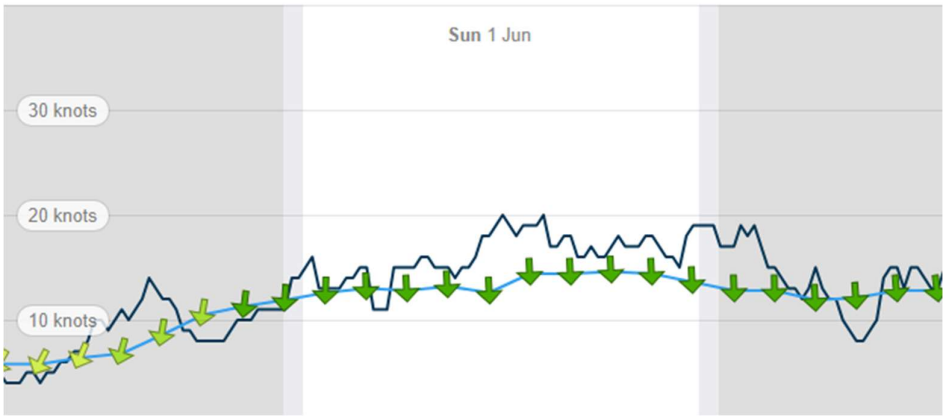
Sunday Sailors Report – Race 4 (1 June 2025)

The Race

Race 4 sailors enjoyed flat seas with northerly winds ranging 15 to 23 knots during the race.

Course 25 was selected with two north south circuits over 9.4nm.



COURSE 25 Northerly start. Leave all marks to port. 9.4nm
Start – 7 – 4(pass) – 5 – 4 – 3 – 4(pass) - 1 – Finish

The Fleet

20 boats entered. Three retired.

6 boats elected to fly a spinnaker (Razzle Dazzle, Skullduggery. La Mer, First Light, Sheba and Firefox).

Boats Entered and Results

Score	Number	Name	Type	Skipper	Spin	H'cap (Spin adjusted)	Finish Time		
							Hrs	Mins	Secs
1	SM4535	PANACHE IV	Salar 40	Egils Stokans		-15	11	25	56
2	SM342	AMICUS II	Swanson 30	Warwick Stenford		0	11	32	36
3	SM194	ANTARES	Vandestadt	G Stewart D Pearce		-15	11	32	48
4	SM6002	LA MER	Dufour 36e Performance	Michael Ebeling	Y	25	11	35	32
5	SM82	ISA LEI	Serendipity 28	Andrew Chapman		-4	11	37	2
6	SM351	FIRST PASSION	Beneteau First 35	Simon Lipman		20	11	37	21
7	SM190	WINSOME	Jeanneau Sunfast 40	Simon Hemingway		28	11	37	35
8	SM451	DEBONNAIRE	Beneteau First 45	Phil Gomez		33	11	38	24
9	SM440	SKULLDUGGERY	Jeanneau 44 Ds	Garry McCarten	Y	25	11	42	9
10	YC447	FIRST LIGHT	Beneteau First 47.7	Mike Coulter	Y	27	11	42	28
11	SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Swarbrick 111	Graham Jones	Y	27	11	45	2
12	SM42	HITCHHIKER	Beneteau Oceanis 41.1	David Goodman		18	11	45	37
13	SM4646	ALLIANCE	Beneteau Oceanis 46	Alex H Simon F Paul S		21	11	45	45
14	SM385	FIREFOX	Beneteau 38.5	Anthony Clyne	Y	24	11	51	17
15	SM86	SHEBA	Elliot 780	Michael Pisani	Y	25	11	52	17
16	M010	AURORA	Jeanneau SO 349	Paul Challis		3	11	56	3
17	7513	RED ROCKS	Benneteau Oceanis 43	Serge Sardo		19	12	3	1
RET	SM309	ALEGRIA	Catalina 309	Simon May		2	0	0	0
RET	SM499	MOJO	Farr 40	Leigh Maddison/James Billson		41	0	0	0
RET	SM4379	SOUL MATE	Beneteau First 405	David Keyes-Tilley		18	0	0	0

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The Winners

Congratulations to the winning boat **PANACHE IV** (Egils Stokans, Salar 40, non-spinnaker handicap of -15) who blitzed the field finishing 7 minutes ahead of the second-place boat.

In second place was **AMICUS II** (Warwick Stenford, Swanson 30, non-spinnaker handicap of 0).

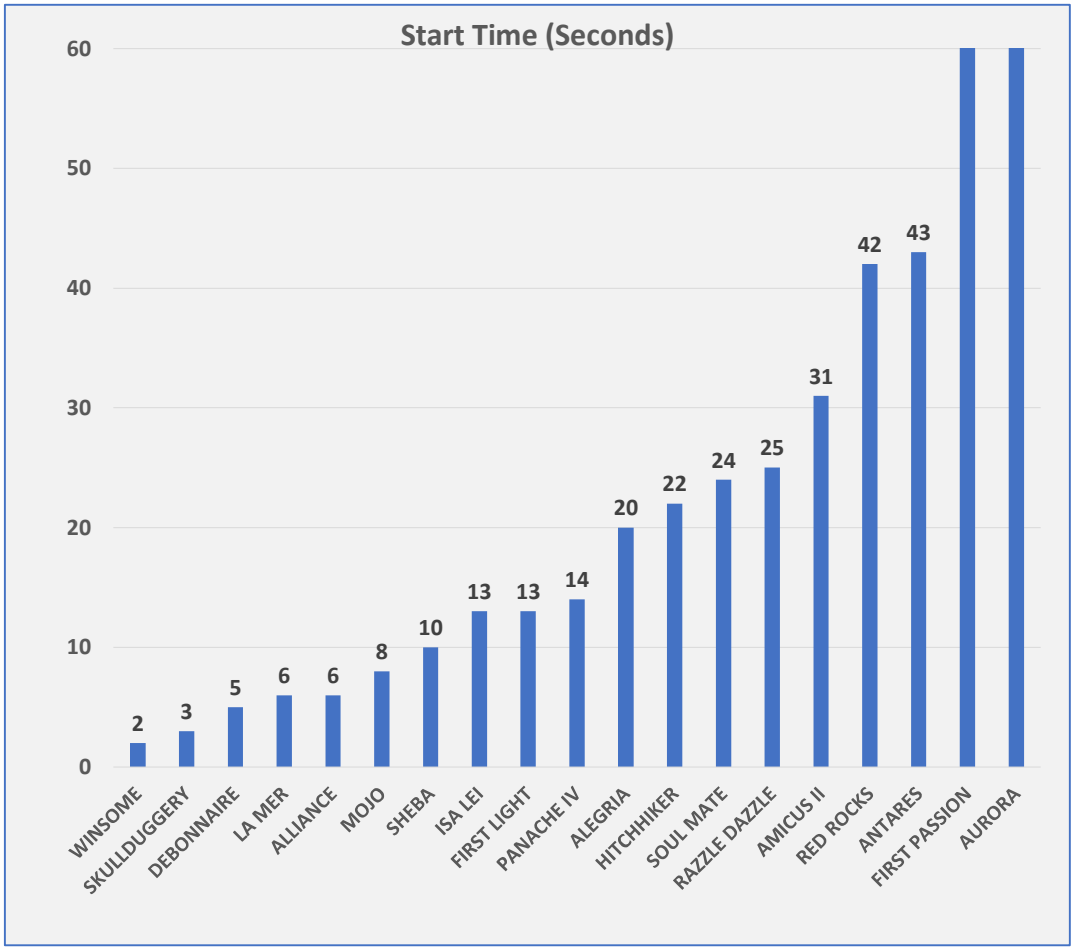
And just 12 seconds behind was **ANTARES** (G. Stewart and G Pearce, Vandestadt, spinnaker handicap of -15)

It was pleasing to see these normally slower boats take all three podium finishes. Aided by some stronger winds at the start of the race which suited the earlier starting boats.

The Start

Congratulations to **WINSOME** (Simon Humdinger, Jeanneau Sunfast 40, non-spinnaker handicap of 28) for winning start of the day on a very impressive 2 seconds.

7 boats had starts of less than 10 seconds.

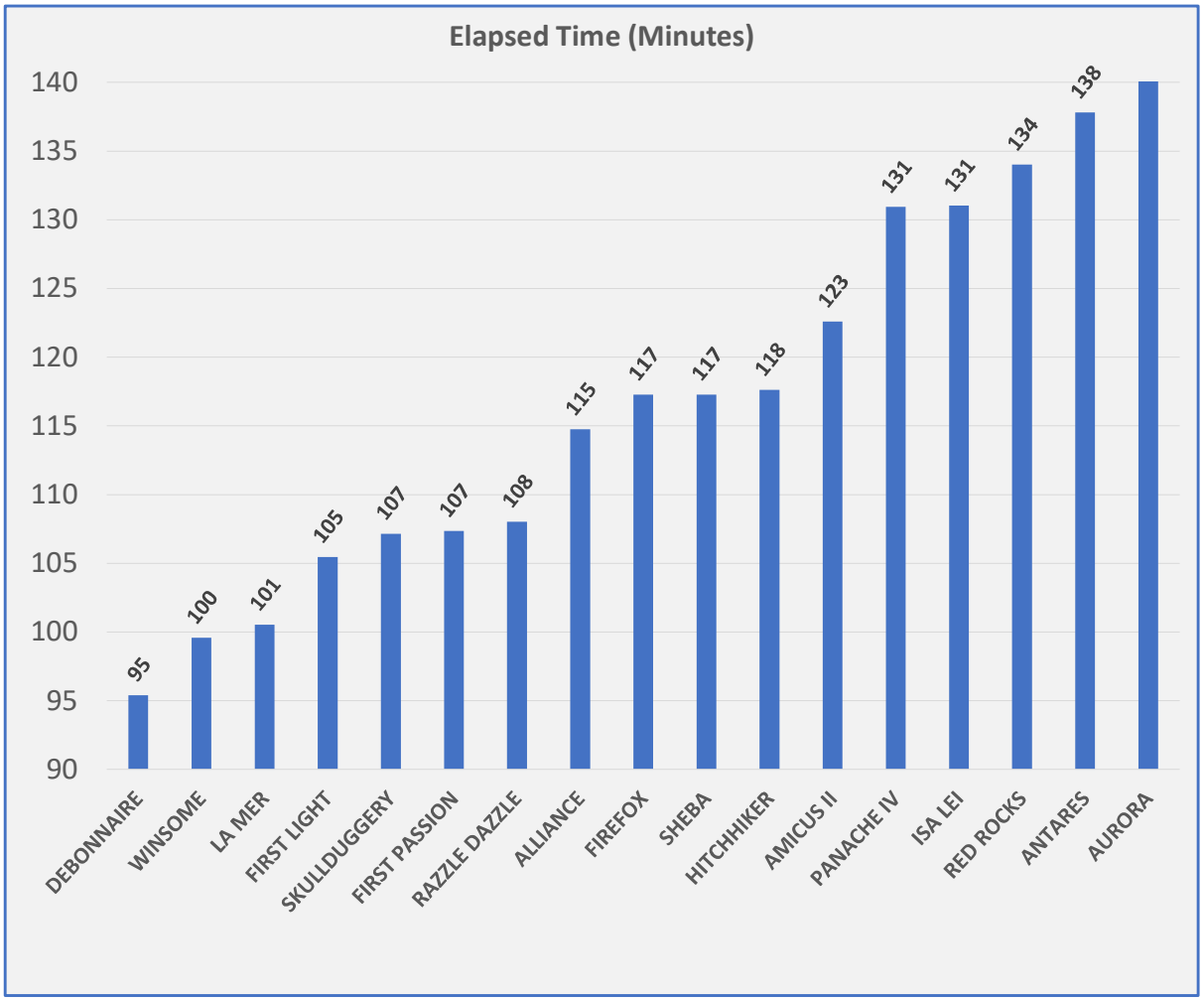


Sunday Sailors Report – Race 4 (1 June 2025)

Boat Speed

The fastest boat around the course was **DEBONNAIRE** (Phil Gomez, Beneteau First 45, non-spinnaker handicap of 33).

She was about 5 minutes faster than the next 2 boats, **WINSOME** (Simon Humdinger, Jeanneau Sunfast 40, non-spinnaker handicap of 28) and **LA MER** (Michael Ebeling, Defour 36e Performance, spinnaker handicap of 25).



Sunday Sailors Report – Race 4 (1 June 2025)

Series Results

Congratulations to the series winner to date, being **AMICUS II** (Warwick Stenford, Swanson 30, non-spinnaker handicap of 0).

PANACHE IV (Egils Stokans, Salar 40, non-spinnaker handicap of -15) is in second place and **FIRST PASSION** (Simon Lipman, Beneteau First 35 off a non-spinnaker handicap of 20) is in third place.

Series Results [PurHC] up to Race 4 (Drops = 1)

Place	Ties	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
1		SM342	AMICUS II	Warwick Stenford	4.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	[29.0C]
2		SM4535	PANACHE IV	Egils Stokans	10.0	1.0	8.0	[32.0C]	1.0
3		SM351	FIRST PASSION	Simon Lipman	14.0	6.0	3.0	5.0	[12.0]
4		SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	15.0	4.0	7.0	[8.0]	4.0
5	3.0S	SM440	SKULLDUGGERY	Garry McCarten	18.0	9.0	[10.0]	3.0	6.0
6		SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	18.0	7.0	5.0	6.0	[7.0]
7		SM42	HITCHHIKER	David Goodman	19.0	12.0	[35.0C]	2.0	5.0
8		SM309	ALEGRIA	Simon May	26.0	21.0R	2.0	[32.0C]	3.0
9		YC447	FIRST LIGHT	Mike Coulter	27.0	10.0	[12.0]	9.0	8.0
10		SM4646	ALLIANCE	Alex H Simon F Paul S	30.0	13.0	[35.0C]	7.0	10.0
11		SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Grahame Jones	31.0	11.0	9.0	11.0	[13.0]
12		SM385	FIREFOX	Kim Beveridge/ Anthony Clyne	37.0	14.0	13.0	10.0	[17.0]
13		SM86	SHEBA	Michael Pisani	39.0	15.0	6.0	[32.0C]	18.0
14		SM4379	SOUL MATE	David Keyes-Tilley	40.0	21.0R	4.0	[32.0C]	15.0
15		M010	AURORA	Paul Challis	46.0	16.0	11.0	[32.0C]	19.0
16		SM82	ISA LEI	Andrew Chapman	48.0	5.0	[35.0C]	32.0C	11.0
17		SM451	DEBONNAIRE	Philip Gomez	56.0	8.0	[35.0C]	32.0C	16.0
18		SM220	WAVELENGTH	Alex Elliott	61.0	[37.0C]	35.0C	12.0	14.0
19	3.0S	SM194	ANTARES	G Stewart D Pearce	64.0	3.0	[35.0C]	32.0C	29.0C
20		SM499	MOJO	James Billson Nick Maddison	64.0	21.0R	14.0	[32.0C]	29.0C

Sunday Sailors Report – Race 4 (1 June 2025)

Handicap News

7 boats had won some handicap relief for Race-4, as per the table below.

Our esteemed Handicapper has signalled that he will not be making any quick knee jerk reactions to overly penalises these three boats before the next race. But time will tell.

Sunday Sailors Summer 2025 Series - Handicap Tracking

Boat			Handicaps (Base)					
Sail	Name	Type	End of last season	Change (Race No)				Latest
				1	2	3	4	
SM4535	PANACHE IV	Salar 40	-15					-15
SM342	AMICUS II	Swanson 30	-10			4	6	0
SM194	ANTARES	Vandestadt	0			-15		-15
SM6002	LA MER	Dufour 36e Performance	26			-2	-2	22
SM82	ISA LEI	Serendipity 28	-4					-4
SM351	FIRST PASSION	Beneteau First 35	20					20
SM190	WINSOME	Jeanneau Sunfast 40	29			-1		28
SM451	DEBONNAIRE	Beneteau First 45	35	2	-2		-2	33
SM440	SKULLDUGGERY	Jeanneau 44 Ds	23			-1		22
YC447	FIRST LIGHT	Beneteau First 47.7	26			-1	-1	24
SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Swarbrick 111	27			-2	-1	24
SM42	HITCHHIKER	Beneteau Oceanis 41.1	18					18
SM4646	ALLIANCE	Beneteau Oceanis 46	21					21
SM385	FIREFOX	Beneteau 38.5	24			-1	-2	21
SM86	SHEBA	Elliot 780	22					22
M010	AURORA	Jeanneau SO 349	14		-8		-3	3
7513	RED ROCKS	Benneteau Oceanis 43	new boat			19		19
SM309	ALEGRIA	Catalina 309	0				2	2
SM499	MOJO	Farr 40	47				-6	41
SM4379	SOUL MATE	Beneteau First 405	18					18

Sunday Sailors Report – Race 4 (1 June 2025)

Rules Clarification – Can a Yacht In the Race be considered an Obstruction.

Answer: Yes.

In a recent Wednesday Wonders race, fighting words were exchanged between BOONDOGGLE and BACARDI as follows:

WHAT HAPPENED

BOONDOGGLE on a port tack was on a collision course with MYUNA who was on a Starboard tack.

BACARDI was also on the same a port tack, overlapped and to leeward of BOONDOGGLE, but clear of a collision course with MYUNA, the right-of-way boat, and able to pass her astern without changing course.

BOONDOGGLE considered MYUNA an Obstruction under the rules of sailing, and called for the leeward boat, BACARDI, to drop down and give room to allow BOONDOGGLE to pass astern of MYUNA, and thereby avoid having to tack.

BACARDI disagreed with the need to do this, but did so anyway to avoid a collission and lodged a protest.

BAR-SIDE EXPERT OPINIONS -WERE WRONG.

Discussions in the bar inevitably opined that BOONDOGGLE should have tacked to avoid MYUNA, did not have the right to force the overlapping leeward boat down and that a boat in the race is not an Obstruction.

It seems they were wrong (except for the BOONDOGGLE skipper).

THE OUTCOME

An arbitration session clarified that BOONDOGGLE was, indeed, able to consider the starboard tack, right-of-way boat MYUNA as an Obstruction. Therefore, she was able to choose which side of MYUNA (the Obstruction) to pass, and if choosing to go down and pass astern (as she did) then require the leeward overlapping boat BACARDI to drop down and make room.

Another example: If in a different scenario, the leeward boat BACARDI was also on a collision course with the right-of-way boat, MYUNA, then BACARDI could have decided that MYUNA was an Obstruction, chose to pass MYUNA on the windward side and called for BOONDOGGLE to tack away and give BACARDI room to tack before the Obstruction.

Relevant rules and definition of an Obstruction are as follows:

RULE 19.2 GIVING ROOM AT AN OBSTRUCTION

19.2(a). A right-of-way boat may choose to pass an obstruction on either side.

19.2 (b). When boats are overlapped, the outside boat shall give the inside boat room between her and the obstruction, unless she has been unable to do so from the time the overlap began.

Sunday Sailors Report – Race 4 (1 June 2025)

DEFINITION OF AN OBSTRUCTION

Obstruction: *An object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it. An object that can be safely passed on only one side and an object, area or line so designated by the sailing instructions are also obstructions. However, a boat racing is not an obstruction to other boats unless they are required to keep clear of her or, if rule 22 applies, avoid her. A vessel under way, including a boat racing, is never a continuing obstruction.*

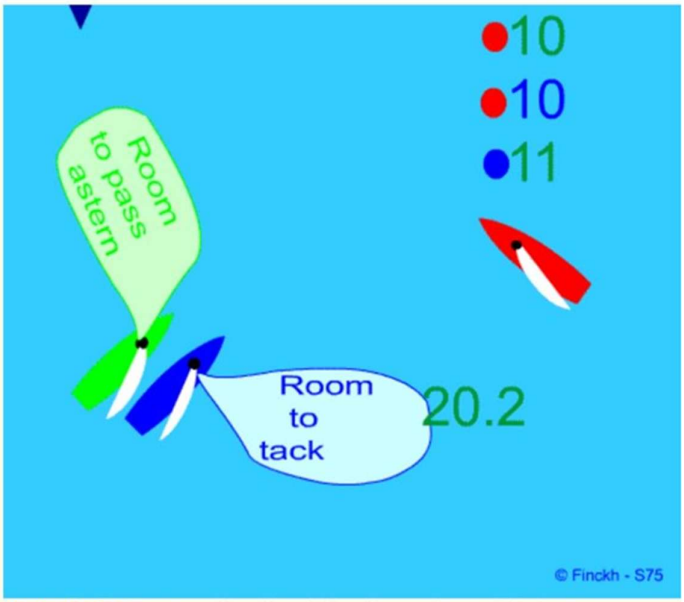
Comment: The rules do not 'explicitly' say that a racing boat can be considered an obstruction if it has right-of-way and must be kept clear of. However, these rules do qualify the definition in the negative, i.e. if you do have to keep clear then it can be treated as an obstruction with the applicable rules that apply for giving room at an Obstruction.

WORLD SAILING CASE RULES

CASE 11

When boats are overlapped at an obstruction, including an obstruction that is a right-of-way boat, the outside boat must give the inside boat room between her and the obstruction.

Comment: This makes it very clear



Rule 19.2(a) states, that the right-of-way-boat (Blue) may choose the side to pass the obstruction (Red). When Blue hails for Room to tack in time **rule 20.2(c)** requires Green to give Blue room. If Blue chooses not to hail and pass astern of Red she shall give Green room to pass between her and Red as required by **rule 19.2(b)**.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.

A special thank you to those that enabled the Sunday Sailors race:

- The Tower Volunteers: Margaret Whitbread and Peter Graham
- The Boating Office: James, Clay, Gemma, Mitch,
- Our Handicapper: Stuart Morrison-Jack.

Sunday Sailors Report – Race 4 (1 June 2025)

Photos are not from this race)

First Place

PANACHE IV (Egils Stokans, Salar 40, non-spinnaker handicap of -15)

Second Place

AMICUS II (Warwick Stenford, Swanson 30, non-spinnaker handicap of -0)

Third Place

ANTARES (G. Stewart and G Pearce, Vandestadt, spinnaker handicap of -15)

Start of the Day

WINSOME (Simon Humdinger, Jeanneau Sunfast 40, non-spinnaker handicap of 28)

Leeward Larry