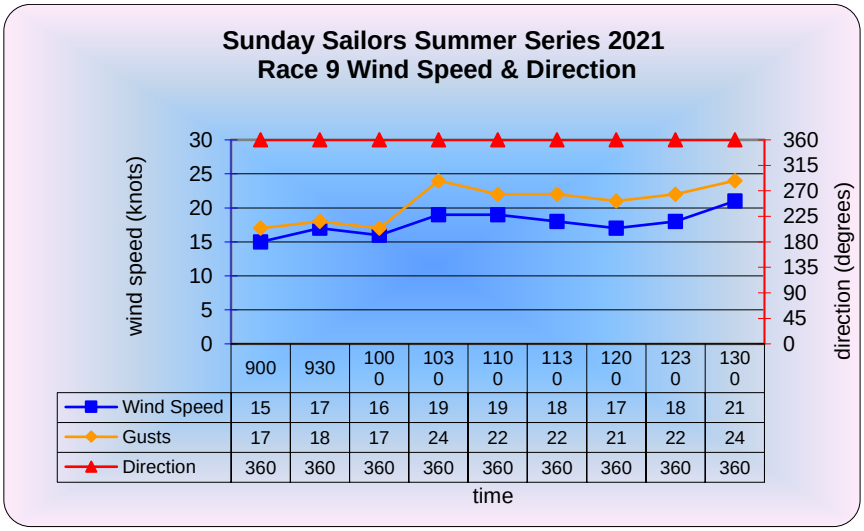
Busy Morning on the Water
Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2021 Race 9

A northerly breeze that averaged about 18 knots for the morning (strongest of the series) kept crews busy as they sailed around the 10.6 nautical mile course 40. This was the longest course of the series but 17 of the 18 yacht fleet completed the 7 leg course well within the time limit with the last yacht crossing the finish line at 12:14:15. The good breeze coupled with flat water helped most of the fleet achieve their highest speeds of the series. Of the 17 finishers, 7 recorded (including the 3 podium finishers) their best result of the series.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	15	17	16	19	19	18	17	18	21
Gusts	17	18	17	24	22	22	21	22	24
Direction	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360

For the first time this summer SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) won Start of the day with a time of 1 second. The race was won by FOGGY DEW (Robert D'Arcy) which gives her three podium finishes for the series. SKULLDUGGERY added a 2nd place to go with her Start of the Day win and LA BELLE VIE (Grant & Nathan Anderson) collected her first prize of the series when she crossed the finish line in 3rd place. Even though she didn't fly a spinnaker on this occasion DEBONNAIRE was fastest around the course for the 6th time in 7 races.

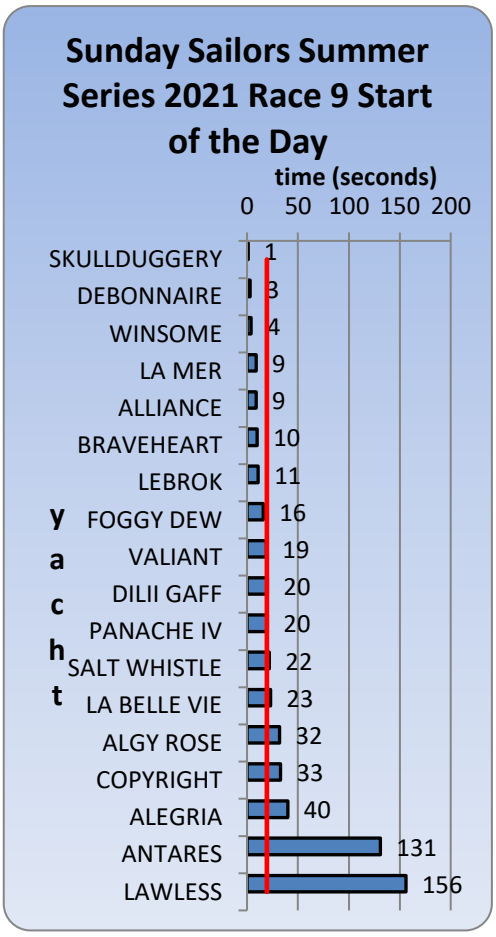
The win by FOGGY DEW takes her to the top of aggregate with a lead of 1 point over WINSOME (Simon Hemingway) who slips into 2nd place. After finishing 7th VALIANT (David Keyes Tilley) is 12 points further back in 3rd place.

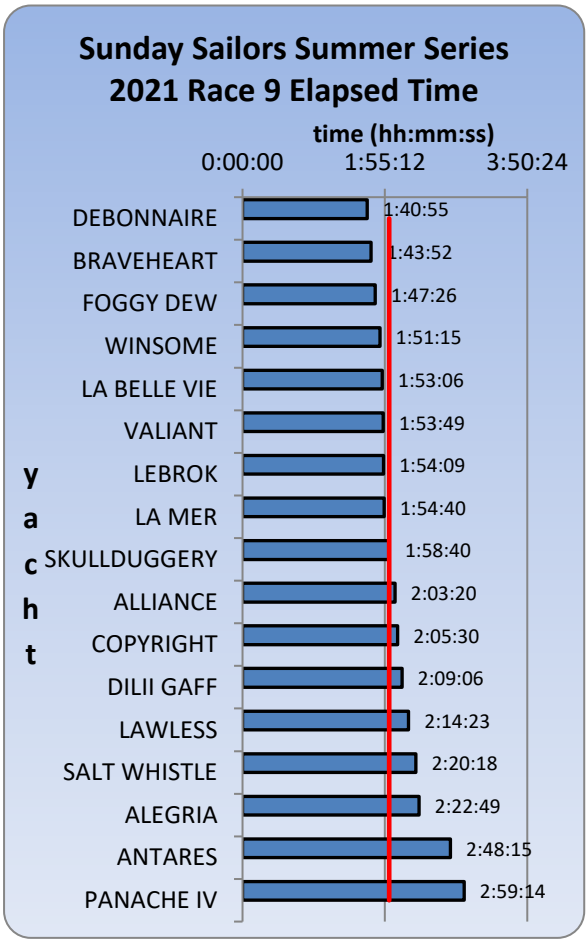
FOGGY DEW is one of 3 yachts to have completed all 7 races in the series so far and recorded 6 top ten finishes. She started from 12th place 16 seconds late for her 36 minute handicap. She started just 3 seconds ahead of VALIANT and without the help of a spinnaker sailed the course in 1:47:26 – the 3rd fastest elapsed time of the race. FOGGY DEW crossed the finish line at 11:53:26 – 6 minutes 23 seconds and 6 places ahead of VALIANT. AFTER being 2nd in the aggregate for the last 3 races FOGGY DEW returns to the top.

SKULLDUGGERY has completed all 6 races this series and this was her best result and first podium finish of the series. She was the 6th yacht to cross the start line with the winning start of 1 second late for her 27 minute handicap. With the aid of her distinctive spinnaker SKULLDUGGERY was able to complete the course in 1:58:40 and cross the finish line in 2nd place at 11:55:40 – 2 minutes 14 seconds behind the winner. This was not only her best start but also her best result in a race in the series so far. SKULLDUGGERY moves up from 9th to be 6th in the aggregate – her highest position to date.

LA BELLE VIE has a good record in this series finishing in the top ten in 5 out of her 6 races. She started this race from 11th place 32 seconds late for her 35 minute handicap. LA BELLE VIE completed the course in 1:53:06 – the 5th fastest time of the race and went on to cross the finish line at 11:58:06 – 2 minutes 26 seconds after SKULLDUGGERY. This was the best result this summer for LA BELLE VIE and she moves up from 7th to 5th in the aggregate.

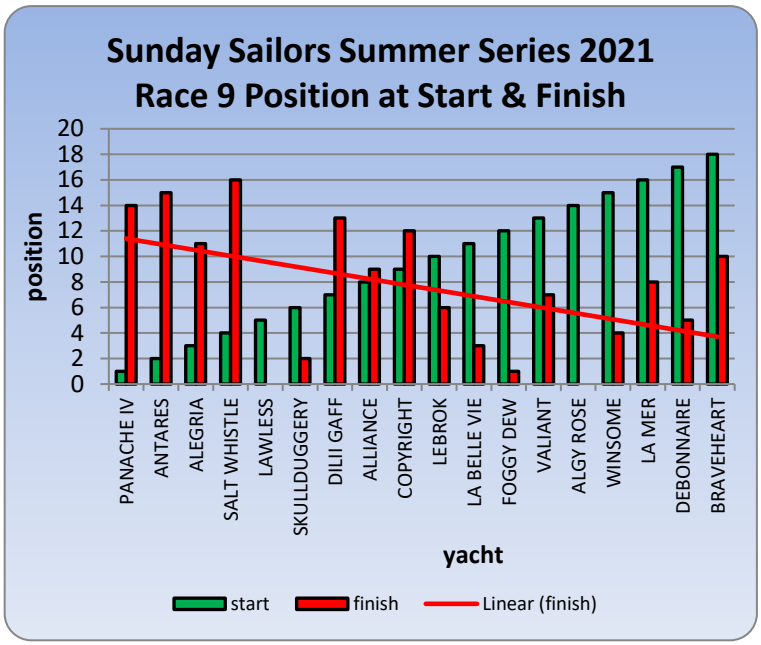
With a median start time of 19.5 seconds it wasn't the best of the series. However, the time of 1 second recorded by SKULLDUGGERY equalled the best start time of the series.





The median elapsed time for the race was 1:58:40. This was the second longest of the series but it was the longest race. DEBONNAIRE proved to be the fastest around the course followed by BRAVEHEART (Leigh Maddison).

The biggest movers of the race were DEBONNAIRE who finished 12 ahead of where she started, followed by FOGGY DEW and WINSOME who finished 11 places ahead. Moving in the opposite direction were PANACHE IV and ANTARES who both finished 13 places behind were they started followed by SALT WHISTLE who finished 12 places behind.



For SALTWHISTLE (above left) BRAVEHEART (above right) & ALGY ROSE (left) this was their first race of the series

DILLI GAFF (above left), LA MER (above right) & WINSOME (left) all made their best starts to a race this series

(Below) ALLIANCE had her best result of the summer

(Right) PANACHE IV completed her 3rd race of the series

ALEGRIA (left) finished 11th in her 4th race of the series

LAWLESS (right) heads for the finish line

The final race of the series is scheduled for 16 May 2021

Graham Furness