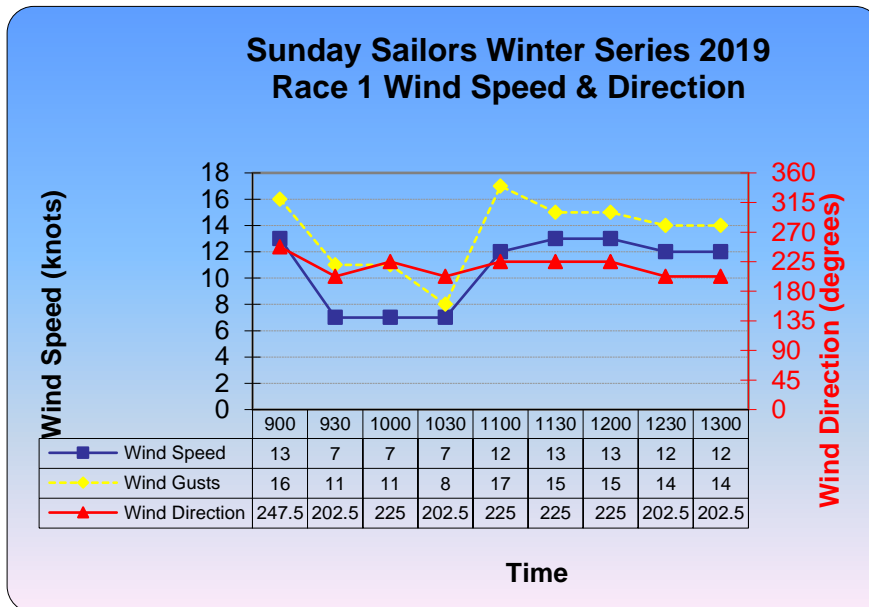


## Wonderful Start to the Winter Series Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2019 Race 1



What's believed to be the largest Sunday Sailors fleet in its history began the 2019 Winter Series. The thirty one yachts that crossed the start line included nine that didn't participate in the summer aggregate. The race took the fleet around the 7 leg, 9.8 nautical mile course 12. There was a south south westerly breeze of around 7 knots at the start of the race that increased later and averaged 11 knots for the race. Two yachts retired from the race whilst a third started way too soon and was judged DNS. Eighteen of the 28 yachts that completed the race needed the 30 minute extension to the time limit with the last yacht crossing the finish line at 12:50:37.



PHOENIX (Alex Tseberg) won the Start of the Day with a time of 1 second. The first three yachts to cross the finish line all flew spinnakers. PLAYLIST (Mathew Powell) became the first winner of the series followed by XPRESSO (Ari Abrahams) in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and DEBONNAIRE third. With a time of 1:47:32 PLAYLIST completed the course in the fastest time – 9 minutes 31 seconds faster than her closest rival.



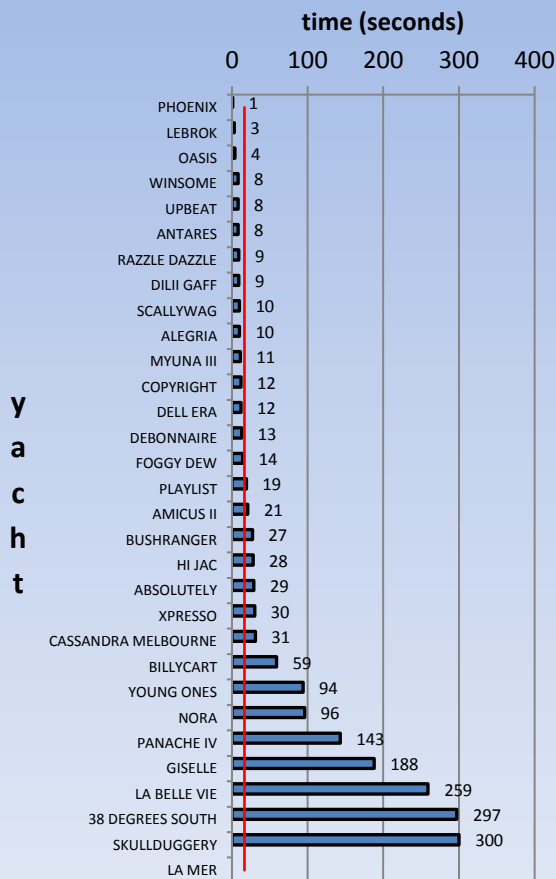
The J1111 PLAYLIST didn't compete in the summer series but started the winter series in fine style. She started from 27<sup>th</sup> place 19 seconds late for her 48 minute handicap. After sailing the first 4 legs of the course in 66 minutes 56 seconds she was leading the fleet. She sailed the last three legs of the race in 30 minutes 17 seconds and was first across the finish line at 12:05:32 – 11 minutes 30 seconds ahead of her closest rival. PLAYLIST recorded the fastest elapsed time around the course 9 minutes 31 seconds ahead of the second fastest.

XPRESSO sailed 4 races in the 2018 winter series but only one race in the summer series. She started this race from 24<sup>th</sup> place 3 minutes 24 seconds before PLAYLIST. At the first rounding of SYC 4 she had overtaken the majority of fleet but was 6 minutes 49 seconds behind PLAYLIST. For the final three legs of the race they retained their relative positions with XPRESSO crossing the finish line in second place at 12:17:02. She had sailed the course in 2:03:02 – the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest time of the race.



DEBONNAIRE has become a stalwart of Sunday Sailors. She won the 2018 Winter Aggregate, was 5<sup>th</sup> in the 2018-19 Summer Aggregate and won the Sunday Plate. She began this series from 29<sup>th</sup> place 13 seconds late for her 54 minute handicap – the highest in the race. She rounded SYC 4 at 11:47:45 in 7<sup>th</sup> place, 12 minutes 30 seconds behind the leader. DEBONNAIRE sailed the final 3 legs of the course in 33 minutes 18 seconds and was 3<sup>rd</sup> across the finish line at 12:21:03. She sailed the entire course in 1:57:03 – the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest elapsed time of the race.

## Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2019 Race 1 Start of the Day

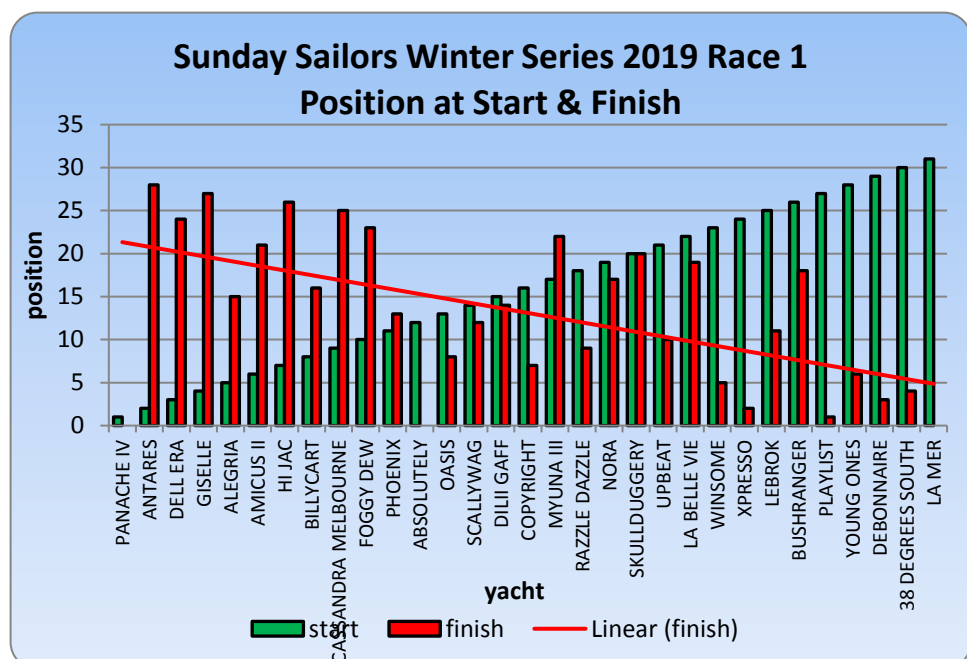


Ten yachts started within 10 seconds or less of their handicaps whilst others found the start more difficult. Six yachts were more than a minute late for their handicaps whilst 2 yachts started too soon. One received a 5 minute penalty whilst a second was judged DNS. The median start time for the race was 16.5 seconds. PHOENIX won Start of the Day.

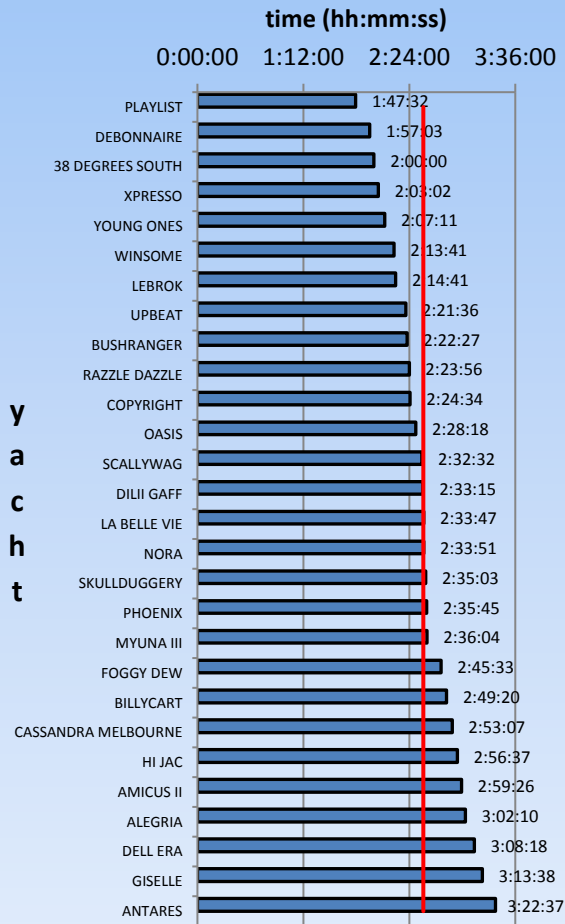


It was the late and mid fleet starters that reaped the rewards from this race. None of the first ten yachts to start were among the first 10 to finish. The closest finish was between the

Beneteau 367's with UPBEAT (Peter Dunne) finishing 5 seconds ahead of LEBROK (Theo Korbel).



## Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2019 Race 1 Elapsed Time



The median elapsed time for the race was 2:33:31. This was far longer than any race in either the last summer series or the previous winter series. The elapsed times for this race varied considerably between 1:47:32 and 3:22:37 – a range of 1:35:05. It was ANTARES (G Stewart & D Pearce) that received “best value for money” by sailing the longest. She did finish within the time limit with 9 minutes 23 seconds to spare.



(Below) OASIS had the 3<sup>rd</sup> best Start of the Day and went on to finish 8<sup>th</sup>.



(Right) 38 DEGREES SOUTH was 257 seconds late for her start but recovered well to finish 4<sup>th</sup>.





(Above) BUSHRANGER, LA BELLE VIE & LA MER three of the yachts that didn't compete in the summer series.



(Left) YOUNG ONES finished 6<sup>th</sup> whilst SCALLYWAG (right) finished 12<sup>th</sup>.



(Below) DEBONNAIRE, DILII GAFF, 38 DEGREES SOUTH & SKULLDUGGERY all heading for SYC 3.





ALEGRIA (left), CASSANDRA (below) & GISELLE (right) finished 15<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.



Not the best result for early starters DELL ERA, PANACHE IV and AMICUS II.



**Race 2 Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2019 is scheduled for 19 May 2019.**

*Graham  
Furness*