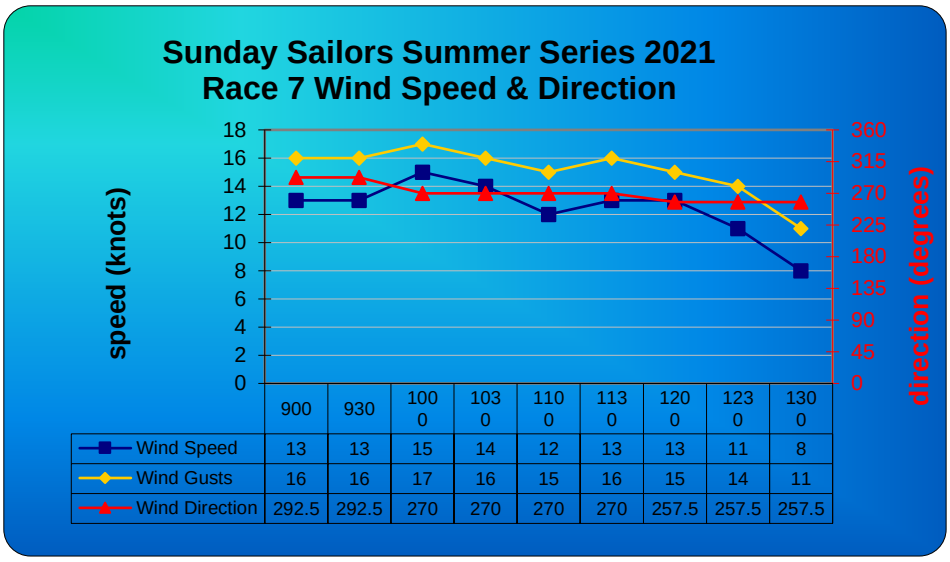
Good Breeze for Sunday Sailors
Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2021 Race 7

There was a surprisingly small fleet for the 7th race of the series the fastest race of the summer that produced some unusual results. For the 14 yachts that did race the conditions were very good with a breeze that averaged 12-13 knots, flat seas and an increasing amount of blue sky. The breeze took the fleet round the 9.4 nautical mile course 29 in the fastest time of any race so far this series with the race coming to an end at 11:57:20. There wasn't much positional change throughout the race with 5 yachts finishing in the same position they started.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	13	13	15	14	12	13	13	11	8
Wind Gusts	16	16	17	16	15	16	15	14	11
Wind Direction	292.5	292.5	270	270	270	270	257.5	257.5	257.5

Leading the race from start to finish was PANACHE IV (Emils Stokans) who collected her first prize of the summer. ALEGRIA (Simon May) finished 2nd for her first podium finish of the series followed by FOGGY DEW (Robert D'Arcy) in 3rd place. With a time of 1 second, Start of the Day was won for the second time this summer by LEBROK (Theo Korbel) whilst DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) completed the race in the fastest elapsed time.

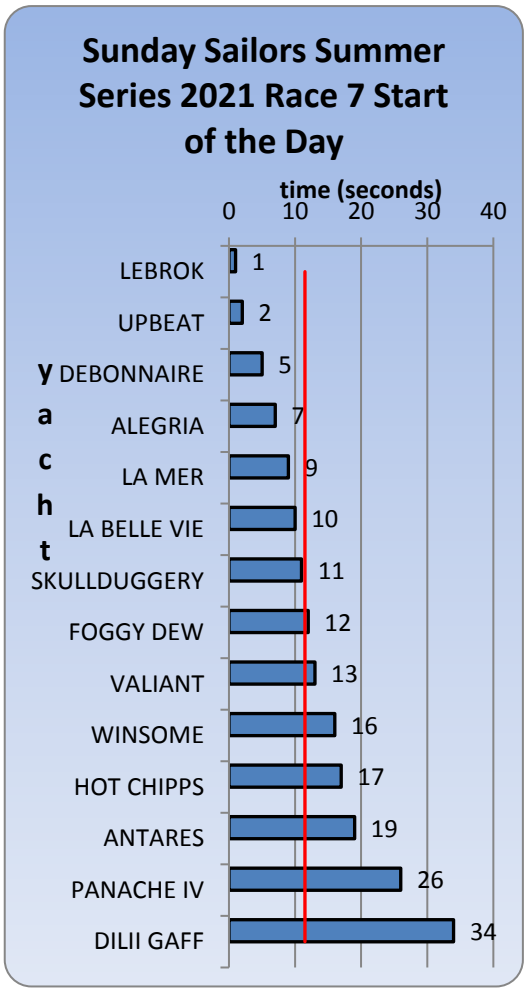
WINSOME (Simon Hemingway) finished 8th in this race to remain at the top of the aggregate. FOGGY DEW remains in 2nd place whilst VALIANT (David Keyes Tilley) replaces HOT CHIPPS (John Chipp) in 3rd position.

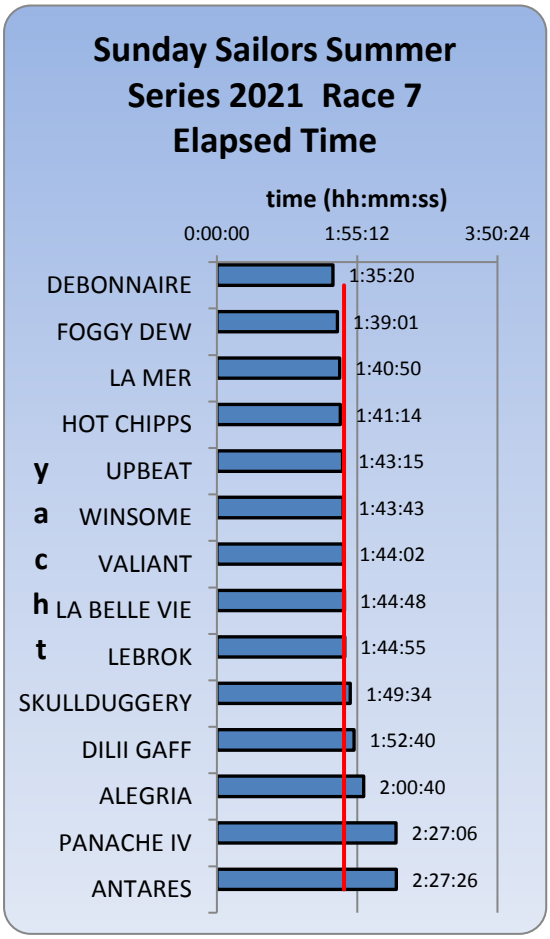
PANACHE IV was first across the finish line at 11:33:06 to win race 7 by a margin of 9 minutes 34 seconds – the biggest winning margin of the series so far. She was the first yacht to start the race, 26 seconds late for her -24 minute handicap. This was19 minutes 53 seconds before the next yacht started. PANACHE IV held a bigger lead (21 minutes 19 seconds) at the first rounding of SYC 4 and remained unchallenged for the entire race. This was the second race of the summer completed by PANACHE IV (she retired from race 5) and she moves from 22nd to 16th in the aggregate.

ALEGRIA has now completed 3 races this series and is now 17th in the aggregate up from 20th. She started this race from 3rd place, 7 seconds late for her 12 minute handicap – her best start of the summer. ALEGRIA sailed the first 4 legs of the course in 1:01:32 and was still 3rd at the first rounding of SYC 4. It took her 59 minutes and 1 second to complete the last 3 legs of the course during which time she moved into 2nd place. ALEGRIA crossed the finish line at 11:42:40 to record her first podium finish of the series.

FOGGY DEW is one of 5 yachts to have completed all 6 races this series. She started this race from 11th place, 12 seconds late for her 39 minute handicap. With the help of a spinnaker she completed the first 4 legs of the course in 50 minutes 9 seconds: rounded SYC 4 in 7th place: and, completed the rest of the race in 48 minutes 40 seconds. FOGGY DEW crossed the finish at 11:48:01 in 3rd place to be the “biggest mover” of the race – moving up 8 places from 11th to 3rd. FOGGY DEW has finished in the top ten in each of her races and holds 2nd place in the aggregate.

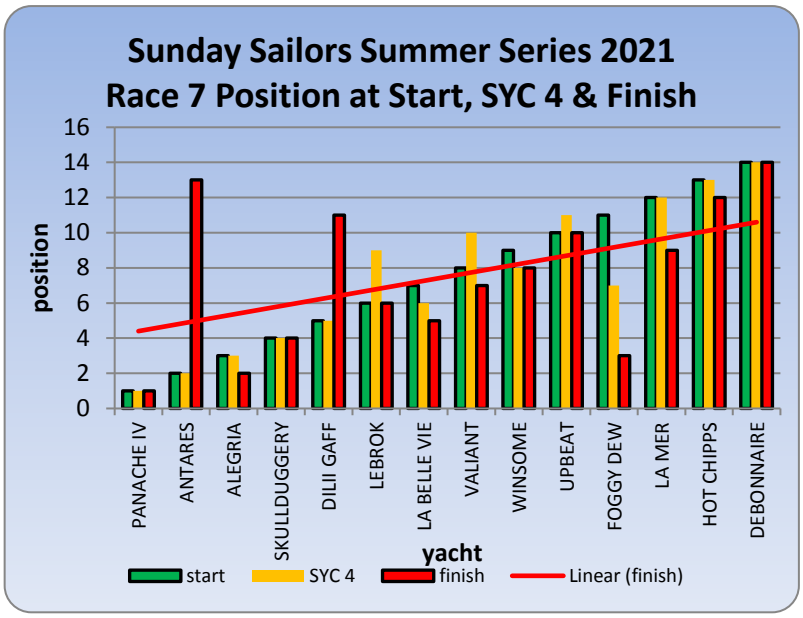
The median start time for the race was 11.5 seconds. The range of start times (from 1 to 34 seconds) was the closest for any race this series. LEBROK won Start of the Day with a time of 1 second. UPBEAT the other Beneteau 367 in the race had the 2nd best time of 2 seconds.





The median elapsed time of 1:44:25 was the fastest of the series with DEBONNAIRE recording the fastest time of 1:35:20 – 3 minutes 41 seconds faster than her closest rival FOGGY DEW.

Although there were notable exceptions there was relatively little positional change between the start and finish of the race. Five yachts finished the race in the same position they started a further 4 yachts improved their finish position by 1 place compared to their start position.



(Left) LA BELLE VIE & UPBEAT (right) both made their best start to a race this summer

(Below) WINSOME finished 8th & leads the aggregate

(Above) ANTARES on her way to SYC 3 whilst VALIANT (right) leads WINSOME

(Left) DILLI GAFF completes her 3rd race of the summer

(Below) LA MER in a "tactical manoeuvre"

(Below) Action stations on FOGGY DEW

(Above) SKULLDUGGERY & VALIANT on their way to SYC3

(Below & right) Yachts with spinnakers recorded the fastest elapsed times

(Below) ALEGRIA heads for the marina

Graham Frances