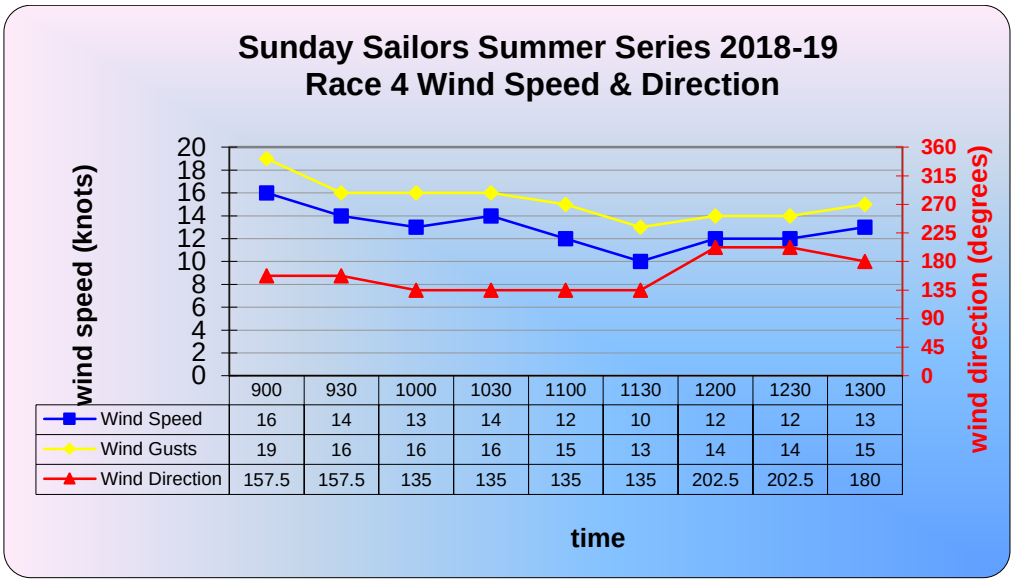
A Long Course Navigated Successfully by All
Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2018-19 Race 4

The entire fleet of 21 yachts successfully completed the longest course of the series so far. Helped by a breeze that averaged about 13 knots for the morning they sailed around the 10.8 nautical mile course 41 in an average time of about 2:18:36. The breeze eased and shifted from SE to the SSW as the morning progressed but the notorious Port Philip chop remained.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	16	14	13	14	12	10	12	12	13
Wind Gusts	19	16	16	16	15	13	14	14	15
Wind Direction	157.5	157.5	135	135	135	135	202.5	202.5	180

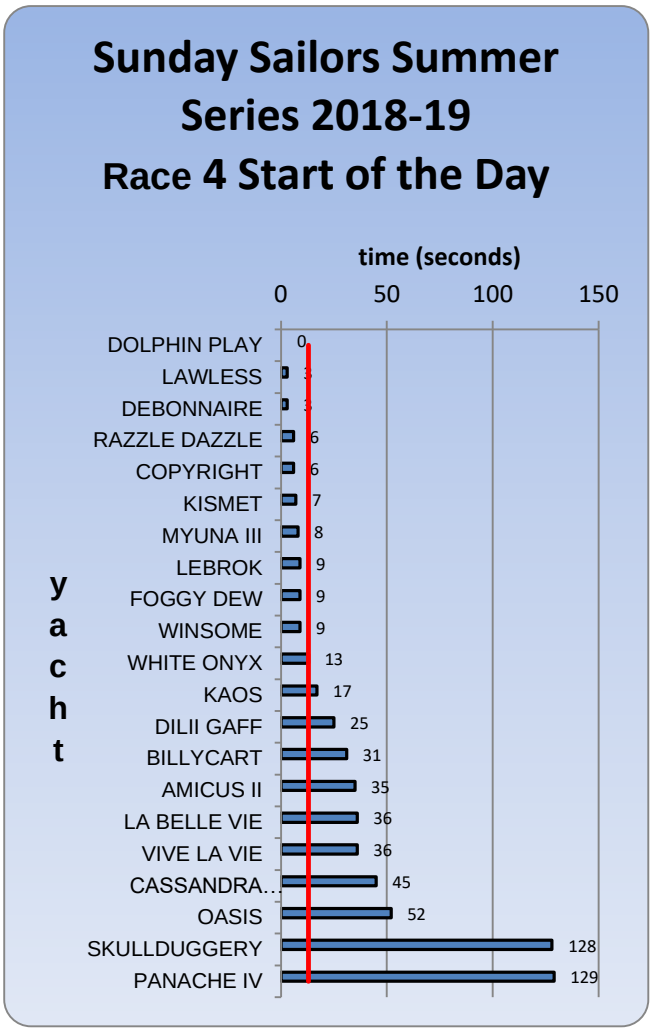
Displaying impeccable judgement DOLPHIN PLAY (John Brennan) won Start of the Day crossing the start line right on her handicap. At the other end of the race LAWLESS (Boyd Coulson) claimed her first podium finish when she was first across the finish line by the biggest winning margin of the series. Coming second, DILII GAFF (Paul MacBain) had her first podium finish of the series, whilst WHITE ONYX (Ben & Katherine Solly) chalked up her third podium finish in three races.

After sitting in second place since the start of the series WHITE ONYX moves to the top of the series aggregate. After finishing 18th in this race DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) leads the competition for the Sunday Plate. The challenge for the Noelle Coram Trophy is led by CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) with a margin of 9 points.

LAWLESS has started every race this series including the abandoned race 2. She has held on to her 18 minute handicap since the beginning. Her start to this race was her best so far and a big improvement on her previous starts. She was only 3 seconds late for her handicap when starting from 6th place. She was in the lead for the final 3 legs of the race and sailed the 7 legs of the course in 2:13:25 – almost the median elapsed time for the race. She crossed the finish line at 12:01:25 making this her best result and first podium finish of the series. LAWLESS moves from 5th to 2nd place in the aggregate, 9 points behind the leader.

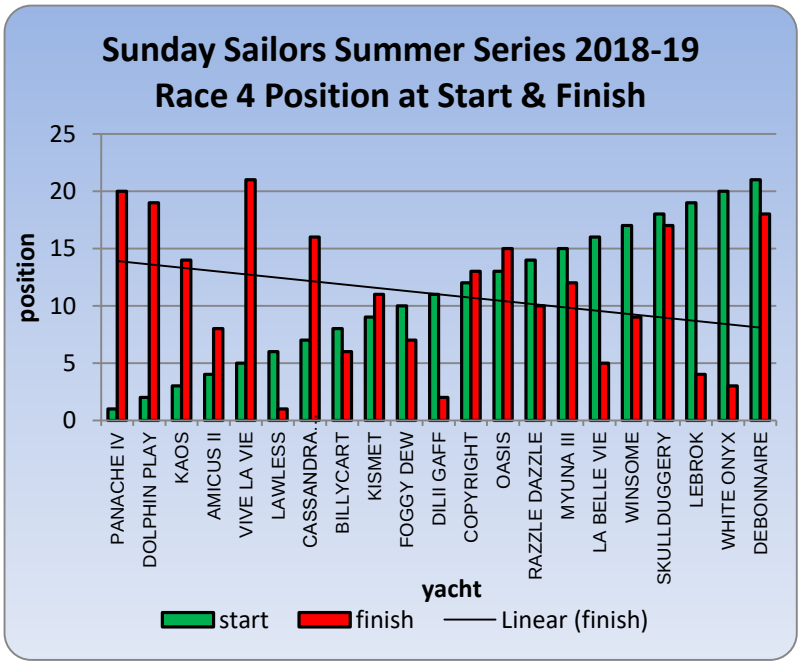
Like LAWLESS, DILII GAFF has started each of the 4 races in the series and completed 3. Following a 4th place in race 3 she had a 1 minute increase to her handicap but this didn't stop her from recording her best result of the series. She started from 11th place 25 seconds late for her 29 minute handicap. DILII GAFF sailed the course in 2:06:04 the 6th fastest time of the race and crossed the finish line at 12:05:04 – 3 minutes 39 seconds behind the winner. She moves up 5 places in the series aggregate from 8th to 3rd place. She is also currently in 3rd place in the competition for the Sunday Plate.

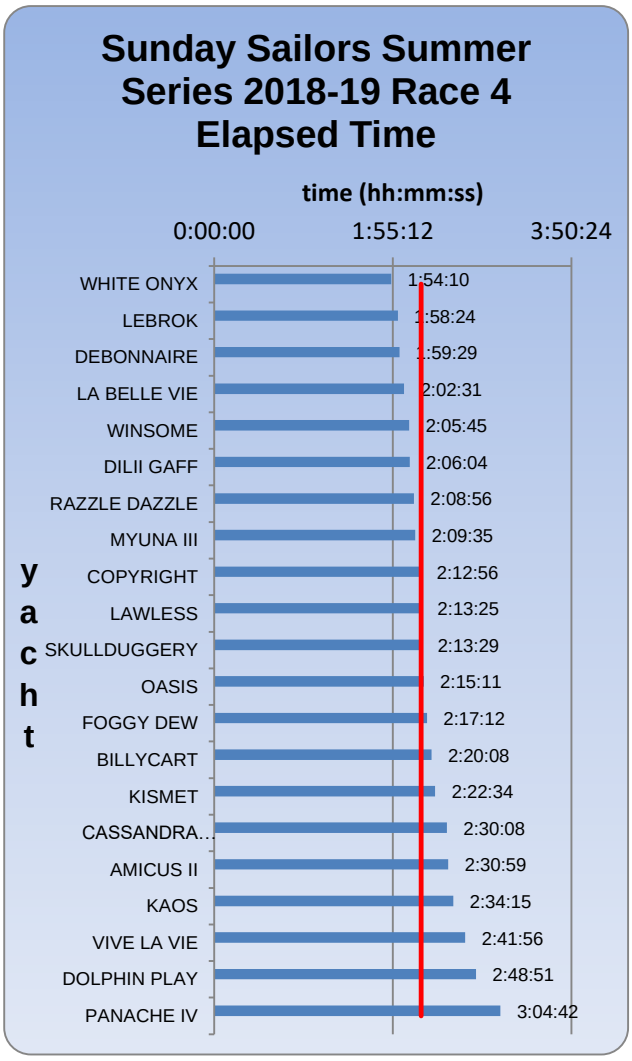
WHITE ONYX has made an excellent start to the series with 3 podium finishes in 3 races. This is despite a handicap that has increased from 37 through 40 to 43 minutes for this race. She was 13 seconds late for her start from 20th place. She overtook 16 other yachts on her way to the finish line with the fastest elapsed time of the race. After sailing the course in 1:54:10 WHITE ONYX crossed the finish at 12:07:10 a mere 14 seconds ahead of LEBROK (Theo Korbel). After spending the early stages of the series second in the aggregate WHITE ONYX moves to the top on a total of 7 points, 9 points ahead of her closest rival.



With a median start time of 9 seconds and 11 yachts starting within 10 seconds or less of their handicap this was the best start of the series. It was DOLPHIN PLAY that led the way with a perfect start – the second of the series.

It was the mid fleet and late starters that came away with the better results of the race. Except for LAWLESS none of the first seven yachts to start the race were able to improve upon their start positions. The closest finish of the race was for 11th place with KISMET (Doug Jackson) holding off a late challenge from MYUNA III (Geoffrey Nixon). KISMET finished 1 second ahead.





WHITE ONYX becomes the third different yacht in three races to be the fastest yacht around the course. Like most yachts in the race she recorded her fastest elapsed time of the series. Receiving best value for money was PANACHE IV who managed a sail for over 3 hours – she still finished well within the 1300 time limit.

Sunday Sailors didn't have SYC 4 to themselves. They had to share with boats in the Classic Yacht Race.

(Left) These four were together for a short time before going their separate ways to finish 16th, 5th, 11th and 21st.

(Right) PANACHE IV & SKULLDUGGERY pass each other on different legs of the course.

(Left) Finding a leg to make best use of a spinnaker was challenging but DEBONNAIRE had some success.

(Below left) WINSOME was one of a few yachts not to record her fastest elapsed time but finished 9th.

(Right) KISMET & MYUNA III had the closest finish of the race.

(Left) BILLYCART won the battle with FOGGY DEW finishing 6th & 7th respectively.
(Below) CASSANDRA finished 16th in this race but leads the challenge for the Noelle Coram trophy.

(Below) RAZZLE DAZZLE went ahead of COPYRIGHT to finish 10th and 13th.

Photos
by
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Race 5 is scheduled for 9 Dec 2018