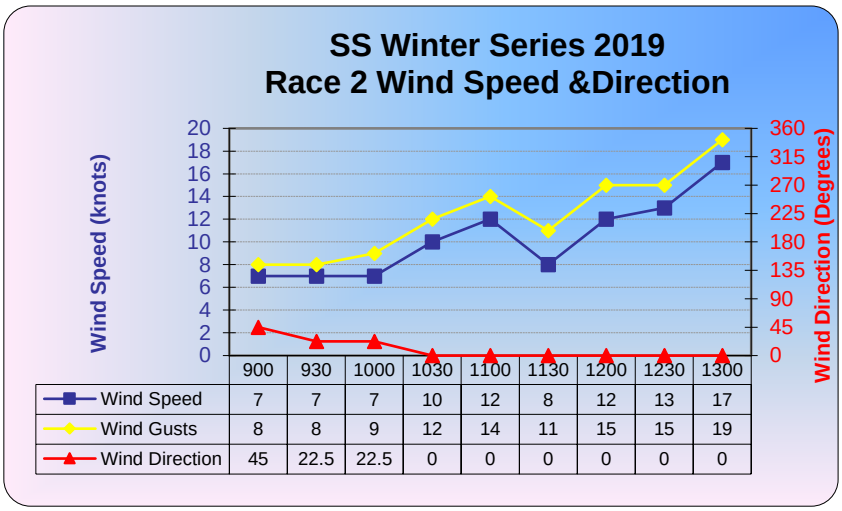
Magnificent Sailing Conditions
Sunday Sailors Winter Series 2019 Race 2

Sunday Sailors continued its great start to the winter series when 28 yachts took part in race 2. This follows on from the record 31 yachts that entered the first race. The weather played its part with blue skies, flat seas and a northerly breeze that averaged 10 knots for the morning. The fleet sailed around the 7 leg, 8.7 nautical mile course 11 in quick time with the last yacht crossing the finish line at 11:42:11. The downwind start proved more difficult to judge than a start to windward but SCALLYWAG (Bill Hutchison) found no problem when she produced the first perfect start of the series.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	7	7	7	10	12	8	12	13	17
Wind Gusts	8	8	9	12	14	11	15	15	19
Wind Direction	45	22.5	22.5	0	0	0	0	0	0

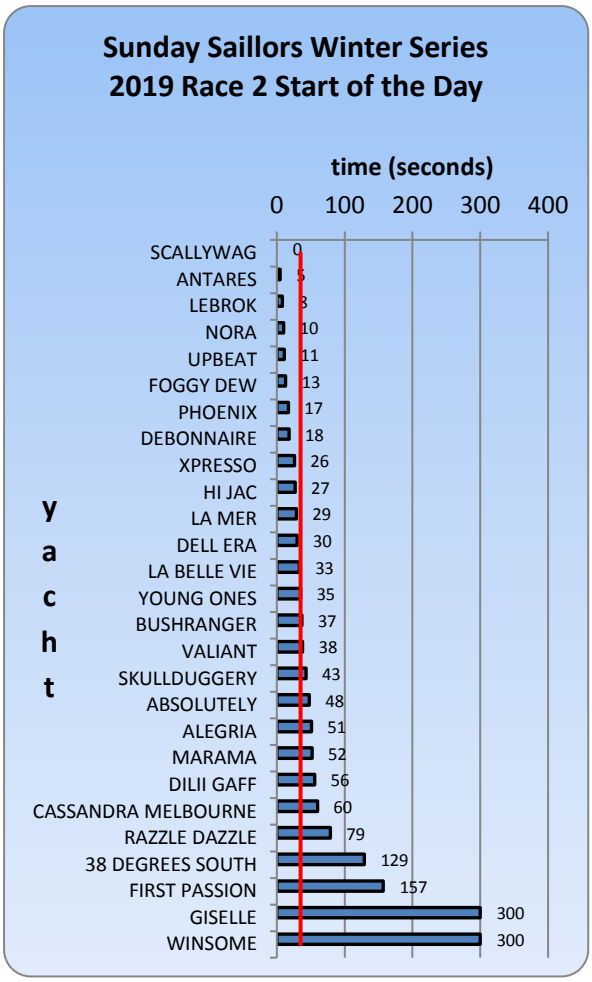
The first three yachts across the finish line were among the first five to start. It was a tremendous result for MARAMA (Catherine Dawson) who won the race in her first Sunday Sailors outing. The Catalina ALEGRIA (Simon May) finished second with DELL ERA (Mike Coulter) finishing third. The two races of the series have produced 6 different podium finishers. With her distinctive red spinnaker put to good use DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez) sailed the course in the fastest elapsed of 1:12:27.

Despite the magnificent sailing conditions the spirits onboard three yachts were dampened when they were judged not to have signed on all their crew via the MemberPoint App prior to the race.

It was the stern of MARAMA that most of the fleet saw almost from the start the race. She started her first Sunday race from 2nd place 52 seconds late for her start right on the initial starting signal. She sailed the course in 1:46:20, a time faster than 3 other yachts in the race and crossed the finish line at 11:16:20. MARAMA won the second race of the series 2 minutes 16 seconds ahead of her closest rival.

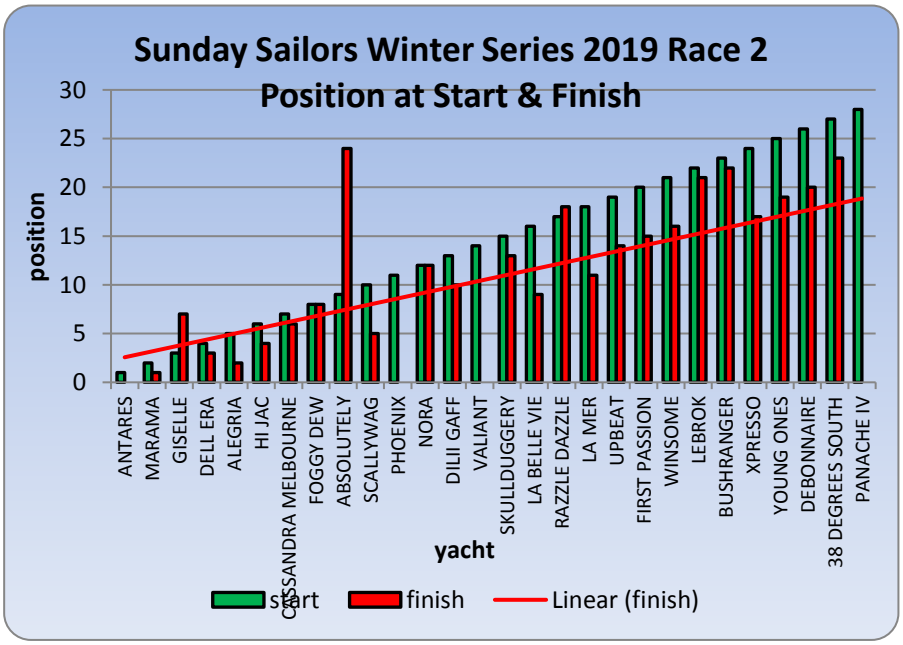
This was the second race in the series for ALEGRIA who started from 5th place 51 seconds late for her 5 minute start. Although her start was not as good as that in her first race the result was better. She completed the course in 1:43:46 and crossed the finish line at 11:18:36. ALEGRIA now has a 17th and a 2nd place to her credit.

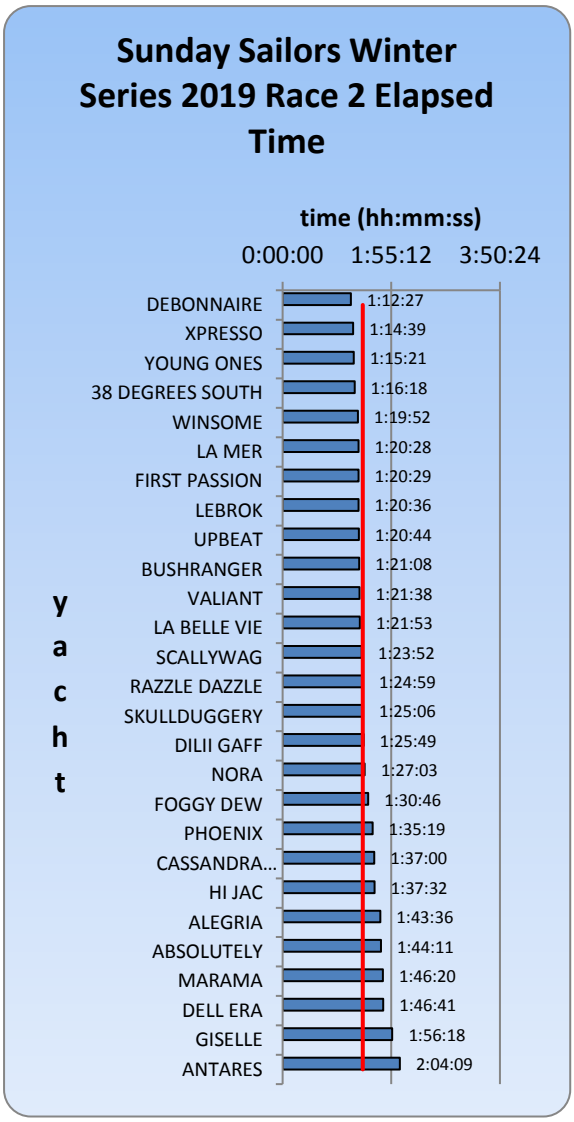
This was also the second race of the series for DELL ERA. She started from 4th place 30 seconds late for her 5 minute handicap. She completed the course in 1:46:41 and crossed the finish line in 3rd place at 11:21:41. The 20 second advantage DELL ERA had over ALEGRIA at the start line became a 3 minute 5 second deficit at the finish line. Nevertheless her 3rd place bettered her 24th place of the first race.



The median start time for the race was 35 seconds. Although 4 yachts started within 10 seconds or less of the handicaps the downwind start proved more difficult than usual for most of the fleet. Three yachts started too soon, one was judged DNS whilst two received a 5 minute penalty. SCALLY WAG won Start of the Day.

The “hares” had difficulty catching the “tortoises” in this race. The majority of the early starters were among the early finishers; the majority of the mid fleet starters were among the mid fleet finishers etc. The fleet did come together as the race progressed. The 28 yachts started 59 minutes 4 seconds apart and finished 25 minutes 51 seconds apart. The closest finish was between NORA and SKULLDUGGERY who finished 3 seconds apart in 12th and 13th place.





The median elapsed time for the race was 1:24:59 – the shortest elapsed time since race 6 in the 2017-18 summer series. DEBONNAIRE recorded the fastest elapsed time of 1:12:27 – 2 minutes 12 seconds faster than her closest rival XPRESSO. Both yachts flew spinnakers.

(Left) With a time of 5 seconds ANTARES made the second best start of the race.

(Right) NORA made the fourth best start of the day with a time of 10 seconds.

With the use of spinnakers RAZZLE DAZZLE (left) lost 1 place in the race, XPRESSO made up 7 places and FIRST PASSION (right) made up 5.

SKULLDUGGERY made up 2 places in the race – not enough to hold off YOUNG ONES (left) and LA MER (right).

After a 23rd place in race 1 FOGGY DEW (left) finished 8th in this race.

It was WINSOME (right) that recorded the 5th fastest elapsed time of the race.

(Far left) Valiant completed her first race of the series and was 8th across the finish line whilst PHOENIX (left) crossed the line in 22nd place. Both were judged DPI.

(Right) UPBEAT has finished 10th & 14th in her 2 races whilst BUSHRANGER (far right) has finished 18th & 22nd.

Race 3 is scheduled for 3 June 2019

Graham Furness