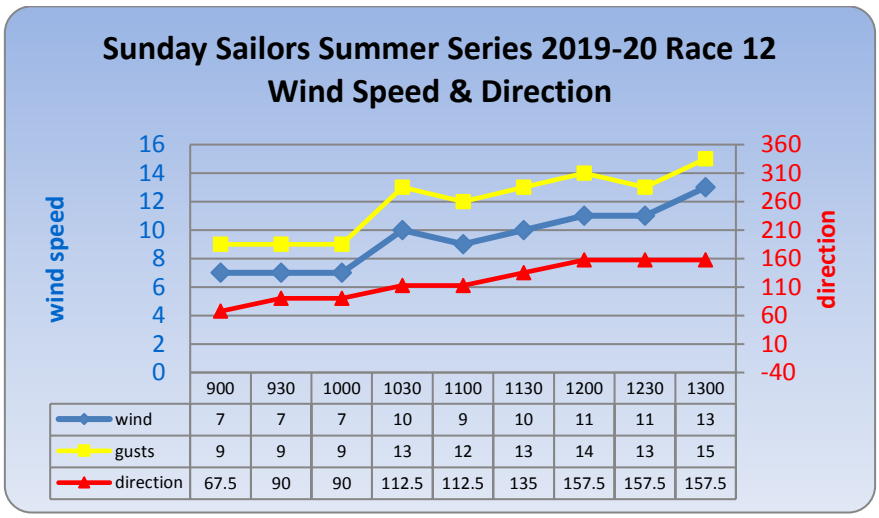
Still One More Race To Go
Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2019-20 Race 12

Race 12 took a fleet of 24 yachts around the 6 leg, 10.2 nautical mile course 29. This was the third time this course had been selected this summer with each race delivering a different result. On the two previous occasions (races 2 and 9) the wind had been a south westerly of about 14-15 knots whilst this race had a breeze that averaged 9 knots that shifted from the east to south south east as the morning progressed. Even with less breeze the fleet sailed the course faster than in race 9 and almost equalled the median elapsed time of race 2. Seven yachts opted to fly spinnaker which made for a more colourful race but none were podium finishers although 3 were among the 5 fastest elapsed times.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
wind	7	7	7	10	9	10	11	11	13
gusts	9	9	9	13	12	13	14	13	15
direction	67.5	90	90	112.5	112.5	135	157.5	157.5	157.5

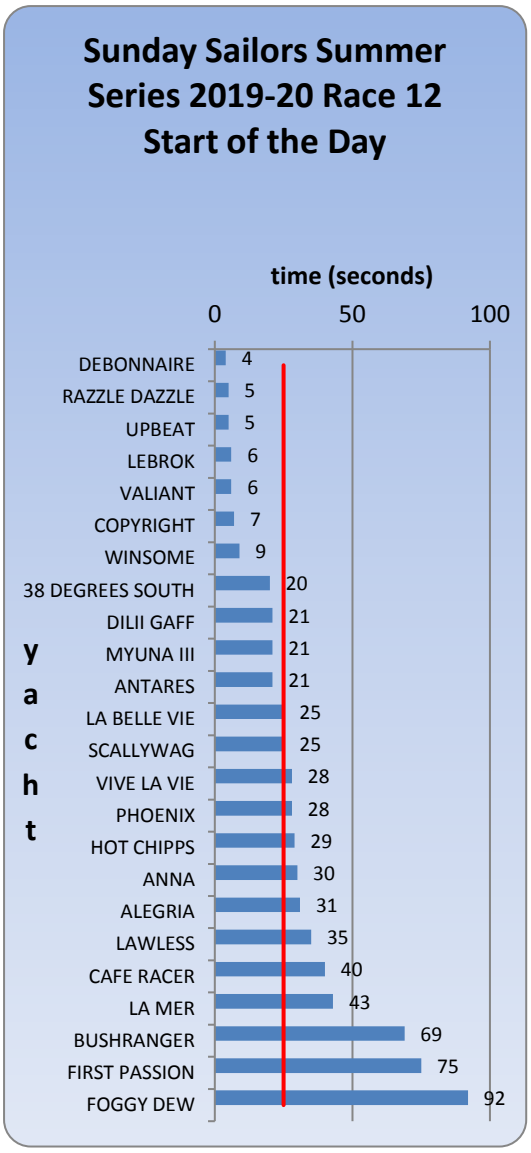
With a time of 4 seconds DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) won Start of the Day for the first time this series. Having her first win of the series was ANNA (Anthony Barbour) who was followed across the finish line by RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp & Graeme Jones) for her first podium finish of the series. Third was COPYRIGHT (Stuart Morrison Jack) for her second podium finish of the series. DEBONNAIRE was fastest around the course with a time of 1:33:56.

LA BELLE VIE (Grant & Nathan Anderson) finished 4th in the race and now leads the aggregate. After finishing 16th in this race HOT CHIPPS (John Chipp) slipped into 2nd place with LEBROK (Theo Korbel) moving up into 3rd place. The contest for the Sunday Plate is delicately poised with only one scheduled race remaining in this series. LA BELLE VIE is the current leader by a single point from ALEGRIA (Simon May) with LA MER (Michael Ebeling) in 3rd place.

This was ANNA's fourth and most successful race this series. She made her best start to a race this summer when she stated from 7th place, 30 seconds late for her 25 minute handicap. She sailed the course in 1:50 17 which was better than her 1:52:50 recorded in race 2 (around the same course). By the time she crossed the finish line at 11:45:17 she had amassed a lead of 2 minutes 58 seconds. Despite her win ANNA remains 26th in the aggregate.

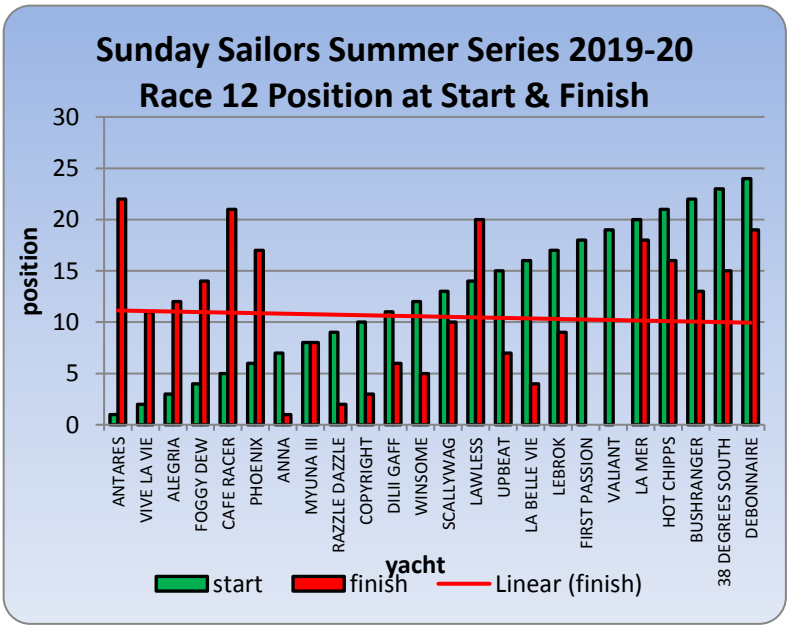
RAZZLE DAZZLE has now completed 8 races this summer and this was her best start and best finish to a race this series. She started the race from 9th place 5 seconds late for her 27 minute handicap – the second best start of the race. After sailing the course in 1:51:15 she was 2nd across the finish line at 11:48:15. RAZZLE DAZZLE's handicap reached a high of 38 minutes for race 7 and has been reduced since then. She now has two top ten finishes including this 2nd place. RAZZLE DAZZLE moves up from 16th to 13th in the aggregate.

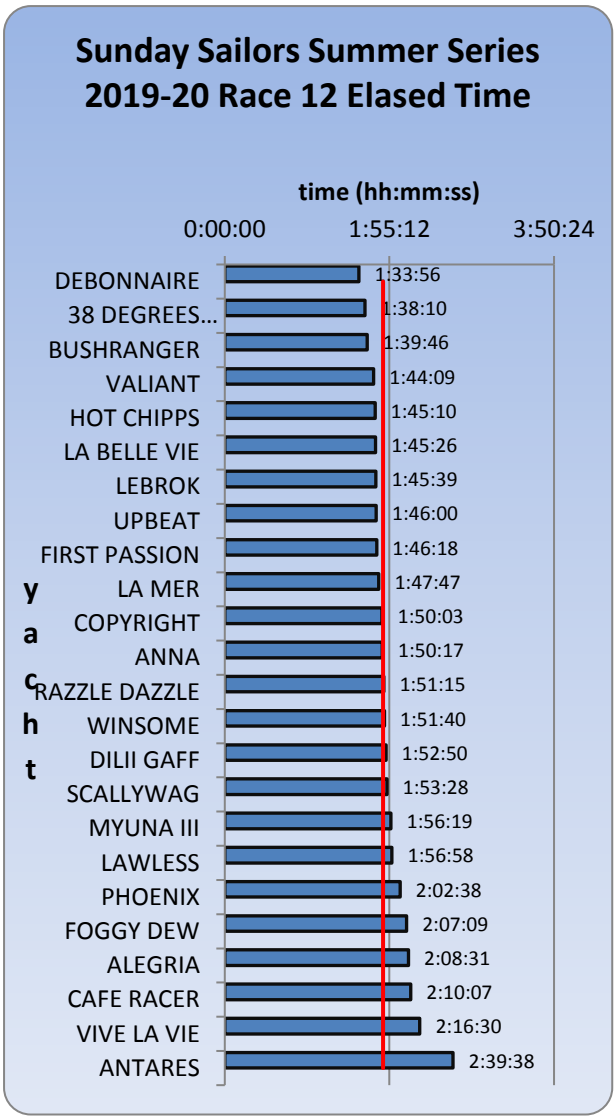
COPYRIGHT has completed 8 races this summer and recorded 4 top ten finishes including a 1st and now a 3rd place. She started this race from 10th place 7 seconds late for her 29 minute handicap – a handicap she shared with DILLII GAFF. COPYRIGHT sailed the course in 1:50:03 – 2 minutes faster than DILLII GAFF – and went on to finish at 11:49:03 in 3rd place. She has sailed all three races around this course and this was her best result of the 3.COPRIGHT moves up from 7th to 5th in the aggregate – 22 points behind the leader.



The median start time for this race was 25 – above the average for the series. As already mentioned DEBONNAIRE made her best start of the series and won Start of the Day. ANNA, RAZZLE DAZZLE and VALIANT (David Keyes Tilley) also made their best starts of the series.

It was the yachts that started mid fleet that recorded the best results in this race. Of the 8 yachts that started mid fleet, 6 were among the first 8 to finish. The closest finish was for 14th place when FOGGY DEW (Frank Hilliard & Joe O'Grady) finished 1 second ahead of 38 DEGREES SOUTH (John Chatham & Kate Mitchell).





With the help of a spinnaker DEBBONNAIRE recorded the fastest elapsed time – 4 minutes 14 seconds faster than her closest rival 38 DEGREES SOUTH. VALIANT and HOT CHIPPS also flew spinnakers and recorded the 4th and 5th fastest elapsed times respectively.

(Left) UPBEAT started 5 seconds late with VALIANT (right) making a 6 second start – her best of the series.

LA MER (below left), FIRST PASSION (below centre) & LAWLESS (below right) were among the 7 yachts that flew spinnakers.

(Below left) CAFE RACER shows how to recover a wayward spinnaker halyard.
(Right) ALEGRIA finished 12th –the middle of the fleet.

(Below) Peak time at SYC 6.

Neither 38 DEGREES SOUTH (left) nor BUSHRANGER (right) flew spinnakers but recorded the 2nd & 3rd fastest elapsed time of the race.

(Left) VIVE LA VIE completed her 4th race of the summer.

(Below right) DILII GAFF remained ahead of MYUNA III at the finish.

With one race to go LA BELLE VIE leads the Summer Aggregate.

The final race of the series is scheduled for 29 Mar 2020.

Graham Furness