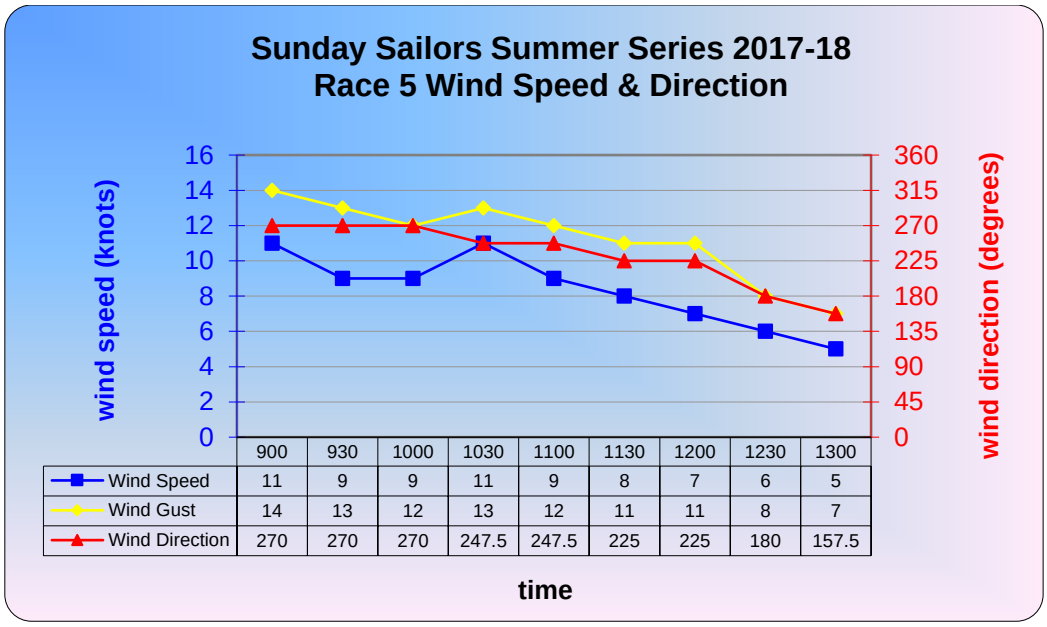
Lucky Seven
Sunday Sailors Summer Series Race 5

Excellent sailing conditions welcomed the 23 yacht fleet for race 5. The forecast was for a 10 to 15 knot westerly becoming a southerly of the same strength. The breeze changed direction from west to south during the race changing the original point of sail for some of the legs. The breeze also eased (averaging 8 knots at Fawkner) during the morning resulting in seven lucky yachts finishing the race. The remaining 16 yachts either retired or did not finish the race around the 8 leg, 10.1 nautical mile course 28 within the time limit.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	11	9	9	11	9	8	7	6	5
Wind Gust	14	13	12	13	12	11	11	8	7
Wind Direction	270	270	270	247.5	247.5	225	225	180	157.5

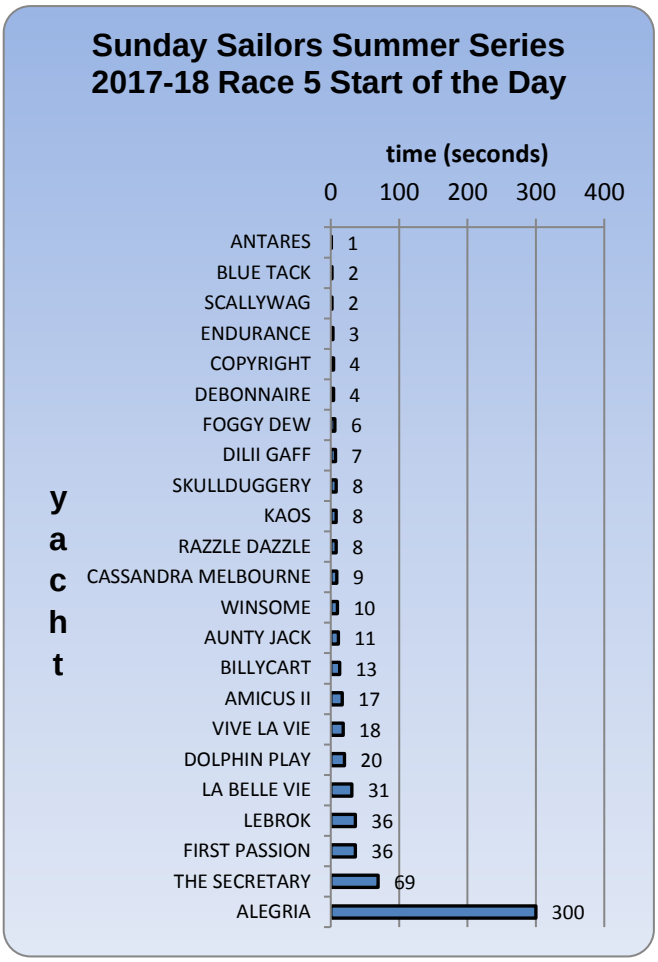
With a median start time of 9 seconds it was a good start to the race especially for ANTARES (G Stewart & D Pearce) who won Start of the Day for the third time this series. In contrast ALEGRIA (Simon May) started 13 seconds too soon, penalised 5 minutes and finished 7th rather than 4th. RAZZLE DAZZLE (Andrew Stopp) won the race by the wide margin of 7 minutes 36 seconds in the fastest elapsed time of 2:09:11. COPYRIGHT (Stuart Morrison Jack) recorded her 2nd podium finish for the series which was enough to take her to a tie at the top of the aggregate. SKULLDUGGERY (Garry McCarten) finished 3rd for the 3rd time this series and is tied for first place in the aggregate with a total of 19 points.

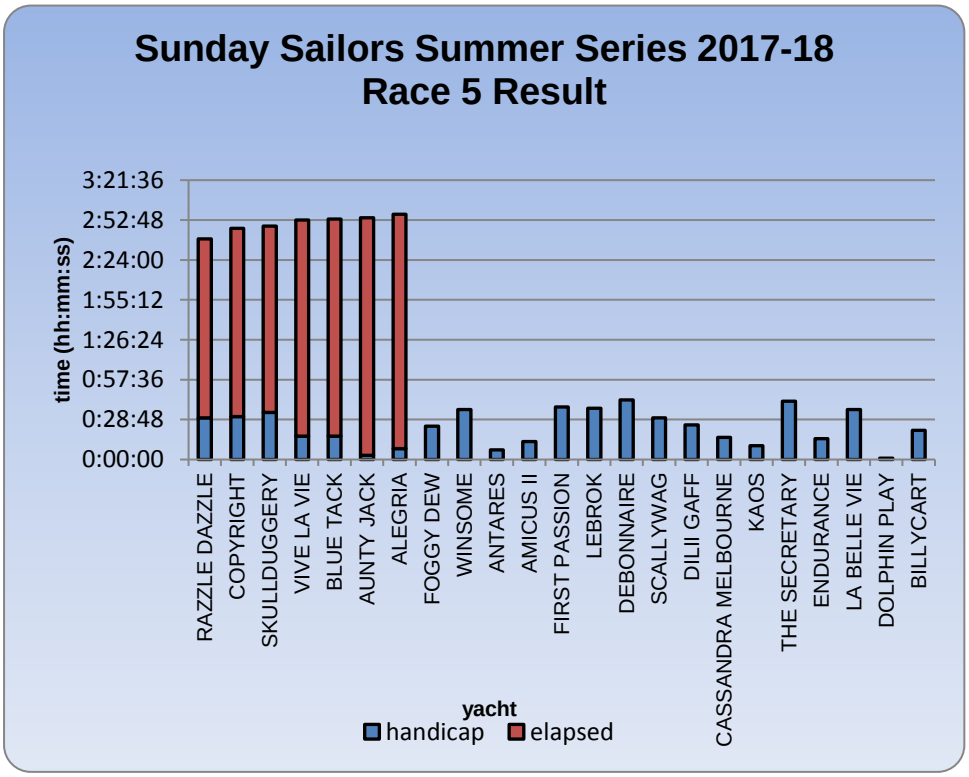
This was the first podium finish for RAZZLE DAZZLE this series. She has sailed all 5 races and started with a handicap of 33 minutes, increased to 35 minutes for races 3 and 4 and was reduced to 30 minutes for this race. She started from 14th place only 8 seconds late for her handicap. RAZZLE DAZZLE had moved into 4th place at the first rounding of number 4 only 5 minutes 12 seconds behind the leader. She sailed the last 4 legs of the race in 1:04:18 and was first across the finish line at 12:09:11. RAZZLE DAZZLE is now 4th in the aggregate with a total of 29 points. She also sails on Wednesdays and is one of 10 yachts competing for the Noelle Coram Trophy.

COPYRIGHT started this race one place and 56 seconds after RAZZLE DAZZLE. She sailed the first 4 legs of the course in 1:08:41 and rounded number 4 for the first time in 8th place. COPYRIGHT sailed the last four legs of the course 1:07:02 and crossed the finish line at 12:16:47. She finished 1 place, 7 minutes and 36 seconds behind RAZZLE DAZZLE. This was the 2nd podium finish for COPYRIGHT this series. She has been in the aggregate top ten for the entire series but this is the first time she has been in first place.

SKULLDUGGERY not only finished 1 place behind COPYRIGHT but also started 1 place behind. She started 8 seconds late for her 34 minute handicap which was 3 minutes 4 seconds behind COPYRIGHT. With the aid of her spinnaker she completed the first 4 legs of the course in 1:06:35 rounding number 4 in 9th place. SKULLDUGGERY completed the last 4 legs of the course in 1:08:38 and was 3rd across the finish line at 12:18:21. She had sailed the course in 2:14:21 the second fastest time of the race. SKULLDUGGERY has also sailed all 5 races this series and moved from 4th to be tied in first place in the aggregate.

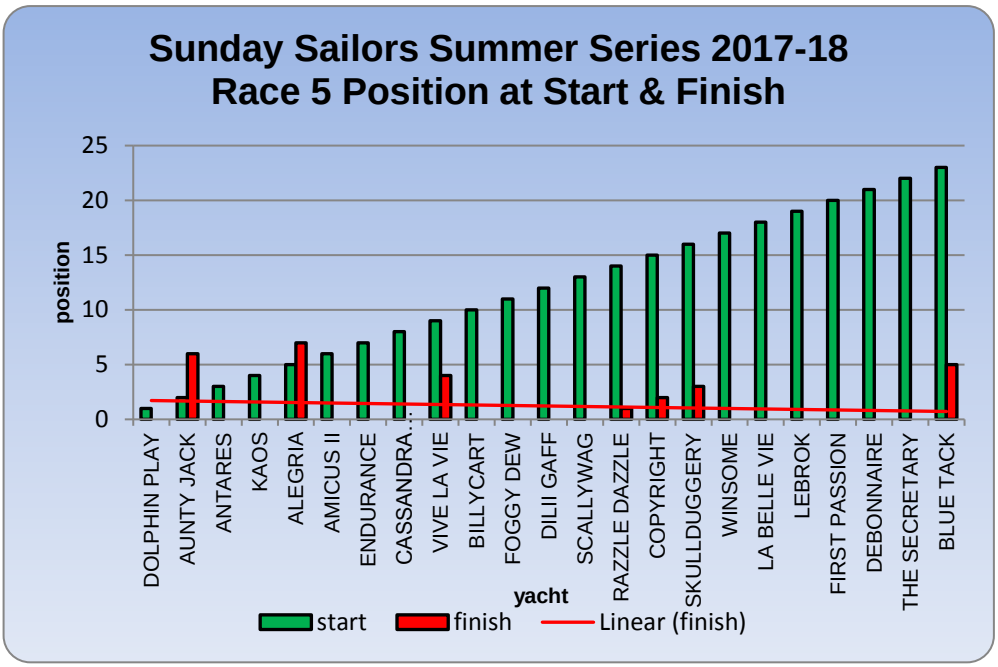
Eighteen yachts started within 20 seconds or less of their handicaps in the best start of the series. ANTARES won the start with a time of 1 second. She won the start in races 2 and 3 with starts of 0 and 1 second respectively.



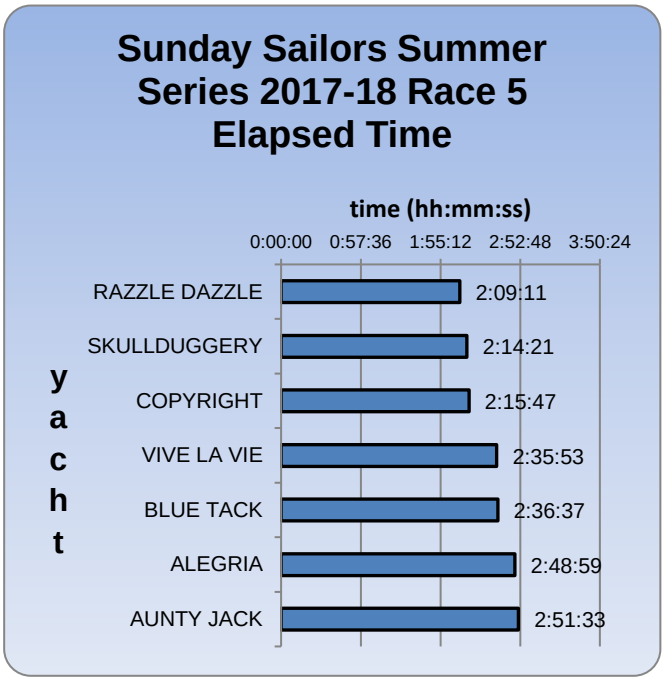


Even though only 7 yachts finished the race there was a gap of 17 minutes 48 seconds between first and last.

Of the last 7 yachts to start only BLUE TACK (Andy Lynch) crossed the finish line. Four of the 7 finishers were mid fleet starters.



The average elapsed time for the race was 2:30:20 with 42 minutes 22 seconds separating the fastest from the slowest. It was the three podium finishers who recorded the fastest elapsed times.



In the early stages of the race there was enough breeze for these yachts.

The following yachts finished 4, 5, 6, & 7

The next race and last of the year is scheduled for 24 Dec 2017.