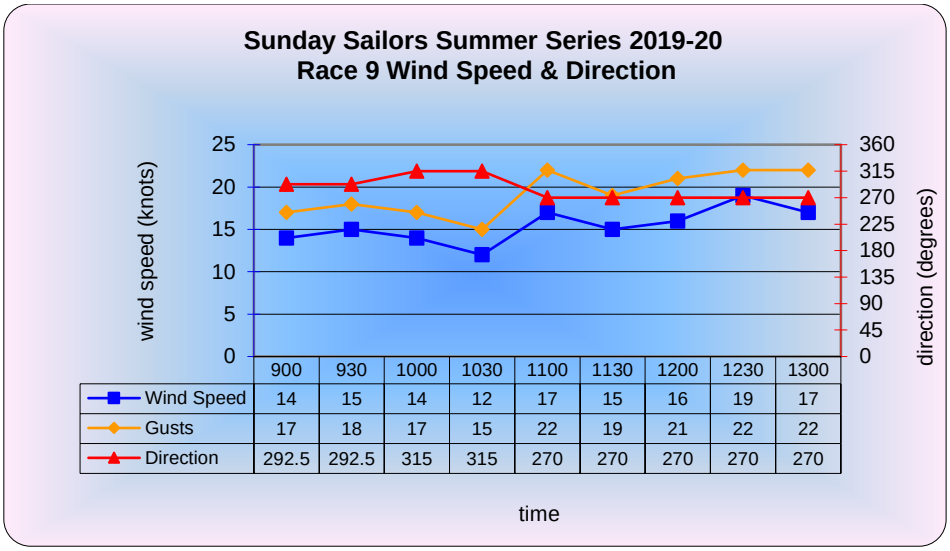
One of Sundays Best
Sunday Sailors Summer series 2019-20 Race 9

A crowd of keen sailors gathered at the club on Sunday morning eager for the start of race 9. The clouds were clearing and the wind was hovering around 15 knots from the northwest to the west which is where it stayed for the race. The 10.2 nautical mile course 29 was a good choice for the conditions with all 24 yachts enjoying a good contest and on their way back to the marina shortly after 1205.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	14	15	14	12	17	15	16	19	17
Gusts	17	18	17	15	22	19	21	22	22
Direction	292.5	292.5	315	315	270	270	270	270	270

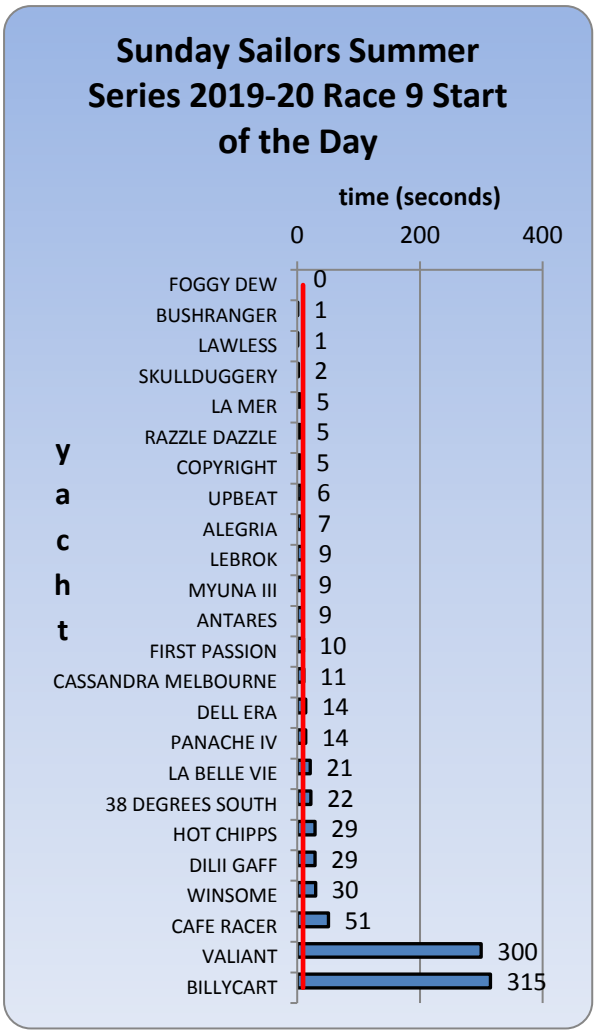
FOGGY DEW (Frank Hilliard & Joe O'Grady) had an excellent start to the race winning Start of the Day with only the second perfect start of the series. First across the finish line was DELL ERA (Mike Coulter) to record her first win of the summer. Completing her 6th race of the series and 2nd across the finish line was CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) with PANACHE IV (Egils Stokans) crossing the line 16 seconds later. For the 2nd time this series 38 DEGREES SOUTH sailed the course in the fastest elapsed time of 1:35:33.

With four scheduled races to go LA BELLE VIE (Grant & Nathan Anderson) lead the series aggregate 4 points ahead of HOT CHIPPS (John Chipp) in 2nd place with BUSHRANGER moving up from 4th into 3rd place. LA BELLE VIE also leads the contest for the Sunday Plate with ALEGRIA (Simon May) in 2nd place and WINSOME (Simon Hemingway) 3rd.
NB This race report is based upon the provisional results for race 9 as published on the SYC site on 2 Feb 2020 and are subject to change.

After finishing 2nd in race 7 DELL ERA received a 3 minute increase to her handicap but that didn't seem to hold her back in this race. She started from 3rd place 14 seconds late for her new 10 minute handicap. DELL ERA sailed the 8 leg course in 2:02:36 and was first across the finish line at 11:42:36. Her elapsed time was faster than that of 8 other yachts 4 of whom had significantly higher handicaps. DELL ERA sailed a great race that produced her best result of the series. She has completed 3 races so far and is currently 20th in the aggregate.

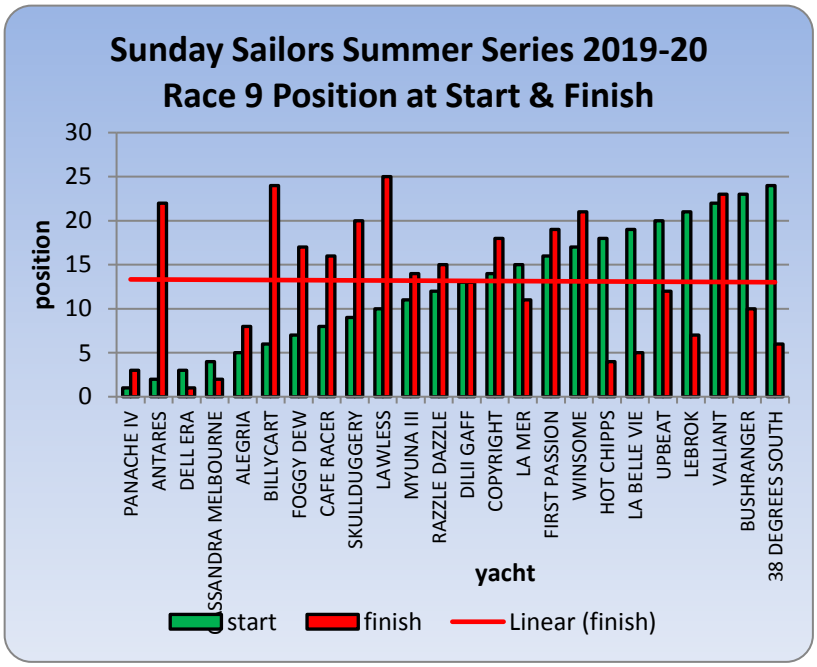
CASSANDRA has completed 7 of the 8 races in the series so far and she began this one with her best start to date. She started from 4th place 11 seconds late for her 11 minute handicap just 57 seconds behind DELL ERA. CASSANDRA sailed the course in 2:05:13 and crossed the finish line at 11:46:13. She was able to overtake two of the three yachts that started ahead of her but DELL ERA increased her lead to 3 minutes 37 seconds. CASSANDRA is 18th in the aggregate, a position she has held for the past 3 races.

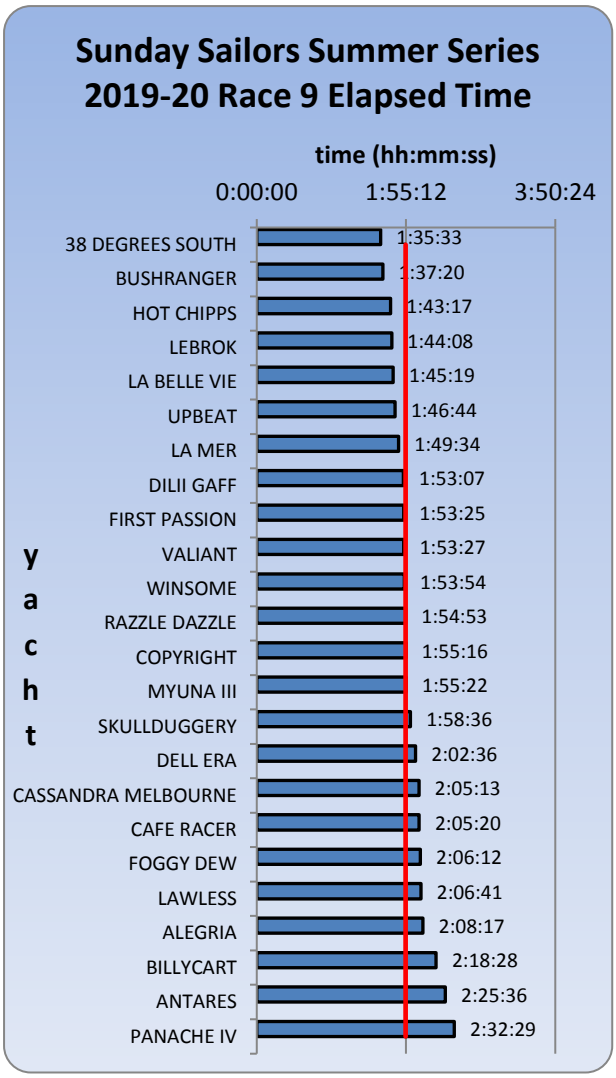
PANACHE IV seems to be one of many yachts that need 15 knots or so to really get going and she was rewarded in this race. She was the first yacht to start this race 14 seconds late for her 16 minute handicap. She completed the course in 2:32:39 and was 3rd across the finish line at 11:46:29 only 16 seconds behind CASSANDRA. PANACHE IV has started 6 races this summer but has completed only three. Of the three she did not complete two had average wind speeds of less than 10 knots. PANACHE IV is currently 22nd in the aggregate.



The median start time for the race was 9.5 seconds the second best of the series. As mentioned, FOGGY DEW won Start of the Day with a perfect start with both BUSHRANGER and LAWLESS close behind making starts of 1 second their best start of the series..

The 24 yacht fleet started 61 minutes 8 seconds apart but this gap reduced to 23 minutes 5 seconds at the finish line. The closest finish was between ALEGRIA and BUSHRANGER who finished 3 seconds apart.





The medium elapsed time for the race was 1:54:53 – 6 minutes 13 slower than the median elapsed time for race 2 which was around the same course. The fastest elapsed time was recorded by 38 DEGREES SOUTH who was 1 minute 47 seconds faster than BUSHRANGER and 7 minutes 44 seconds faster than HOT CHIPPS who

had the help of a spinnaker.

(Below) BUSHRANGER & LAWLESS (left) made the best starts of the series.

(Above) ANTARES is now 13th in the aggregate.
(Left) The spinnaker provided HOT CHIPPS with extra power.

(Above) FIRST PASSION makes a bit of a splash whilst LA BELLE VIE & ALEGRIA head for SYC 3 for the last time.

(Right & far right) From little things big things grow.

(Above) A watchful COPYRIGHT crew.
(Right) UPBEAT moves up to 13th in the aggregate her best place of the series.

(Right) Beginning the last 4 legs of the race.

(Below) PANACHE IV heads for the marina with a good result

Race 10 is scheduled for 9 Feb 2020

Graham Furness