

## Season 2017 – Summary

After the normal winterbreak the first hitting the water was in February with the new boat delivered from Vejle Yacht Service, Denmark. Thomas Egeskov had once again done a great work this year with the boat that had some great improvements from earlier version. There were mostly many small details, but still based on the same proven hullshape, the Delfs. The new boat had the same lightblue colour as the new lasers which is looking quite nice and the new feature for this year were integrated inspectionholes for a cool look and a raised draintube from cockpit in order to not get water from cockpit running forward and a raised pedestal for the mainsheetblock in order to avoid wear an tear on the hikingstraps and the angle of hikingdeck was altered and faded making the hikingdeck a bit smoother. Another smart thing was also the clamcleat fittings all got screwed on a carbonplate so you didn't have to make any holes in the boat that can cause the boat to leak. We also moved the masthole a bit further forward since we found that we ended up a bit too forward so there was no space left in front of decking and masthole.



*The season started in February with still some ice in the harbor. Cold drinks were served following the premiere.*

After a couple of weeks of training in march with the boys from Gottskär, se picture, it was time for this seasons first regatta, The Liros Cup in Stenungsund. Started off with a victory which felt good. I used a new M19 sail to the mast but made to fit the same mast from 2016, a C-tech. Results ,2(5),2,1



*Great bunch of guys in the homeclub in Gottskär where next years Nordics will be held – Assume waters!*

But actually the first event was the OK sprint regatta. A fun regatta where 8 Oks sailed in short heats of 10 minutes on a close to shore course. Over 40 sailors had some great fun together but tough wind conditions made it hard to get all the scheduled races in. A great way to try the OK if you didn't have your own OK and the event inspired two new OK sailors to the class and raised some good interest for the class. This was a great way for newcomers, juniors and former OK sailors to test the class and get a feeling for the social atmosphere.

The heavy wind caused my winning mast from the worlds in 2009 to break at the gooseneck. But thanks to Kullaviks Boatwarf who made the repair quickly and nice – big thanks! I

would like to send a huge thanks to all the sponsors among Vejle Yacht Service who made the Sauna possible for the event!

Some weeks in April filled with training before the next regatta which were J70 sailing in the national sailing league and also some big boat sailing with the great former Volvo Ocean Race sailor and M32 sailor, Anders Dahlsjö. The raceweekend was at the Marstrand island, where the OK dinghy Worlds will be held in 2020. It's allways difficult to compare ones efforts in bigboat racing when sailing in handicap fleets and since we were amongst the smallest of boats in our division we found ourselves fighting for clean air and clear lanes most of the time and had to make compensating sailing decisions which hardly ever been proven fast. Ended up 19<sup>th</sup> in the regatta but we all had great fun!

Next event was made at local homeclub Gottskär and the annual Gottskärday. A one day event and we were 8-9 Oks and I won the regatta in a borrowed boat as mine were back at Vejle for a traveller adjustment where we moved the whole traveller as far forward as possible in order to get some better hiking position as a test. So I used Mats Caaps HP wich I found quite different. Results 1,1,1

The weekend after I had the same boat and went to Uppsala for the OK regatta there. Some 30st boats and I had the luck of winning that regatta aswell. But not after a tough battle with Jonas Börjesson who has started out this year phenomenally and sails with great inspirational feeling in the boat. I used Mats Caaps mast but my sail and the match wasn't perfect which made it very hard to sail. The stiffer mast had some good height in it but a bit too hard for my taste but worked alright in the fairly flat waters of the lake Ekoln around Stockholm area. Results were 2,(9),1,2,2,2

Next following weeks were all about mixing sailing training with fysiotraining and following Majas sailing. Since she's in the Swedish sailing federations school program for young sailingathletes she takes up a bit of my time aswell. So me and her went in June/july after the juniornationals in Laser, whom she won by the way☺, on a tour to Germany and Poland where we she sailed two big events, the Laser Europa Cup in Warnemunde and the Junior Laser Europeans in Gdynia, Poland. These were both great events for her to train on some big fleet racing and at the same time for me a perfect opportunity to get a massive amount of sailing in. Big thanks to Christian Rasmussen for showing up and train with me and Per Baagoe for helping Maja with some issues when her father only sails his OK☺ And a great appreciation to David and Jakob Kania for some fantastic coaching in Poland when her father only sails his OK☺ and to Marek for driving up to Gdynia for a one day sailing with me, man you were fast that day and made me work for every inch, thanks!

Back home for some work again before the big event for the year, the OK dinghy Europeans in Faaborg, Denmark. A massive fleet of 135 boats had showed up and the regatta was won by the young Norwegian sailor Lars-Johan Brodtkorb and me finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place which I was actually quite OK with. Once you've finished just outside the top three it always feels tough but then it is easy to



*The Europeans in Denmark and late July and I had lost some kilos in order to prepare for the possible light winds but the opposite occurred.*

forget that there were still 131 sailors who finished behind me, among some big champions and other great sailors. The regatta turn out to be much more tighter sailing than I normally planned for and the trend for even big events like worlds and Europeans starting to be sailed in smaller waters and inland makes the racing tighter and shorter. This causes for a somewhat different approach and I still have not landed in the analysis and will get back when having thought this through. But as always good starts and good speed is vital to perform well. And the starts were not glamour all the time. The best coach in little son Carl who drove the rib all week long and he did a great job keeping the boat afloat since it had a hole that kept him busy pumping every 30 minutes☺ And fantastic effort from Maja who borrowed a boat from fellow female sailor Julie(thanks!) and made it half fleet on 75<sup>th</sup> place first time sailing the OK, excluded the short sailing in the OK sprint earlier this year. As for material I used for the whole week a new slightly flatter M20 who proved to work well with me ending up 4<sup>th</sup> as said and Charlie, who also used

the same model, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> just behind the young Norwegian. My races were 1 (9)8 4 3 5 3

Back home for a week off before the Swedish Nationals in Åmål this time sailed together with the Finns. A great event with tough contesters like Greg Wilcox and Julie showing up from Germany and with Jonas Qvist hitting the waters for some real racing this season and improving Jonas Börjesson making the fleet of just under 40 boats a tough fleet to conquer but finally did. So 13<sup>th</sup> nationals title was a fact which felt great! I used the same M20 this regatta as well and it seemed good. All very tight racing and the close battles between us kept the racing tight at all times around the course. We have our sweetspots and for some reason I came out on top this time. The waters of Åmål was great with big open sea and stabile conditions except the last day when the wind had turned 180 degrees only to find it coming from off shore breeze with heavy puffs and big windsprings making it tough and quite interesting at times where I actually fell off the boat but got caught in the hiking straps with one leg almost breaking it while fighting for to come back into the boat. Luckily enough this happened in the last race and fortunately I had already won the regatta and could instead focus on getting back to shore, have a rest and celebrate after one of many few capsizes during a season ☺ Races were 1 3 1 2 2 2 1 (42DNF)



*North Sails M19 and M20 has been the concept over the season.*

One week off and then back to Denmark for the Danish Nationals in OK. The regatta was held in Horsens and a great hospitality and lots of OK's on the starting line made it a great regatta. Showed some lack of focus and forgot the watch on the first day and had to use the compass as a starting watch which was something I wasn't used to. Also took a UFD in the first race when finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the race which proved to be very costly later that weekend. I fought very hard Saturday and Sunday and had an overall position of 2<sup>nd</sup> coming ashore and quite happy with that in the 80 plus fleet only to find that I got DSQ by the judge for a rule42 infringement where the judge claimed me to take the penalty too late. For those interested in getting the full story on that I believe you can only ask the witnesses who both testified that I did the only reasonable to where I took my penalty as for sailing well clear of other boats before taking the penalty. The problem in this case compared to other situations was that we were fast entering a zone and a mark which complicated things a bit. Anyway, from hero to zero in no time and instead finishing 19<sup>th</sup>. It's just a game is something that I had to quickly remind me about but good work from the Danish club and great hospitality. Material used was the M20 day 1,2 and M19 on the last day. Both sails work well but maybe the softer rig would have been a good choice on the windy Saturday. Races were (UFD(3)),9,4,4,1,2,DSQ(6)

Back home to the j70 again and the Swedish Sailing League on home waters in Gottskär. 18 teams from all over Sweden racing against each other in short racing close to harbor where each race takes about 10-12 minutes in total. Over 40 races over three days and my team finishes 5<sup>th</sup> in total and ended up the series in 6<sup>th</sup> place overall this season. Great sailing weekend with me and Marie Björling on the helm, Anders Dahlsjö tactics, Patric Rohlin trim and David Axén, foredeck.

Long season and to find some time to do something different I tried the RS200 together with Carl one weekend. We jumped in a boat from Christer Båth, thanks!, and got 3<sup>rd</sup> in our first attempt at the nationals in RS200 although not so many boats. Great way to spend a weekend together with the kids since Maja also was doing a 29:er contest at the same regatta.

Then it was yet again time for another trip to Denmark and the Nordic Championships in Nyköping held in end of September. This might sound a bit cocky but since I've won a couple of Nordics together with numerous podium finishes I decided to this weekend try something else and I chose therefore to use my old rig together with a Quantum sail. The reason was to use a different material and not focus on results and try the old mast and see how it could perform. The sail was from 2013 and had a quite different shape from what I currently using and I was curious how it was to sail with that. The races were once again very short and the wind was extremely light the first day with some ridiculously much seaweed in the waters. Day two had not much more wind to offer but slowly the weather stabilized and we could get some races in. Finished 4<sup>th</sup> after a series of 6,1,5,6,(18),1. Winner was Anders Andersen who sailed well to win before Johan Björling and Sweden's Jonas Börjesson who showed good speed and sails with good inspiration & motivation.



*Carl 14yrs, did a great work as coach and helped out with all the spare gears and always kept the spirit high when the weather turned for the less.*

Back home again and one or two weeks off following Maja to events around Sweden before it was time for the seasons final with the Champion of Champions (CC's) which is held in J70s at Marstrand right at the shore. To qualify to the regatta you have to win any of the Swedish nationals first. The regatta is sailed with the same concept as the sailing league and consist of loads of short tight racing and the best 16 teams of 40 teams qualifies for the semis and then the finals. This was my 10<sup>th</sup> time attending the CC's regatta. I have previously been 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> so this time I wanted to have as little to blame on as possible and since it is not allowed to change the helmsman I could only change the crew, knowing of course that all the other times having had fantastic crews onboard. This time however I had gotten some good namedrops from Anders Dahlsjö so I started to make some calls. I got hold of Nils Bjerås and together with him we got managed to get Erik Malmberg and Björn Lundgren to come along for the event. We had a great weekend and by having lots of fun, good focus and massive of experience onboard we managed to take podium position in the final and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Winner was the 470 Wildcard team with RS200 guys in 2<sup>nd</sup>.



*Season ends up on the podium in the Champions of champions with a 3rd place with Nils Bjerås, Erik Malmberg and Björn Lundgren.*

Now the season is nearly over and only training remains and slowly setting new goals for the seasons ahead. I now and then get the question how many times I train. Well, a normal year I fill around 60 training sessions and about 30 racedays. And together with some cardiotraining I get up in about 350-400h of training in total. I wish it could be more but as most knows I am not an professional sailor and for me work, family and sailing all needs to be taken care of in the lifepuzzle.

A big thanks to Annelie my partner who always is there to support me and the kids in all our different events and crazy things we come up to. Thanks also to **Vejle Yacht Service, North Sails, Kullaviks Båtvärv** and **One Design Center** for boat, sails, gears, support and bits & pieces.

So my final results for the 2017 season is:

- 4:a OK Sprinten, Gottskär, Sweden
- 1:a Liros Cup, Stenungsund, Sweden
- 1:a Gottskärsregattan, Gottskär, Sweden
- 19:e Dominant105, Marstrand Big Boat Race, Sweden
- 8:a J70 Swedish Sailing League, Strängnäs, Sweden
- 1:a One Design Cup, Uppsala, Sweden
- 4:a European Championship, Faaborg, Denmark
- 1:a Swedish Nationals, Åmål, Sweden
- 19:e Danish Championships, Horsens, Denmark
- 5:a J70 Swedish Sailing League, Gottskär, Sweden
- 4:a Nordic Championships, Nyköping, Denmark
- 3:a J70 Champions of Champions, Marstrand, Sweden

Thomas Hansson-Mild, SWE 100 OK Dinghy



*The boat I use is the Delfs from Vejle Yacht Service*

Facts	
Name:	Thomas Hansson-Mild
Age:	46
Club:	SS Kaparen
Homeclub:	Umeå SS
Boat:	OK -Dinghy
Model:	Delfs, Vejle Yacht Service, Denmark
Blocks:	Harken
Trimlines:	Gottifredi 4-8mm
Track:	Harken
Roder:	Karsten Kraus, Germany
Centerboard:	Jason King, Australien/Karsten Kraus, Germany
Hiking straps:	Middle band XTR, Zhik for standard
Compass:	Tacktick Micro
Inspection Hatches:	RWO
Boom:	Søegren DK Boom, AOR booms, NZ
Mast:	C-tech
Sail:	North Sails M19, M20
Vindex:	Yes, at top
Clothes:	Gul clothing
Lifejacket:	Neil Pryde
Hiking Pants:	Gul plus old 2001wetsut hiking pants
Wetsuit:	Gul
Shoes:	Zhik, Gul
Covers:	GP Fibertex Covers top and bottom
Traininginstrument:	Velocitek Speed Puck
Watch:	Optimum Time Startklocka OS1231
Other:	Vinterträning Pro Peaked Surf Cap