SUNDAY SAILORS ***March 29, 2026*** ***RACE "13" SUMMER SERIES- FINAL RACE***

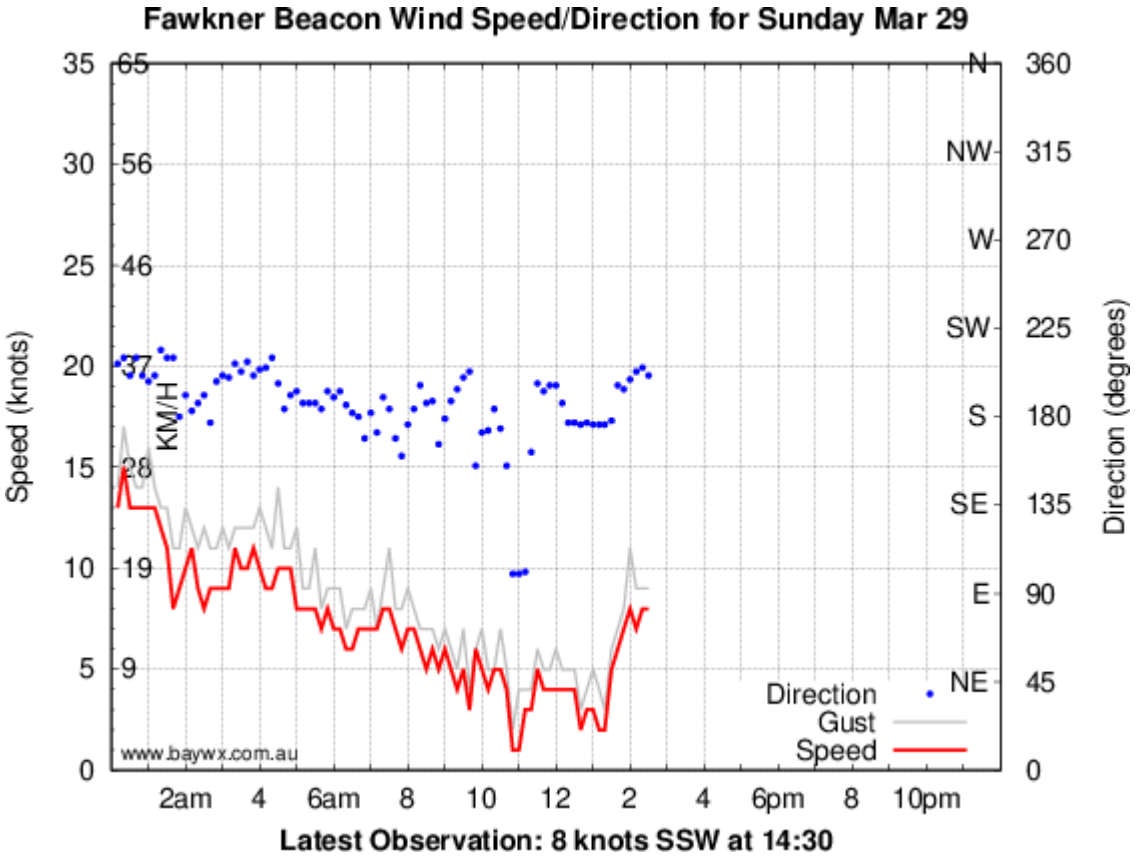
Intro

Forecast was mixed, with, depending who you looked at: 5 knot SE, 10 knots swinging and 0-5 knots variable. What a lottery. In the end we got close to nothing. Started in a drift with small slop, came in at about 4 knots from SSW and then died out to about 2 knots. Perfect for one boat, frustrating for most of the rest. The middle and late starters in the end had the best of it. A bit of wind to get started, and then the first use of the SSW when it came in. The weather kept on improving and became sunny. Perfect weather if you weren't sailing competitively.

21 boats toed the line, with a few making rare appearances but all the old stagers were there apart from **Skullthuggery** – didn't hear their excuse.

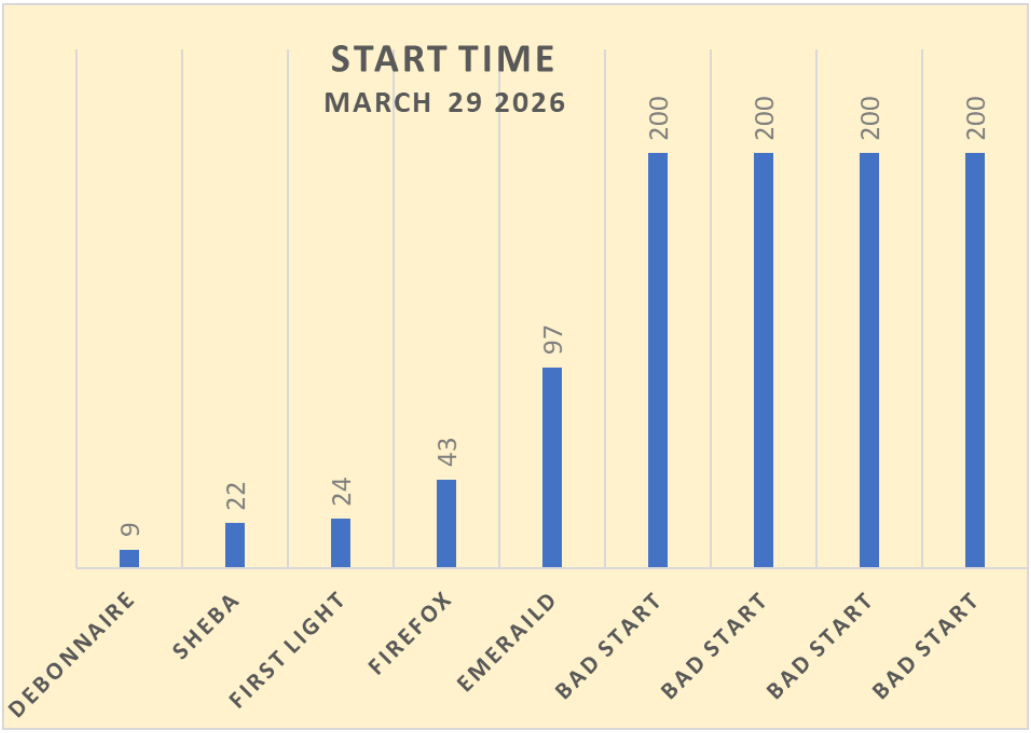
The course was 12: an ambitious start to 5 (broad reach and then beat), to 2 (a run), then 3, 4, 1 and 3 then finish – 9.4 nm of heaven.

Everyone entered Memberpoint but **Spirit of Freya (Joanne Harpur)** started late, but because she was running late.



Start of the Day

Winner of the start of the day was **Debonaire (Phil Gomez**)- a 9 second start in a drifter – well done. **Sheba (Michael Pisani**) and **First Light (Mike Coulter**) also started with 20+ second starts – great effort also. The rest was rubbish (apart from maybe **Firefox – Anthony Clyne**), but the conditions were hard. Some times to write home about: **Winsome** (254 seconds), **La Mer** (301 seconds), **First Passion** (324 seconds) plus others we won't talk about. Two boats were over early- they blamed the roaring tide that was running : **Mojo** (5 seconds early- 1 mtr further back and it would have been a perfect start) and **Hitchhiker** (29 seconds early).



Firefox: getting ready to start. Race winner- romped away with it today. Also the second best starter in the fleet and finished fourth in the Summer Series. A big season.

SERIES Starts of the Day

After the 13 races we have tabulated the best 10 starts. This is the **greatest event at SYC that has NO TROPHY**. Luffing Lance has sent envoys to discuss this and other trophy matters for the Sunday Sailors. Although Sue Bowes showed some support for greater recognition of the Sunday Sailors, her day has passed, her reign is over. Approaches to the Sail Committee, both directly and via SMJack and have yielded mild indifference. The Boating Office ducked and weaved. Something about an Association Cup to defend and a World Laser championship to organise!! Luffing Lance has no formal authority in SYC hierarchy and we would need the sponsorship of at least a General Committee member to have any chance. Anyway enough of the rubbish and padding. The leader all season triumphed, despite some end of season starting calamities. **Winsome (Simon Hemingway**) held off the excellent **Firefox (Anthony Clyne)** with **First Light** also in the picture. **Hot Chipps (John Chipp) and Razzle Dazzle (Grahame Jones)** were also commended by the Sunday Sailors Race Committee – at their end of season review. Next season should be far more interesting as **Skullduggery (Barry MacCarten**) will be in contention again – **Barry** has given up knife juggling- and I understand **Michael Ebeling on La Mer** has been undertaking revision and training on start line tactics and should be challenging again

SUNDAY SAILORS SUMMER 2025/26	
Best 10 starts (seconds total)	
Winsome	74
Firefox	91
First Light	104
Hot Chipps	144
Razzles	159

RESULTS

In the very light conditions we only sailed 2 legs, out to 5 and then a boat finish at 2. The wind dropped out at the start and after an hour of drifting came in from the SW at about 3-4 knots. It then died out again for the second leg run to 2 with the back markers unable to fill their spinnakers. The end of the race became a spinnaker drift down to 2 from 5, with the majority of the boats failing to make it before the 1 PM cut off time. **Firefox (Anthony Clyne)** led from near the start to the finish to dominate the field again. Second in a brilliant display by the smallest boat in the fleet, was **Sheba (Michael Pisani**) whilst **Mojo (Leigh Maddison- James Bilson**) came from last to third in a display of class. **First Passion (Simon Lipman)** continued a strong run of form to finish 4th, and **Hot Chipps (John Chipp**) inherited 5th from **Hitchhiker (David and Penny Goodman**) after the Goodies started early and copped a penalty. **Ragnar (Richard Ekberg**) defied a hefty handicap to finish well and then **First Light** – more on that later. 13 boats either didn't start, retired or couldn't finish.

Mojo: Third today. Going very quick.

A great second by **Sheba** today- a real lightwind flier.

Noorden Real Estate Sunday Sailors

Hosted By Sandringham Yacht Club

Race 13 (29/03/2026) PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Updated: 29/03/2026 2:06:57 PM

PurHC results Start : 09:30

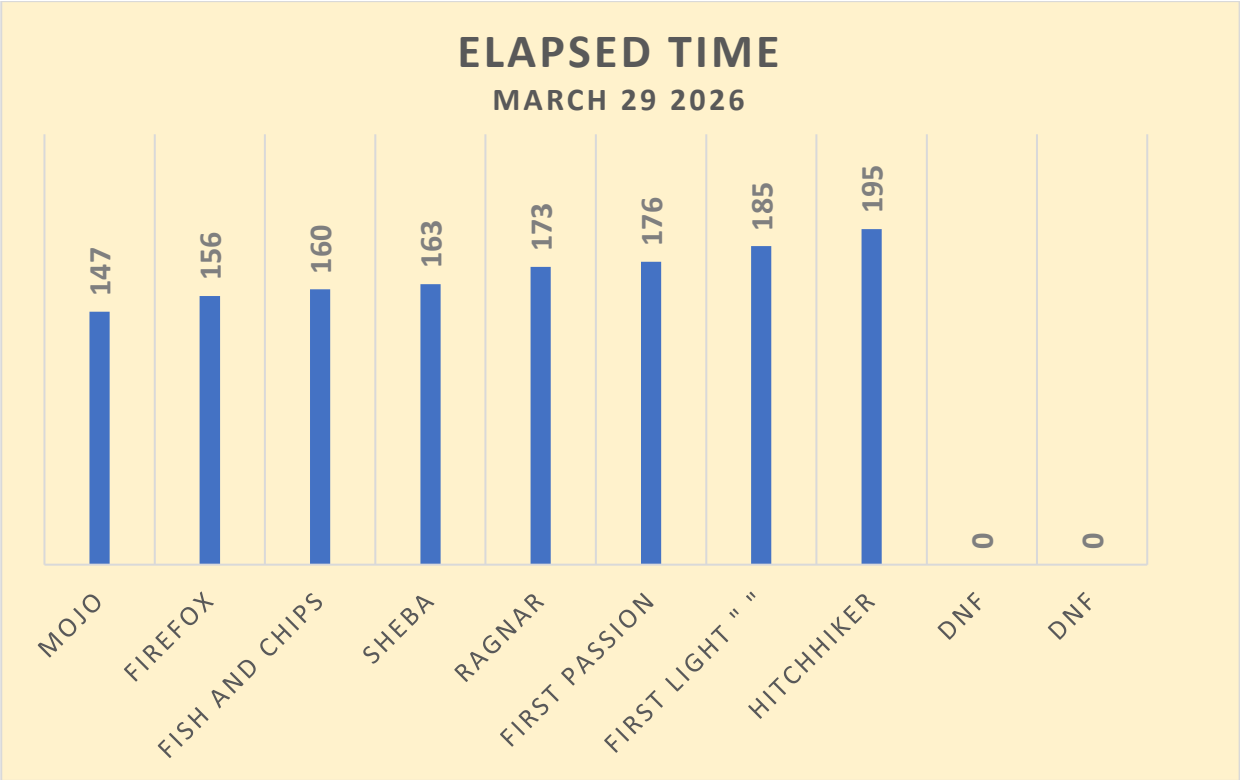
Place	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	T ahc	Fin Tim	Elapsd	Score
1	SM385	FIREFOX	Kim Beveridge/ Anthony Clyne	7.0	12:12:33	02:35:33	1.0
2	SM86	SHEBA	Michael Pisani	18.0	12:31:20	02:43:20	2.0
3	SM499	MOJO	Leigh Maddison James Billson	42.0	12:38:43	02:26:43	3.0
4	SM351	FIRST PASSION	Simon Lipman	17.0	12:42:45	02:55:45	4.0
5	SM46	HOT CHIPPS	John Chipp	40.0	12:50:29	02:40:29	5.0
6	SM42	HITCHHIKER	David & Penny Goodman	9.0	12:53:47	03:14:47	6.0
7	SM136	RAGNAR	Richard Ekberg	37.0	12:59:40	02:52:40	7.0
8	YC447	FIRST LIGHT	Mike Coulter	25.0	12:59:59	03:04:59	8.0
DNF	SM82	ISA LEI	Andrew Chapman	-7.0			22.0
DNF	5903	SPIRIT OF FREYA	Joanne Harpur	22.0			22.0
DNF	SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	28.0			22.0
DNS	SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Grahame Jones	14.0			22.0
RET	SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	27.0			22.0
RET	SM309	ALEGRIA	Simon May	-4.0			22.0
RET	SM321	LAWLESS	Boyd Coulson	7.0			22.0
RET	SM342	AMICUS II	Warwick Stenford	-2.0			22.0
RET	SM451	DEBONNAIRE	Philip Gomez	30.0			22.0
RET	G3851	GRUMPY	Andrew Stopp	4.0			22.0
RET	SM4535	PANACHE IV	Egils Stokans	-15.0			22.0
RET	SM4646	ALLIANCE	Alex H Simon F Paul S	16.0			22.0
RET	SM6915	EMERALD	Tony/ Jo Tanner	14.0			22.0

First Passion – Fourth Today and Fifth in the Series; chasing **Razzle Dazzle** on another day

Hot Chipps going faster upwind than the true wind speed. Third fastest today and finished 6th in the series

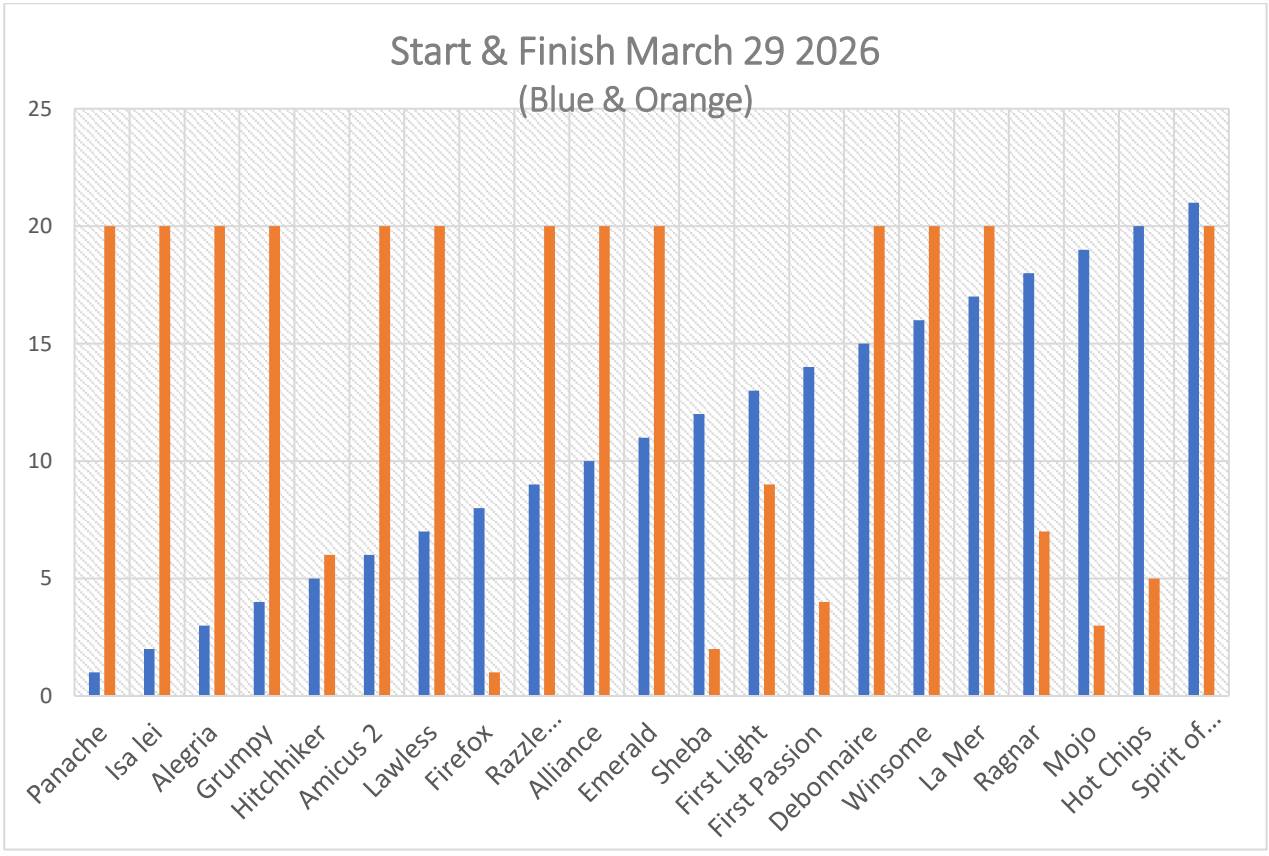
Elapsed Times

Mojo was quickest in 2 hrs 27 minutes, followed by Firefox (great display) and then Hot Chipps. Sheba (the smallest boat in the fleet) was 4th fastest in 2 hrs 43 minutes- great effort.



START AND FINISH POSITIONS

A confusing picture given the results…



Your Series Winner – Congrats to **La Mer** Good boom control technique.

SERIES WIN

Noorden Real Estate

Hosted By Sandringha

PROVISIONAL RI

Updated: 29/03/2026

Series Results [PurHC] up to

Place	Ties	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 13	Race 12
1		SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	32.0	[22.0F]	3.0
2	1.05	YC447	FIRST LIGHT	Mike Coulter	38.0	[8.0]	6.0
3		SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	38.0	[22.0R]	4.0
4		SM385	FIREFOX	Kim Beveridge/ Anthony Clyne	40.0	1.0	[13.0]
5		SM351	FIRST PASSION	Simon Lipman	41.0	4.0	8.0
6		SM46	HOT CHIPPS	John Chipp	51.5	5.0	5.0
7		SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Grahame Jones	54.0	[22.0S]	[12.0N]
8		SM42	HITCHHIKER	David & Penny Goodman	105.0	6.0	14.0
9		SM86	SHEBA	Michael Pisani	127.0	2.0	1.0
10		SM440	SKULLDUGGERY	Garry McCarten	151.0	[40.0C]	12.0

Congratulations to **La Mer** for another series win. **SMJ** please note this is two wins in two years….. Her experienced team stuck together through thick and thin and even survived **Michael Ebeling** being away for a few races. Equal second, 6 points behind, were **Winsome and First Light**. They both performed well all year with consistency and professionalism (?). **Firefox**, winning 2 of the last 3 races, mounted a late charge to finish 4th – and nearly snatch 2nd. A month ago **Firefox** were a long way back in 6th and not even on the radar or in the debate. Fifth were **First Passion** – the defending champions. **Hot Chipps** were 6th with a great second half of the season. Their first 5 races didn't feature a result better than 10th but in the last 7 races they averaged 5th to mount a late charge.

The results from this race for the first three didn't count, as an additional drop came into play, the series points totals were unchanged.

Very Important Information (Formerly known as "Gossip")

This session has to be brief as your correspondent left the bar early…

- **The Firefox** crew had a very good result. **Anthony Clyne** has had a taste of victory (again) and opened up slightly. He said they flew the spinnaker down to 5 and as they went around 5 the wind changed to a SW, so they flew it again down to 2. They flew the spinnaker the whole of the race. This is the Sunday Sailors version of " foil time %" in the America's Cup foil boats. Oh it's all so easy when ability collides with luck. Apparently **Emma** killed it on the foredeck again. Rumour has it **Firefox** had berthed, packed up and were sitting in the bar as the second boat finished. **Umpire!!**
- **Emerald (Tony Tanner**) won the great race to the bar again. First to retire and first to the bar.

- **Noelle Corum**: I believe there are three boats in contention for this major award, **Alliance (Alex Hall), Razzle Dazzle (Grahame Jones) and Winsome**. The formula for calculating the winner is more complex than the Enigma Code used by the Germans in World War 2, but by chance and luck your correspondent cracked the code 3 years ago. On publishing the result in this broadsheet at that time, wrath was rained down from on high. The Wednesday Wonders Mafia visited me (someone had blabbed my identity) and said it was secret until announced at the Wednesday Wonders Dinner, and that they knew where I lived. So I know the result but cannot share the winner.
- **"The Finish" First Light** finished 1 second inside the cut off at 12.59.59 and claimed 8th place- according to the time keepers on the RHIB at mark 2. Their finish was witnessed from one km away by an interested party (boat name starts with W) and queried it with the tower people who had also been watching with interest. Thereafter a debate ensued in the bar about the real finish time for **First Light** - as the "W" boat thought it could be the difference between 2nd and 3rd in the series for them. After further research it was revealed it didn't affect the overall result (equal 2nd) and the whole incident was quickly swept under the rug.

Many thanks to our tower people. **Also Stuart Morrison Jack** , our esteemed handicapper. There would be no race without the efforts of the volunteers, handicapper and boating office staff. Many thanks.

Also **Norden Real Estate** for sponsoring us. They offer great service for prospective clients, whether you are looking to buy, or want to market your property. Try them first.

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Luffing Lance

First Light and Winsome – equal second in the Series. Well done these boats.