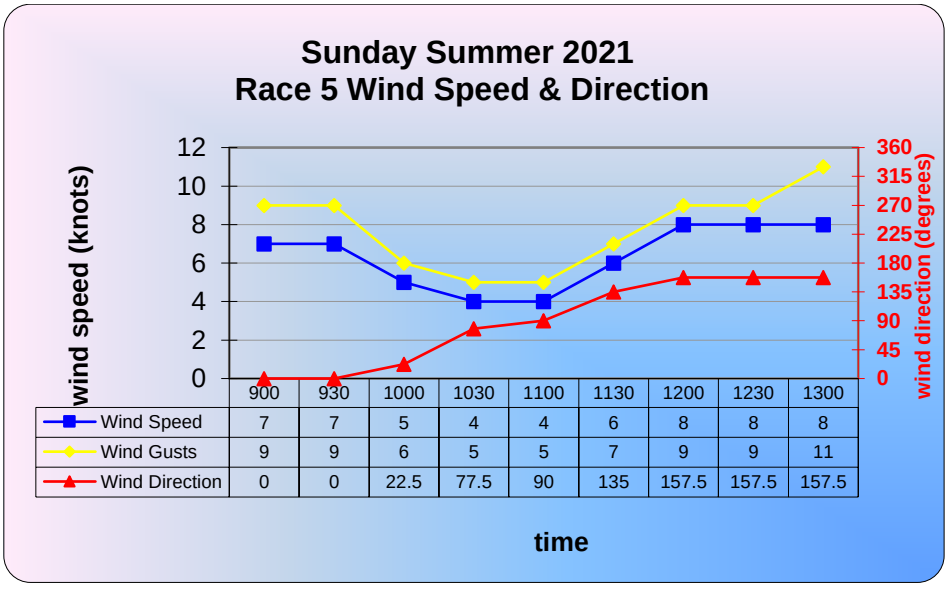
Light & Variable
Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2021 Race 5

It was a hazy Sunday morning with light and variable breezes that greeted Sunday Sailors for the fifth race of the summer series. The breeze was so light that there was a real possibility that the race may not start – at least not on time. However the race did proceed and started on time with PANACHE IV leading the 19 yacht fleet around course 25. Making a good start in the light breeze was the first challenge. The breeze did increase but not enough to prevent the course being shortened from 9.4 to 6.4 nautical miles. Eighteen of the nineteen starters completed the race in pleasant conditions. Spinnakers proved beneficial with three of the first four yachts across the finish line putting them to good use.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	7	7	5	4	4	6	8	8	8
Wind Gusts	9	9	6	5	5	7	9	9	11
Wind Direction	0	0	22.5	77.5	90	135	157.5	157.5	157.5

COPYRIGHT (Stuart Morrison Jack) won Start of the day with a time of 10 seconds to be the 4th different winner in 4 races. It was MYUNA III (Geoffrey Nixon) who won the race – her first of the summer series. In 2nd place was LA MER (Michael Ebeling) followed by DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) who not only finished in 3rd place but recorded the fastest elapsed time of the race.

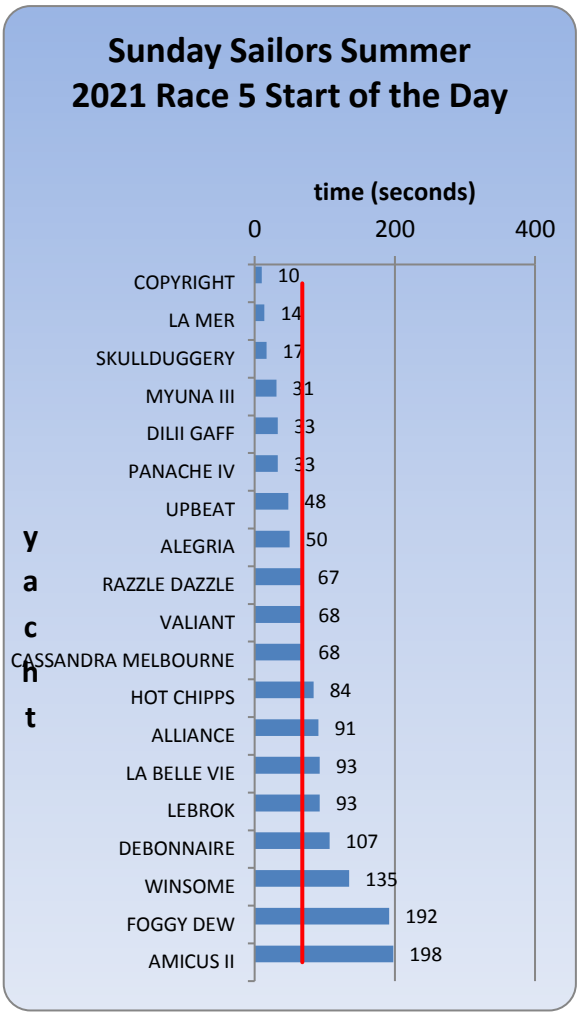
By finishing 6th in this race FOGGY DEW (Robert D'Arcy) moves to the top of the aggregate followed by WINSOME (Michael Hemingway) 2nd and HOT CHIPPS (John Chipp) 3rd. CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) leads the contest for the Noelle Coram Trophy in what was the last Sunday race for "young Bob".

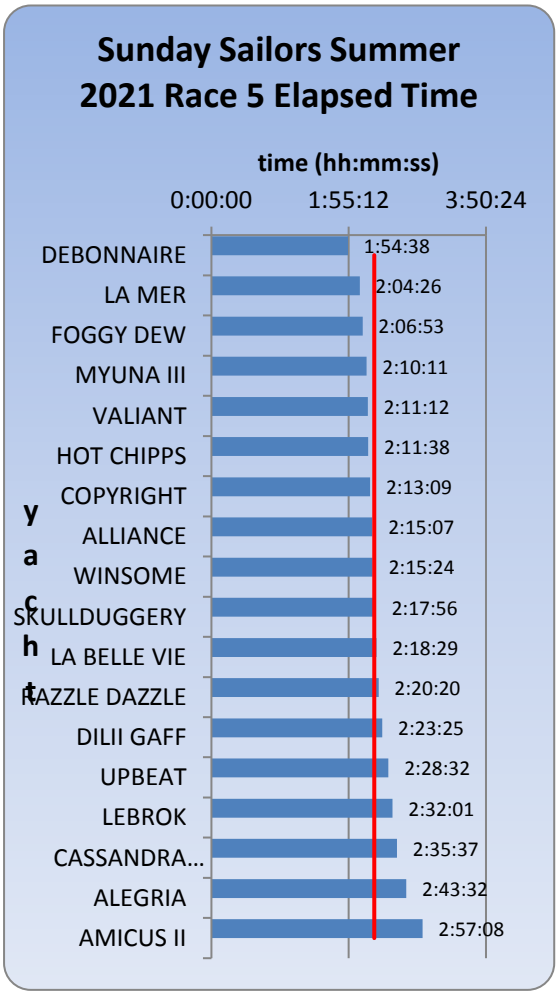
It was a perfect start for the series for MYUNA III with a win on debut. Although she was 31 seconds late for her 27 minute handicap it was the 4th best start of the race. She sailed the course in 2:10:11 – the 4th fastest elapsed time –and was first across the finish line at 12:07:11. Her win by 3 minutes 15 seconds was the largest winning margin of the series so far. MYUNA III moves up from 25th to 20th in the aggregate.

This was the third race of the series for LA MER and her best result to date. She made the second best start of the day when she crossed the start line 14 seconds late for her 36 minute handicap. Her elapsed time of 2:04:26 was the 2nd fastest of the race and she crossed the finish line in 2nd place at 12:10:26. This was the first podium finish of this series for LA MER and she moves from 18th to 11th in the aggregate.

With a handicap 10 minutes more than any other yacht in the fleet, DEBONNAIRE started the race from last place 1 minute 47 seconds late for her 49 minute handicap. However she recorded an elapsed time of 1:54:38 which took her from 19th to 3rd at the finish line which she crossed at 12:13:38. This was DEBONNAIRE's 3rd race of the series and her first podium finish. She moves from 10th to 7th in the aggregate.

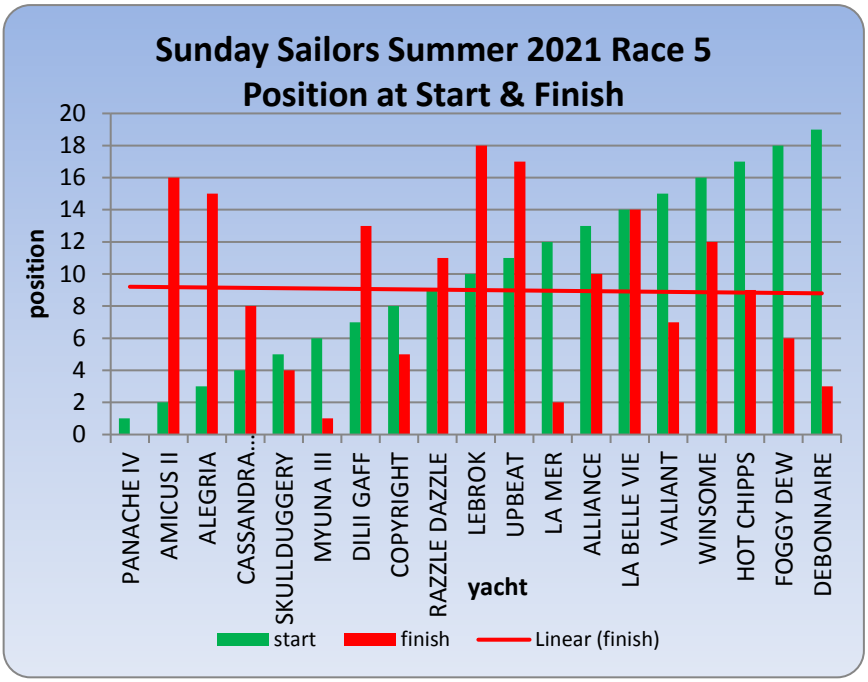
A northerly start in a light breeze proved particularly challenging and resulted in a median start time of 68 seconds compared to about 13 seconds for the first 3 races. Winner of Start of the day was COPYRIGHT with a time of 10 seconds. She becomes the 4th different winner in 4 races.





DEBONNAIRE has recorded the fastest elapsed time in each of her three races. Although this was the shortest race she has sailed it took the longest time. The median elapsed time of the race was 2:16:40.

The biggest movers in the race were DEBONNAIRE (up 16 places), FOGGY DEW (up12 places) with AMICUS II (down 14 places) and ALEGRIA (down 12 places). LA BELLE VIE started and finished 14th.



It was a slow start to the race with ALEGRIA (above left) and RAZZLE DAZZLE (above right) starting by the breakwater & Valiant further out

LA MER heading for SYC 7 passes CASSANDRA on her way to SYC 5

(Above) LABELLE VIE & WINSOME started & finished 2 places apart
(Right) FOGGY DEW back on top of the aggregate

HOT CHIPPS & ALLIANCE (below left) just two yachts to put spinnakers to good use
(Below right) UPBEAT makes her way to the finish line

Cassandra of Melbourne with owner/skipper Bob Reeves have been stalwarts of Sunday Sailors for some years. They are shown in the results archive for the Summer 2004-05 Series. The most successful year was 2011-12 when they won the Noelle Coram Trophy. After a long association with both Sunday sailors & Wednesday Wonders it was announced that race 5 was their last Sunday Race. They finish leading the contest for the 2021 Noelle Coram Trophy.

Graham Furness