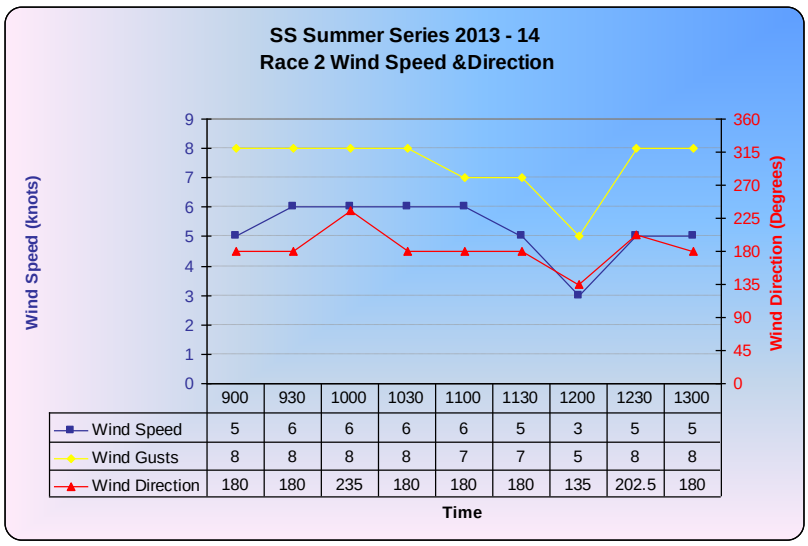
Record Fleet for Race 2

The fleet of 27 yachts participating in the second race of the summer series offered a great spectacle. The race went ahead in what were light breezes for the second Sunday race in succession. The forecast for Port Philip was for "Southerly wind 5 to 10 knots becoming variable to 10 knots during the late morning". Expecting all the fleet to complete the 9.8 nautical mile course 14 in such conditions was ambitious and disappointing for the three yachts that were unable to complete the shortened (6.3 nautical mile) course. Only two yachts sailed the course in less than 2 hours in a race which had an average sail time of 2:24:19.

Observations from Fawkner Beacon showed the average wind speed to be about 5 knots – an increase of around 1 knot on the previous race. However, the direction did alter from south south west to south south east throughout the course of the morning.

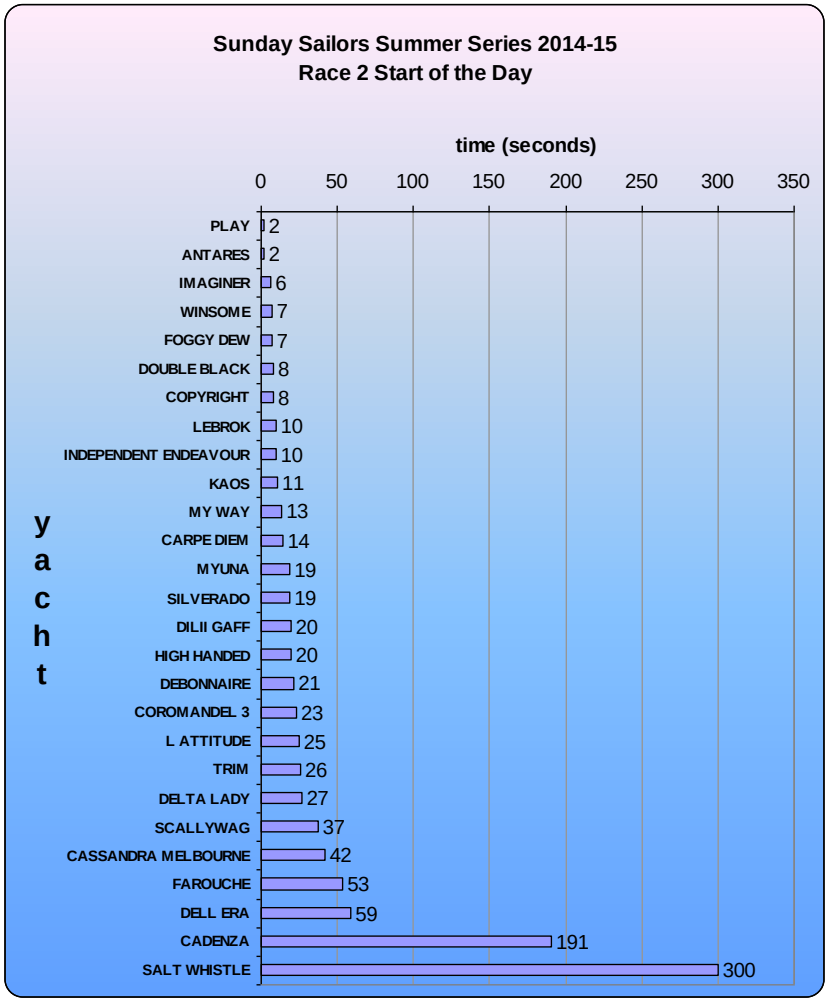


	900	930	1000	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230	1300
Wind Speed	5	6	6	6	6	5	3	5	5
Wind Gusts	8	8	8	8	7	7	5	8	8
Wind Direction	180	180	235	180	180	180	135	202.5	180

Sailing in her first race of the series was DOUBLE BLACK (Rob Pitts) who made a very impressive debut by not only winning the race but sailing the course in the shortest time. DOUBLE BLACK made the best of the light breeze completing the course 5 minutes 29 seconds faster than her nearest rival DEBONNAIRE (Phil Gomez). DOUBLE BLACK had a good start to the race from 26th position only 8 seconds late for a 40 minute handicap. After sailing for 1:49:33 she crossed the finish line at 11:59:33 to win race 2.

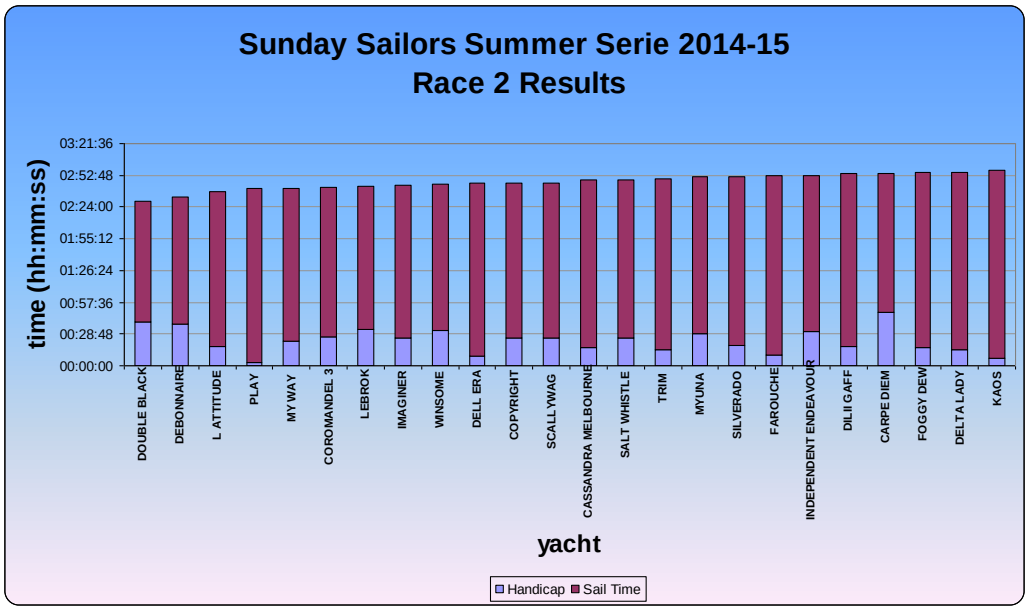
Following a 3rd place in the first race of the series DEBONNAIRE started with a 2 minute increase to her handicap. She was 21 seconds late for her 38 minute start from 25th place but sailed the second fastest time of the race in 1:55:02 to finish the race at 12:03:02. Despite her increased handicap DEBONNAIRE finished one place better than the first race and is the current aggregate leader.

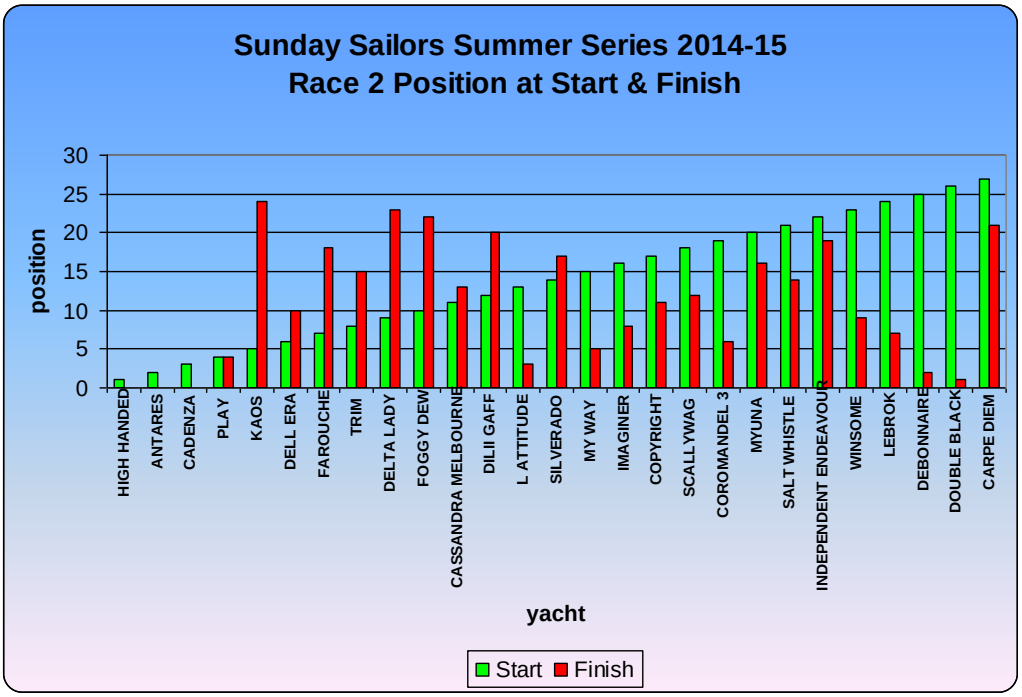
Finishing in 3rd place was L'ATTITUDE (Peter Grey), another yacht competing in her first race of the series. L'ATTITUDE was 25 seconds late for her 17 minute handicap but recorded the 9th fastest time of the day sailing the course in 2:21:02. She started from 13th place and by the finish of the race had improved her position by 10 places to finish at 12:08:02. After 2 races L'ATTITUDE lies 7th in the aggregate.



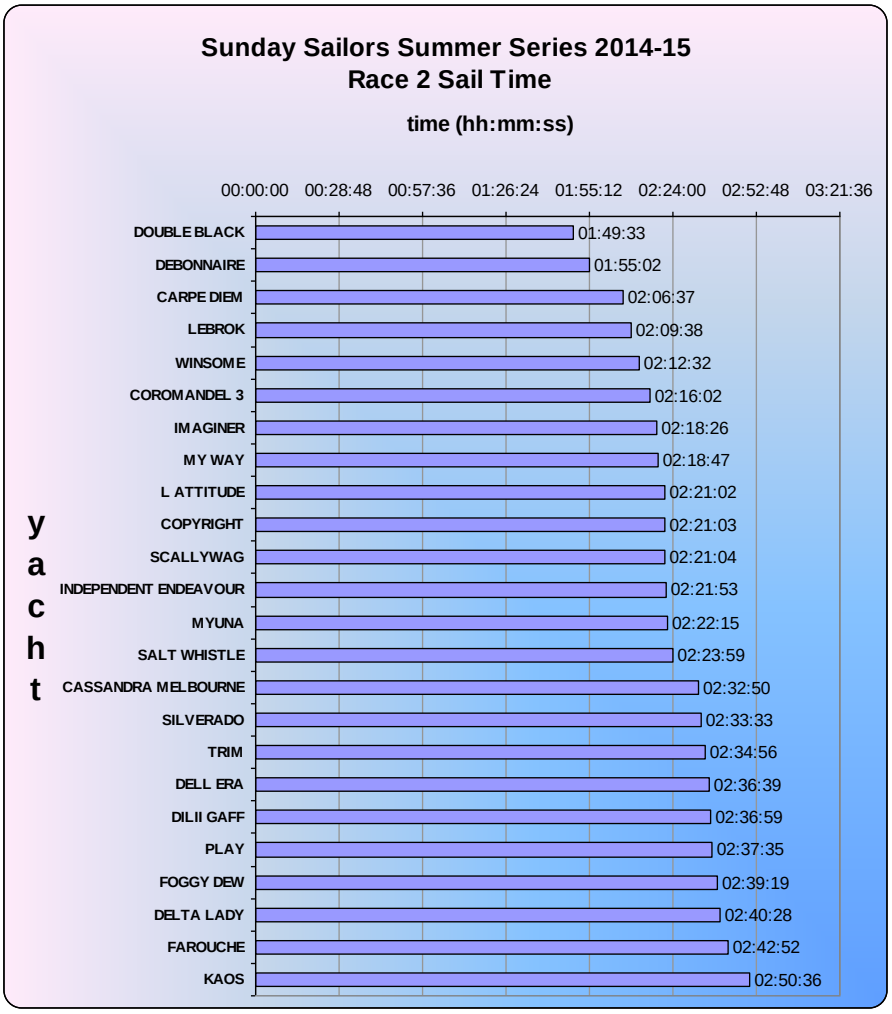
PLAY (Ian Pridgeon) and ANTARES (G Stewart D Pearce) shared the Start of the Day both starting within 2 seconds of their handicaps. All but six yachts started within 30 seconds of their starts which had a median value of 19 seconds.

The 27 yachts started the race 46 minutes apart and 24 yachts finished within 28 minutes and 3 seconds of each other. The remaining 3 yachts were unable to complete the course within the allotted time. There was almost a tie for 11th place when COPYRIGHT (Stuart Morrison-Jack) narrowly defeated SCALLYWAG (Bill Hutchison) by 1 second.





It was the late starters that did well in Race 2 with 5 of the 9 amongst the first 9 yachts to finish the race.



A large gap of 1:01:03 separated the shortest from the longest sail in a race that had an average sail time of 2:24:19. As mentioned earlier DOUBLE BLACK completed the course in the shortest time followed by DEBONNAIRE and CARPE DIEM (Paul Commins).

The next race for Sunday Sailors is scheduled for 9 Nov 2014.

Windward Buoy