SUNDAY SAILORS ***July 26, 2026*** ***RACE "8" WINTER SERIES***

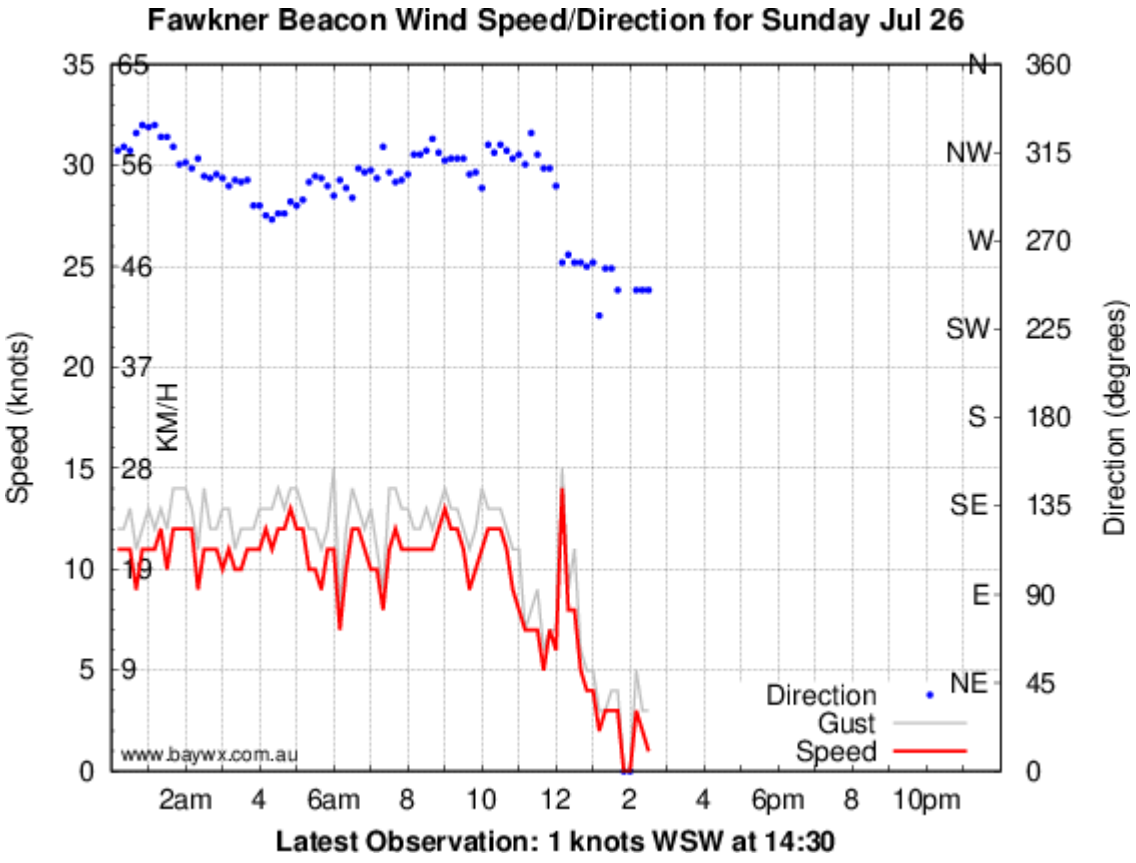
Intro

The forecast was for moderate WNW winds of about 10-12 knots, turning slightly W and moderating from about midday. Cool temperatures with little rain and cloudy.

It turned out a bit warmer earlier (if warm is the right word) with sunnier weather and winds about as forecast at Fawkner Beacon until we got a hole about 11 AM. Inshore was even lighter with only about 3 knots in a moderate slop. I have seen worse but it made for slow going for the later boats.

The course was no 8 (8.03 nM) and went from start to 1 (close reach), 6 (upwind), 3 (broad reach), 4 (very broad reach), 2 (close hauled), 3 (slightly broad reach), and 4 to finish (drifting run).

16 boats started and all finished which is unusual. I am not sure what **Emerald** would have done if she had been sailing….



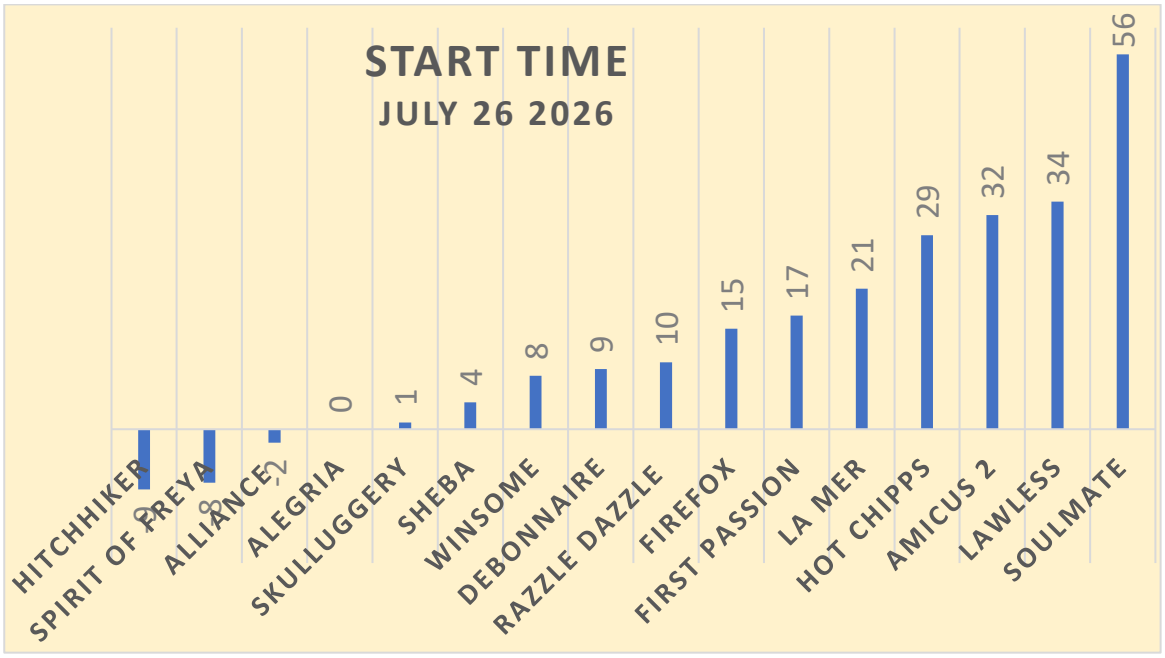
Start of the Day

In moderate conditions with a downwind start – it was not that easy. But competition for start of the day was very fierce amongst some of the fleet and some great results achieved.

Bang on 00 was **Alegria (Simon May**) to win the coveted prize with a display of daring ner-do, or was it fool hardy and risky?? Never the less a great start. Those perennial line huggers **Skullduggery (Garry McCrackers)** scored an 01 which was very impressive and most weeks would have won. **Sheba (Michael Pisani)** had 4 seconds which was also a great result – well done those three boats.

In a display of administrative fortitude, the tower deemed that three boats had started early. Our impressive tower team certainly wouldn't get a job on the FIFA World Cup Disciplinary Review Committee. Three boats were over early and it was particularly costly for one boat. A glass a second penalty- but I am premature.

Alliance (Alex Hall et al) was 2 seconds early, **Spirit of Freya (Joanne Harpur**) was an excited 8 seconds early and **Hitchhiker (David Goodman**) was 9 seconds early which is ironic because until recently they were seeking tips and tricks on how to improve their starting. There is probably a story there but my spies didn't talk to the **Goodman's** today.
Although we had a record number of boats over early, every boat started within a minute of their allotted time – which is a first as far as your editorial committee can remember.



Alliance – What Might Have been. Third today.

Alegria (Simon May) – a major triumph. Start of the Day (00) and an exciting win.

SERIES Starts of the Day

After the 5 races sailed (3 abandoned, another with only 5 starters) we have a new surprise leader. **Sheba (Michael Pisani)** has been starting consistently and excellently and now leads this prestigious **no Trophy** award. In second and third are the perennial veterans **La Mer (Michael Ebeling**) and **Winsome (Simon Hemingway)**. Your scribe has noticed improvements in the starting of **Hitchhiker** (got a bit excited this time) and **Firefox (Andrew Clyne**) and some glimmer of light on **First Passion (Simon Lipman**) with all three boats having a couple of good starts this series.

The previous leader **Isa Lai (Andrew Chapman**) hasn't sailed the last 2 races and the **Skullshrubberies** haven't sailed the minimum number of races to qualify – so much to look forward to.

SUNDAY SAILORS Winter 2026	
Best 4 starts (seconds total)	
Sheba	**27**
La mer	**35**
Winsome	**46**

First Passion (simon Lipman) – equal second in the series **. . Firefox (Anthony Clyne)** series leaders.

RESULTS

Alliance was across the line first by 2 seconds in a very exciting finish with **Alegria**. However the early start of **Alliance** meant she finished third and **Alegria** was pronounced the winner. One minute further back, **Debonnaire (Phil Gomez**) finished second. Fourth was **First Passion** in a good display of light wind sailing. Fifth was **Razzle Dazzle (Grahame Jones**), after **Hitchhiker** was relegated from 4th to 6th for her early start. The course wasn't quite a soldiers course, with at least one leg of upwind work, but there was a lot of broad reaching. This favoured the boats that could fly an asymmetric kite, or a flat running spinnaker. Spinnaker penalties were taken by **Soulmate (David Keyes Tilley), Lawless (Boyd Coulsen), Firefox, Razzle Dazzle, Skullduggery, First Passion, Sheba, La Mer, Debonaire, Hot Chipps (John Chipp**) – 10 of the 16 boats.

At the half way mark **Alegria** led from **Amicus (Warwick Stenford**) with **Hitchhiker** a very close third. Looking at the splits for the first and second halves, it is clear that the dying breeze favoured the boats in the top half at the halfway mark, as 75% of the best " second half" times came from these boats (**La Mer and Hot Chipps** were the exceptions).

Noorden Real Estate Sunday Sailors

Hosted By Sandringham Yacht Club

Race 8 (26/07/2026) PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Updated: 28/07/2026 11:36:41 AM

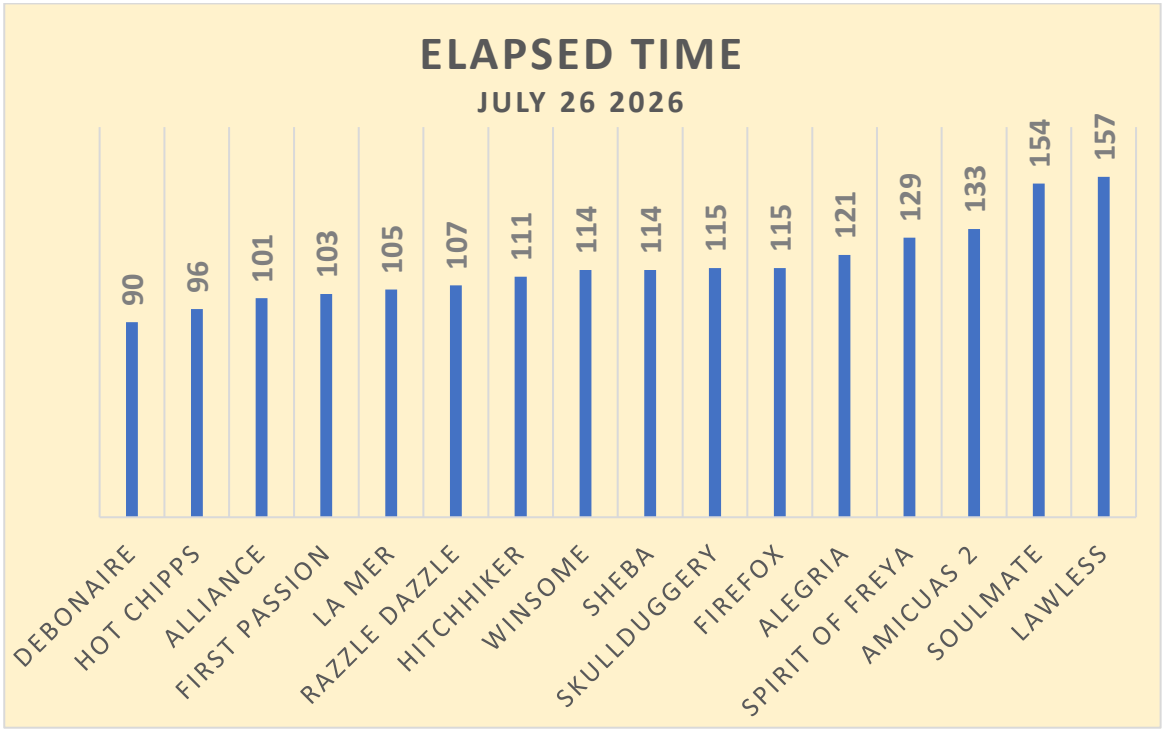
PurHC results Start : 09:30

Place	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	T ahc	Fin Tim	Elapsd	Score
1	SM309	ALEGRIA	Simon May	-4.0	11:26:52	02:00:52	1.0
2	SM451	DEBONNAIRE	Philip Gomez	28.0	11:27:51	01:29:51	2.0
3	SM4646	ALLIANCE	Alex H Simon F Paul S	16.0	11:31:47	01:45:47	3.0
4	SM351	FIRST PASSION	Simon Lipman	20.0	11:32:38	01:42:38	4.0
5	SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Grahame Jones	17.0	11:33:48	01:46:48	5.0
6	SM42	HITCHHIKER	David Goodman	9.0	11:35:08	01:56:08	6.0
7	SM342	AMICUS II	Warwick Stenford	-2.0	11:40:58	02:12:58	7.0
8	SM440	SKULLDUGGERY	Garry McCarten	17.0	11:41:56	01:54:56	8.0
9	SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	27.0	11:41:57	01:44:57	9.0
10	SM385	FIREFOX	Kim Beveridge/ Anthony Clyne	17.0	11:42:24	01:55:24	10.0
11	SM46	HOT CHIPPS	John Chipp	40.0	11:45:49	01:35:49	11.0
12	SM86	SHEBA	Michael Pisani	24.0	11:48:20	01:54:20	12.0
13	SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	25.0	11:48:58	01:53:58	13.0
14	5903	SPIRIT OF FREYA	Joanne Harpur	14.0	11:52:43	02:08:43	14.0
15	SM4379	SOUL MATE	David Keyes-Tilley	5.0	12:08:58	02:33:58	15.0
16	SM321	LAWLESS	Boyd Coulson	10.0	12:17:02	02:37:02	16.0

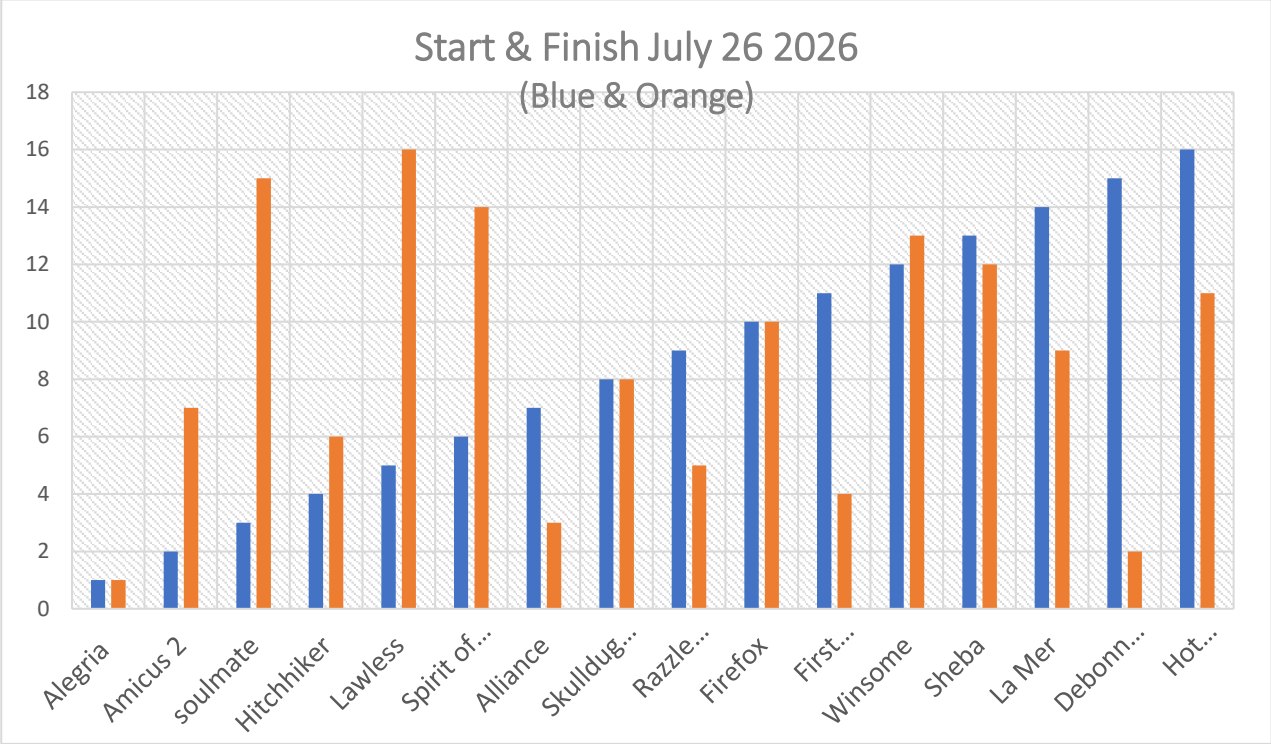
Debonaire – second today. **Skullduggery** – 01 start, second best

Elapsed Times

Debonaire sailed very well for her 90 minute elapsed time. **Hot Chipps** was 96 minutes with **Alliance, First Passion, Razzle Dazzle and La Mer** all in a band from 101 to 105 minutes. Great sailing.



Start and Finish Positions



The biggest mover was **Debonaire** (13 places) and **First Passion** gained 7 places. **Lawless** appeared to be caught out with a spinnaker issue which affected her time. **Winsome** went backwards by 1 place!!

SERIES LEAD

Five races have been sailed with 3 abandonments and only 5 starters in another race (Race 7). In a tight battle at the top, **Firefox** leads the series with **La Mer and First Passion** in equal second, close behind. **Firefox** has a 2nd, 4rd, 5th and 10th to **La Mer** with a 2nd, 4th, 8th and 9th (with a better drop). **First Passion** is 2nd, 5th, 7th and 9th. Not a race win between the top 3. Open sailing. **Sheba**, the previous series leader is in 4th…

Lawless and Amicus 2- taken on another day

Noorden Real Estate Sunday Sailors

Hosted By Sandringham Yacht Club

PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Updated: 26/07/2026 2:49:19 PM

Series Results [PurHC] up to Race 8 (Drops = 1)

Place	Ties	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 8	Race 7
1		SM385	FIREFOX	Kim Beveridge/ Anthony Clyne	20.0	10.0	5.0
2	4.0S	SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	23.0	9.0	2.0
3		SM351	FIRST PASSION	Simon Lipman	23.0	5.0	[38.0C]
4		SM86	SHEBA	Michael Pisani	29.0	13.0	[38.0C]
5		SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	38.0	14.0	[38.0C]
6		SM42	HITCHHIKER	David Goodman	45.0	4.0	[38.0C]
7		SM440	SKULLDUGGERY	Garry McCarten	54.0	8.0	[38.0C]
8		SM82	ISA LEI	Andrew Chapman	57.0	[39.0C]	38.0C
9		SM46	HOT CHIPPS	John Chipp	65.0	11.0	4.0
10		SM309	ALEGRIA	Simon May	75.0	2.0	[38.0C]
11		SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Grahame Jones	77.0	6.0	1.0
12		SM342	AMICUS II	Warwick Stenford	80.0	7.0	3.0
13		SM451	DEBONNAIRE	Philip Gomez	83.0	3.0	[38.0C]

Very Important Information (Formerly known as "Gossip")

- The main talking point was the three glasser by **Alegria** – start of the day and a win. Congrats. As **Simon May** pointed out, if **Alliance** had started 2 seconds later then there would have been a dead heat for Start of The Day, and for the win – with the same boats involved in both. Now that would have been a first.
- **Debonaire** sailed very well today for a great second
- Three boats over the line early, I think that is a first also.
- Thanks to our tower people **Cathy Higgins, Barb Watson and Helen Millican** and Boating Office **Mitch Kerr-Read**

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Luffing Lance

La Mer *gliding through the water. Equal second in the series.*