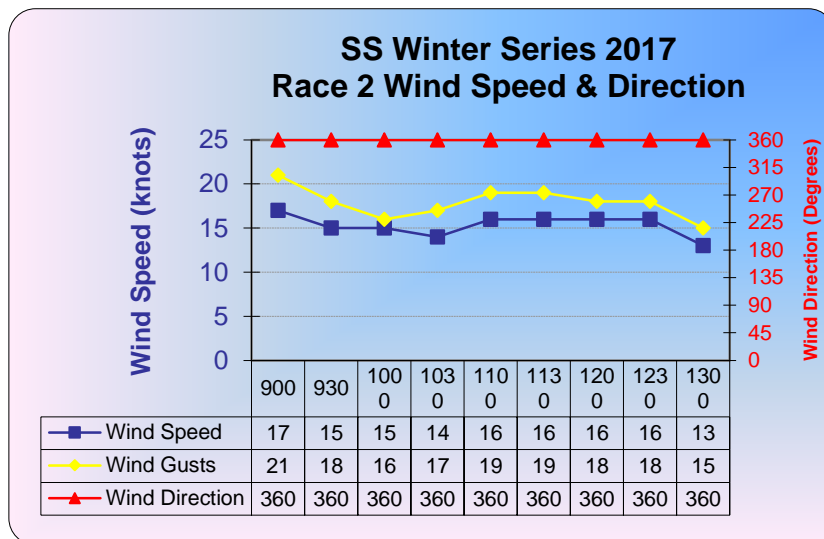


## Still a Hint of Summer in the Air Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 2



BOM issued a very encouraging forecast for this race – a northerly breeze of 10 to 15 knots with seas below a metre and partly cloudy skies. Observations at Fawkner Beacon confirmed the forecast. This resulted in a good Sunday race for 20 yachts around the 9.9 nautical mile course 26. In a northerly breeze this course has two long downwind legs that make up about 48% of the rhumb line distance – a temptation to fly a spinnaker.



Making a great success of flying a spinnaker was the Jeanneau 44 SKULLDUGGERY (Gary McCarten). SKULLDUGGERY won start of the day when she started 1 second late for her handicap. She was leading the fleet when she rounded number 4 for the first time and thanks to the spinnaker went on to win the race by 20 seconds. She registered the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest elapsed time of the day. This win puts her to the top of the aggregate. In second place was ZUTEM (Stephen Hunter) who sailed the course in the 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest elapsed time of the race. In 3<sup>rd</sup> place was the Oceanis 40 DILII GAFF (Paul McBain).

Recording the best elapsed time by a margin of 54 seconds over XPRESSO (Ari & Damian Abraham) was the 11 metre one design BLUE TACK (Andy Lynch). Both these yachts flew spinnakers.



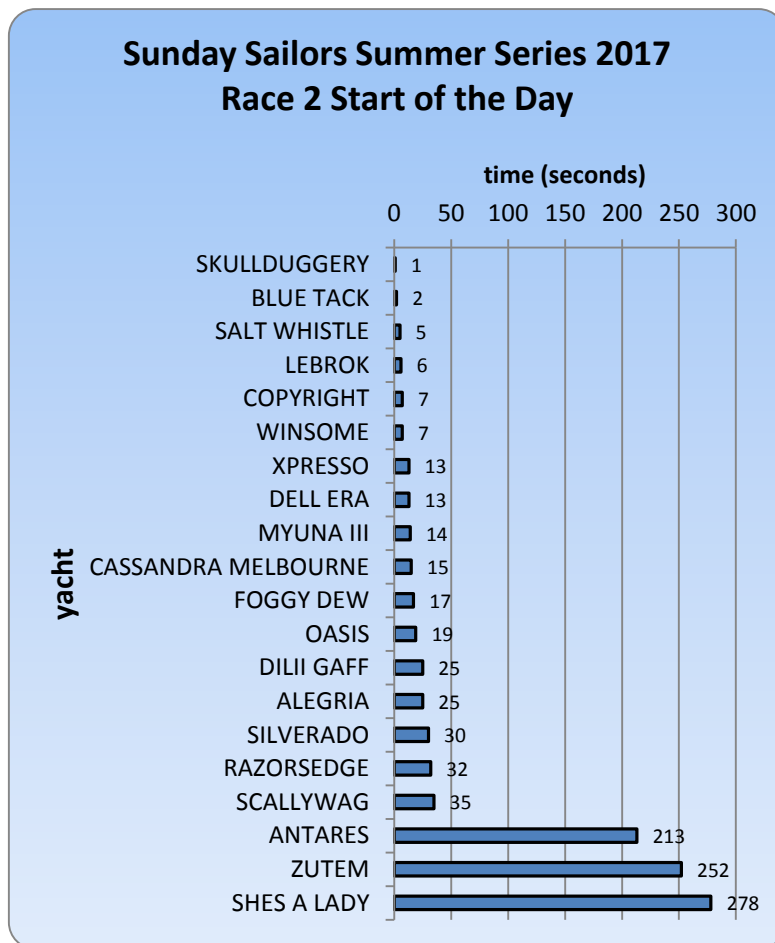
SKULLDUGGERY completed 9 of the 12 races in the 2016-17 series. She had one podium finish and finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the aggregate. After race 1 in this series she was back in 6<sup>th</sup> place but the win in this race puts her in 1<sup>st</sup> place. SKULLDUGGERY started the race 1 second late for her 27 minute handicap from 9<sup>th</sup> position. She sailed the course in 1:44:55 and was first across the finish line at 11:41:55. SCALLYWAG (Bill Hutchison) also had a 27 minute handicap but started 34 seconds later. She was unable to match the speed of SKULLDUGGERY and finished 7 minutes 35 seconds and 4 places later.

This was the first race in this series for ZUTEM. Her previous Sunday race was race 10 of the summer series. A race which saw only 11 starters and 8 finishers as the unpleasant weather at the start of the race got worse. This was a far different encounter for ZUTEM who overcame an ordinary start to produce a good finish. She started from 16<sup>th</sup> place and was 4 minutes 12 seconds late for her 30 minute handicap. Nevertheless, she sailed well enough to sail the course in 1:42:15 (the 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest time of the race) and crossed the line in 2<sup>nd</sup> place at 11:42:15. ZUTEM was a casual entry in the race so is not part of the aggregate.

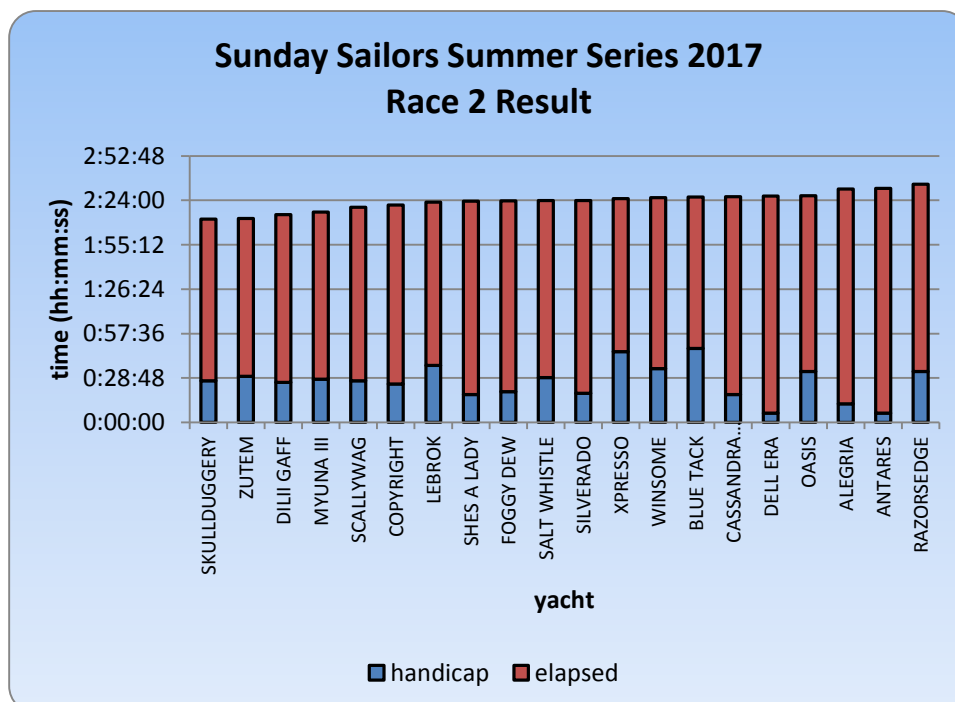


DILII GAFF is a regular Sunday Sailor, completed all 11 races in the summer series and finished on top of the aggregate. She was soon back into her stride in this her first race of the winter. DILII GAFF started from 9<sup>th</sup> place 25 seconds late for her 26 minute handicap. This was the same handicap she had at the end of the winter series. She sailed the course in 1:48:42 - the 6<sup>th</sup> fastest elapsed time of the day and crossed the finish line in 3<sup>rd</sup> place at 11:44:42 which was 2 minutes 47 seconds behind the winner. This podium finish helps DILII GAFF into 12<sup>th</sup> place in the aggregate.

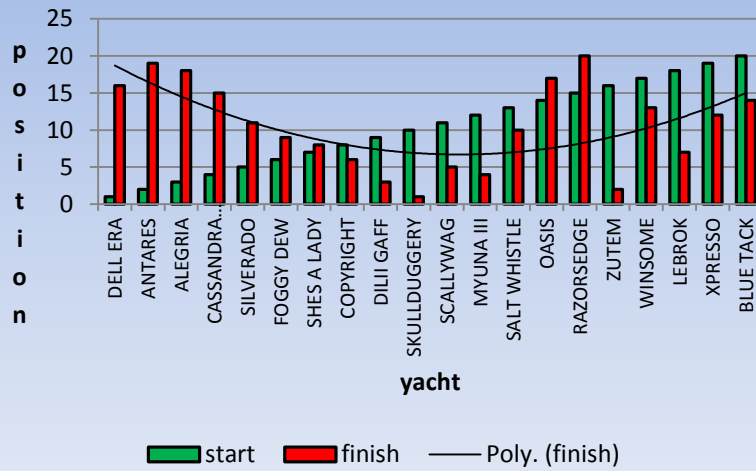
Winner of Start of the Day was SKULLDUGGERY who started 1 second late for her 27 minute handicap. BLUE TACK had the 2<sup>nd</sup> best start 2 seconds late for her 48 minute handicap whilst SALT WHISTLE (Alex Hall) made the third best start. At the opposite end of the scale 3 yachts started more than 3 minutes late with 2 them more than 4 minutes late. The median start time was 16 seconds.



The 20 yacht fleet started the race 41 minutes 49 seconds apart. In true pursuit fashion the gap reduced and they finished 22 minutes 35 seconds apart. The closest finish was the 3 seconds separating SALT WHISTLE from SILVERADO (John Barbieri) in a contest for 10<sup>th</sup> place.



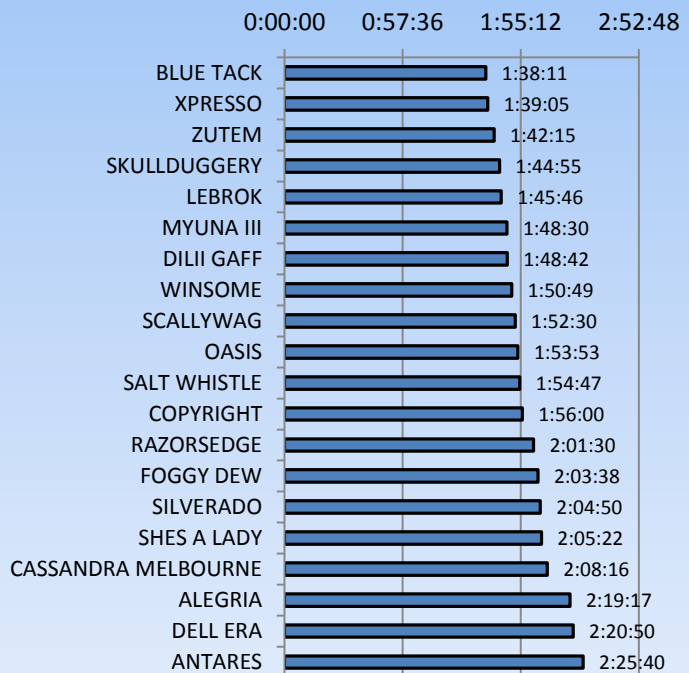
### Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2017 Race 2 Position at Start & Finish



Overall, it was the mid fleet starters that finished best. Of the first 7 yachts across the finish line 5 started from mid fleet with the remaining two from the last 7 starters.

The median elapsed time for the race was 1:54:20. This was a bit longer than race 1 which sailed a course of similar distance but with a little more breeze. The best elapsed time was recorded by BLUE TACK with a time of 1:38:11.

### Sunday Sailors Winter Series Race 2 Elapsed Time



**RACE 3 IS SCEDULED FOR 4 June 2017**

*Windward Buooy*