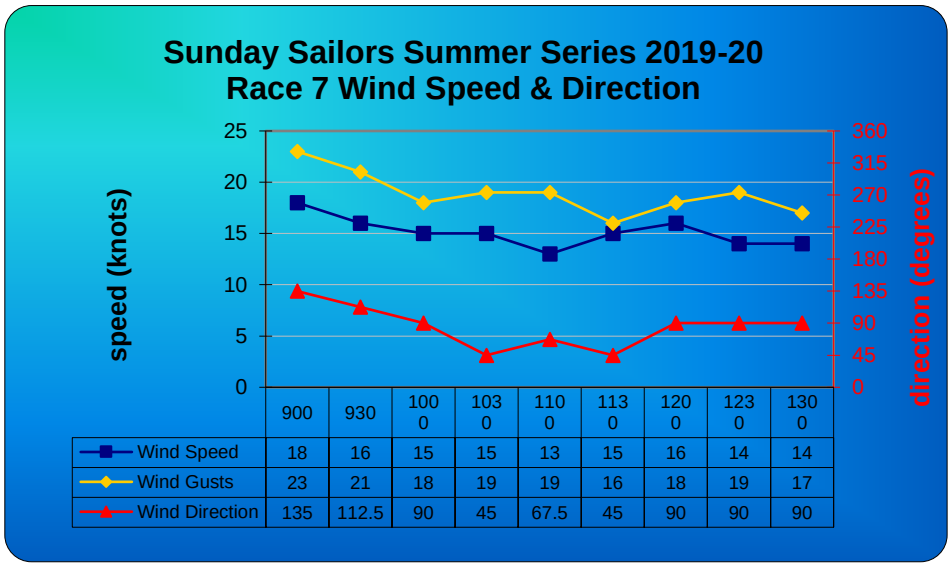
Racing in the Rain
Sunday Sailors Summer Series 2019-20 Race 7

It was a wet Sunday morning that greeted Sunday Sailors for the first race of the New Year but it wasn't enough to dampen the spirits of the skippers and crew of the 14 yachts that all completed the race in good time. As the race came to an end so did the rain. The fleet sailed around the 9.7 nautical mile course in lumpy seas in what was mainly an easterly breeze that averaged about 15 knots for the morning.



	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	18	16	15	15	13	15	16	14	14
Wind Gusts	23	21	18	19	19	16	18	19	17
Wind Direction	135	112.5	90	45	67.5	45	90	90	90

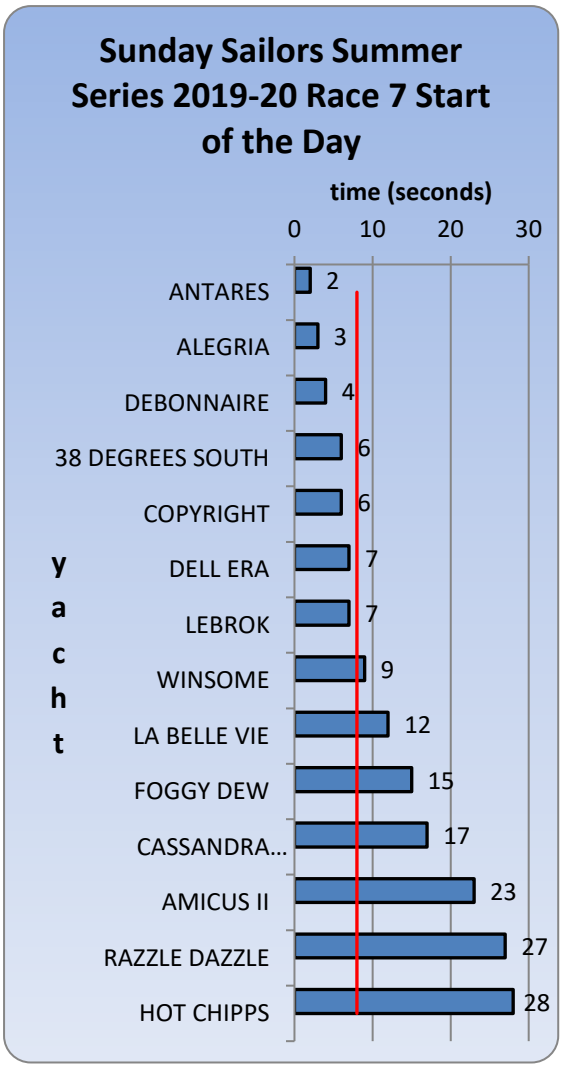
The race saw the best start of the series with all 14 yachts starting within 28 seconds or less of their handicaps. ANTARES (G Stewart D Pearce) won Start of the Day with a time of 2 seconds and followed up her good start by finishing in 3rd place. The race was won by AMICUS II (Warwick Stenford) followed in 2nd place by DELL ERA (Mike Coulter). With the aid of spinnaker HOT CHIPPS was fastest around the course with an elapsed time of 1:34:08.

A 4th place in this race saw LA BELLE VIE (Grant & Nathan Anderson) return to the top of the series aggregate with HOT CHIPPS 2nd and AMICUS II 3rd. LA BELLE VIE continues to lead the contest for the Sunday Plate with ALEGRIA (Simon May) 2nd and FOGGY DEW (Frank Hilliard & Joe O'Grady) 3rd.

This was the fifth race this summer for AMICUS II resulting in her 3rd top ten and 2nd podium finish. She started from 2nd place 23 seconds late for her 4 minute handicap. She completed the course in 2:02:54 and crossed the finish line in first place at 11:36:54 – 32 seconds ahead of her closest rival. This win helps AMICUS II from 9th to 3rd place in the summer aggregate, 7 points behind the leader and it is her 5th week in the aggregate top ten. She is currently 12th in the contest for the Sunday Plate.

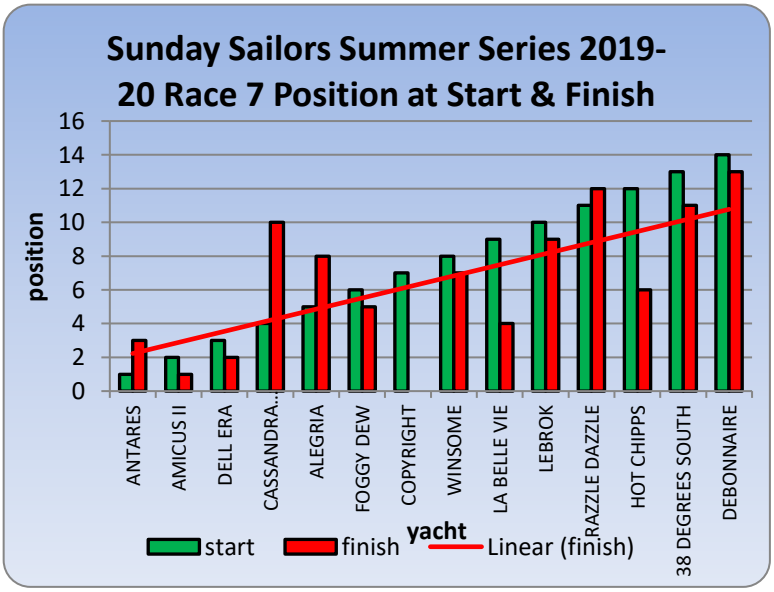
This was the best result so far for DELL ERA who has now completed 2 of her 3 races this series. She started from 3rd place 7 seconds late for her 7 minute handicap. It took her 2:00:26 to complete the 6 leg course and she crossed the finish line at 11:37:26. This was the first podium finish this series for DELL ERA and she moves up from 28th to 20th place in the aggregate and is now 10th in the contest for the Sunday Plate.

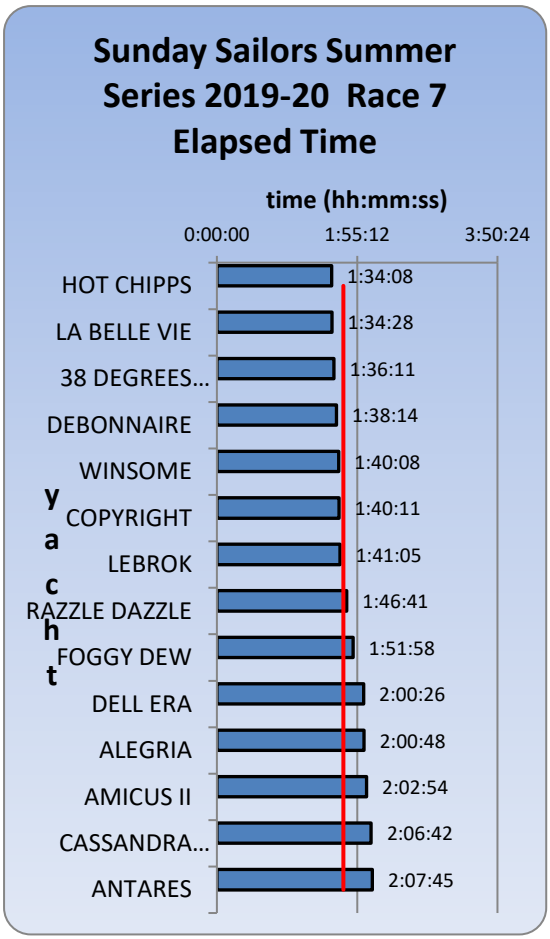
After winning race 2 of the series this race brought ANTARES her 2nd podium finish of the series. She was the first yacht to start the race only 2 seconds late for her zero handicap – her lowest of the series so far. She completed the course in 2:07:45 and was 3rd across the finish line at 11:37:45 only 19 seconds behind DELL ERA. ANTARES moves from 12th to 9th in the series aggregate and is 17th in the contest for the Sunday Plate.



The median start time of 8 seconds made this the best overall start of the series. After her best start of the summer ANTARES became the 8th yacht this series (there were ties in races 5 and 6) to win Start of the Day. Four other yachts each made their best starts of the summer and these were DEBONNAIRE, DELL ERA, LABELL VIE and 38 DEGREES SOUTH.

The race was a good one for the early starters. Not only were the first 3 yachts to start the first 3 to finish but the first five yachts to start all finished in the top ten. The 14 yachts started the race 51 minutes 2 seconds apart and finished within 22 minutes 20 seconds of each other. It wasn't all that close a finish but the closest was 10 seconds that separated FOGGY DEW and HOT CHIPPS who finished 5th and 6th respectively.





The median elapsed time for the 9.7 nautical mile course was 1:43:53 – the fastest this series. HOT CHIPPS sailed the course in the fastest time – 20 seconds faster than LA BELLE VIE and 2 minutes 3 seconds faster than 38 DEGREES SOUTH.

Sunday Sailors Summer 2019-20 Number of Races in Sunday Plate Top Ten	
YACHT	RACES
COPYRIGHT	6
FOGGY DEW	6
LA BELLE VIE	6
LA MER	6
WINSOME	6
ANTARES	5
BUSHRANGER	5
HOT CHIPPS	5
AMICUS II	4
LEBROK	3
ALEGRIA	2
GISELLE	2
CAFE RACER	1
DEBONNAIRE	1
DILII GAFF	1
SKULLDUGGERY	1

The table on the left shows the 16 yachts that have been in the summer aggregate top ten and the number of races they have been there.

On the right is a table showing the 15 yachts that have been in the Sunday Plate top ten and the number of races they have been there.

Sunday Sailors Summer 2019-20 Number of Races in Sunday Plate Top Ten	
YACHT	RACES
ALEGRIA	6
DILII GAFF	6
FOGGY DEW	6
LA BELLE VIE	6
LA MER	6
WINSOME	6
SKULLDUGGERY	5
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	4
COPYRIGHT	4
LEBROK	4
GISELLE	2
PHOENIX	2
CAFE RACER	1
DELL ERA	1
RAZZLE DAZZLE	1

(Above left) LA BELLE VIE kept her crew dry whilst COPYRIGHT (above right) braved the elements.

(Right) DEBONNAIRE made the 3rd best start of the race & was one of three yachts to fly a spinnaker.

(Far right) WINSOME moved to 6th in the aggregate – her best place so far.

(Below left) ALEGRIA made the 2nd best start of the race. (Centre) FOGGY DEW started 6th and finished 5th whilst (left) CASSANDRA completed her 5th race of the series.

RACE 8 is scheduled for 19 Jan 2020

Graham Furness