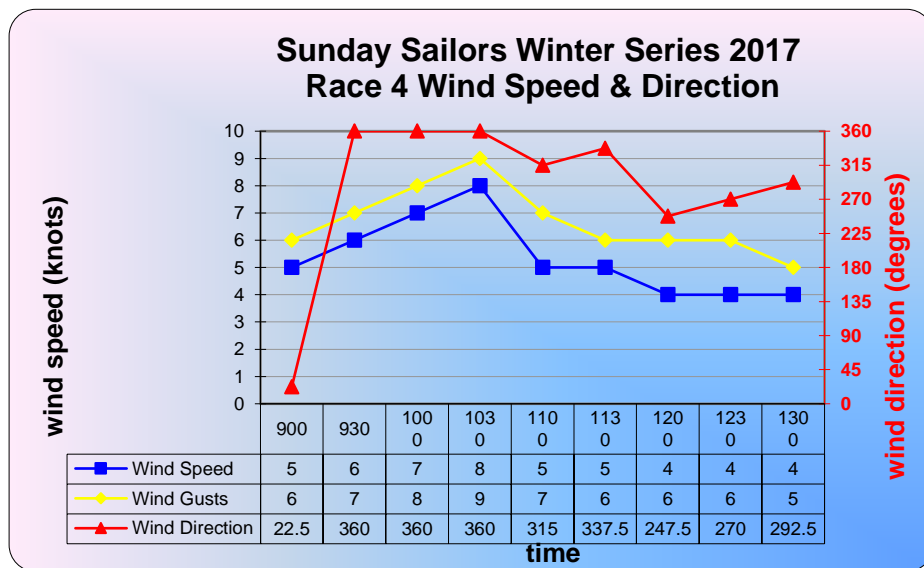


More Breeze would have Been Really Useful Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 4



COPYRIGHT (Stuart Morrison Jack) recorded an emphatic win, without the aid of a spinnaker, on a day that was disappointing for most of the fleet. Only 7 of the 21 starters completed a shortened course with the breeze at Fawkner Beacon averaging 5 knots. The course selected was the 7 leg 9.1 nautical mile course 22 which was shortened to a 6 leg 8 nautical mile course. The notorious Port Phillip chop was no help causing sails to flap and lose their shape as the breeze decreased. It was not a successful day for the early starters. None of the first ten yachts to start were able to finish the race. With the exception of the winner the 7 yachts that finished all had handicaps of 30 minutes or more and 4 flew spinnakers.



XPRESSION (Ari & Damian Abrahams) was last to start but was 2nd across the finish line. She sailed a good race registering the best elapsed time of the morning. In 3rd place was BLUE TACK (Andy Lynch) who was next to the last boat to start. Making a good start in a light northerly always seems difficult. This race was no exception with DILLI GAFF (Paul MacBain) the only yacht to start within 10 seconds of her handicap.

This race saw COPYRIGHT move from 3rd to the top of the aggregate with SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) in 2nd place and RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp) equal on points with LEBROK (Theo Korbel) in 3rd place.



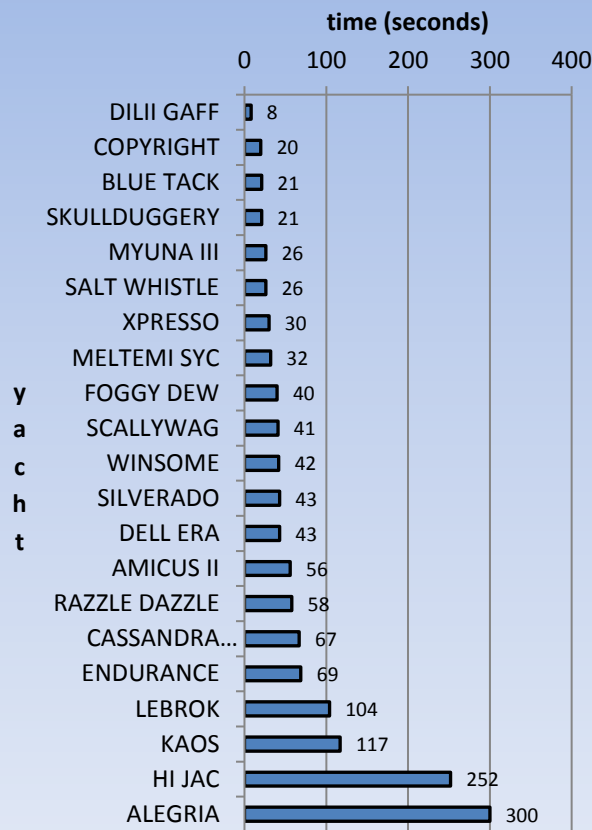
The Wright 10 COPYRIGHT has completed all 4 races in this series. All her finishes have been in the top ten and after a 3rd place in race 3 her handicap was increased by 2 minutes. She started from 11th place 20 seconds late for her 27 minute handicap. COPYRIGHT sailed the shortened course in 2:08:37 the 3rd fastest elapsed time of the day and crossed the finish line at 12:05:47 - all without a spinnaker. She had started 8 seconds after HI JAC (J Gledhill) and 6 seconds before SALTWHISTLE (Alex Hall). Neither of these two finished the race but COPYRIGHT was able to finish 7 minutes 10 seconds ahead of the fleet. She has a 2 point lead at the top of the aggregate.

XPRESSO finished the best of the 7 yachts that elected to fly a spinnaker. There were two legs, possibly three, when a spinnaker was usable. It seemed to help XPRESSO who sailed the course in the best elapsed time of the race. After sailing for 1:52:57 she was 2nd across the finish line at 12:12:57. This was a very good performance by XPRESSO who was 1st to finish in race 3 and received an 8 minute increase to her handicap. She was 30 seconds late for her 50 minute handicap and started from last place. She is one of 5 yachts to have completed all 4 races and moves up one place in the aggregate from 5th to 4th place.



BLUE TACK is also a yacht that has completed all 4 races and recorded 2 top ten finishes. This was her first podium finish and came after she started 21 seconds late for her 48 minute handicap. BLUE TACK was next to the last yacht to start the race; sailed the course in 1:55:20 – the 2nd fastest elapsed time; and finished the race at 12:13:50 just 53 seconds behind XPRESSO. BLUE TACK started 21 minutes and 1 second behind COPYRIGHT but managed to close the gap and finish 8 minutes 3 seconds later. BLUE TACK moved up two places in the aggregate to be in 6th place on 21 points.

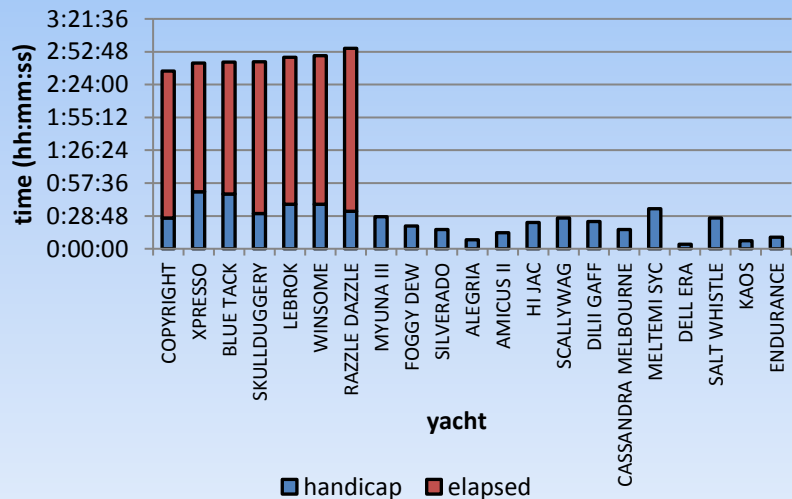
Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 4 Start of the Day



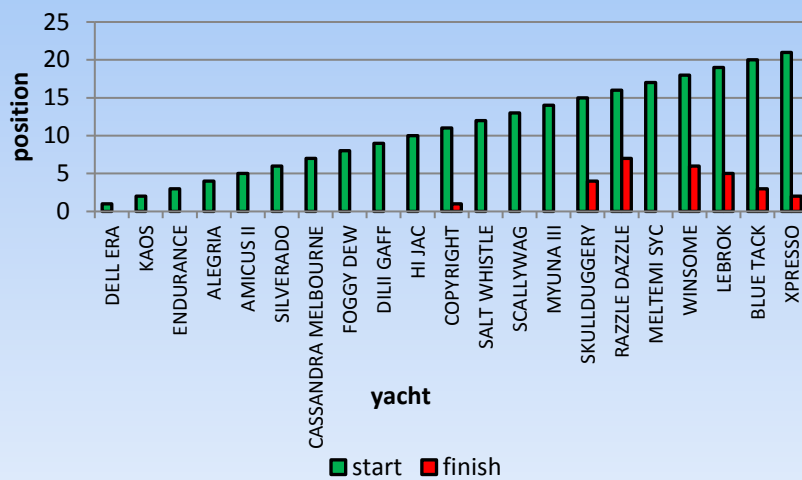
DILII GAFF was the 4th different winner of Start of the Day when she started 8 seconds late for her handicap. Her closest rival was COPYRIGHT who was 20 seconds late. Of the 21 starters 6 were more than 60 seconds late including one yacht that started too soon. The median start time was 42 seconds.

Twenty one yachts started the race 45 minutes 47 seconds apart. Although the gap reduced to 20 minutes 3 seconds at the finish only 4 yachts finished within 10 minutes of the winner. The closest finish was 12 seconds between BLUE TACK and SKULLDUGGERY who finished 3rd and 4th.

Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 4 Result



Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 4 Position at Start & Finish

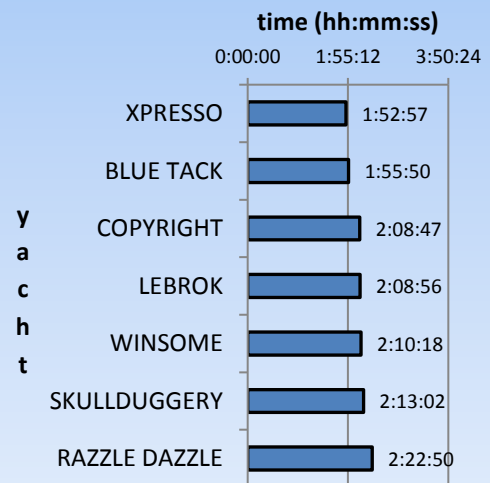


The chart on the left emphasises how much the late starters (faster yachts) dominated the race. Only one of the first 14 (slower) starters was able to finish the shortened course.

The average elapsed time for the race was 2:07:31 with 29 minutes 53 seconds separating the fastest from the slowest.

It is understood WINSOME (Simon Hemingway) shanghaied a SKULLDUGGERY crew member for this race. WINSOME flew a spinnaker for the first time in a year but despite having the better elapsed time finished 6th - 2 places behind SKULLDUGGERY.

Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 4 Elapsed Time



The next race is scheduled for 2 July 2017

