

NEWS

Autumn 2008

What a spectacular sailing summer!

- a word from the Commodore



As was promised earlier on in the year, this summer has delivered a full calendar of really top class sailing events and activities on Danish waters as well as great coverage of the sport from the Olympics in China.

With our permanent staff and a very strong team of volunteers we have delivered (over and above our regular weekly sailing events) the Dragon class Marblehead Trophy, the X-Yachts Gold Cup, The Yngling World Championships and European Youth Championships, the Volvo City Challenge, the Northern Europe Farr40 Competition, two different interna-

tional cruising events (and a strong participation in a third) and last and not least the Danish Open - a round of the World Match Racing Tour.

None of this is achievable without the commitment and co-operation of both volunteers and other clubs in Denmark. Our belief in co-operation with other clubs is paying dividends for all involved.

Our sailing academy is well received and will continue to be the back bone of our adult education activities whilst our Junior and Youth departments are both busy and developing innovative programs going forward.

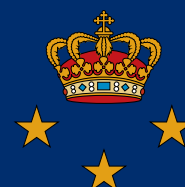
Our year is not yet finished, but if it were, we could be very pleased with the way things have turned out!



Photo: Henrik Hansen

ROYAL DANISH YACHT CLUB

Kongelig Dansk Yachtclub





Vikings and Foreign Fleets - cruising in Danish waters

The cruising section often appears in this publication and it has been said that there is a lot of focus on having fun and "refreshments". Well, as one cruiser put it "you don't have to if you don't want to" and none of them look like they are going to stop any time soon!

In fact not only did the Cruising section spend their free time visiting yet more beautiful harbours and inns but they also brought some friends along!

During the summer the ICCY made its annual conference and rally in Rungsted Harbour with the Royal Danish Yacht Club as hosts; earlier in the year the club hosted a more informal rally and also took part in the large Viking "traef" in Norway.

At the very core of the club's values is the strength of friendships forged through sailing. It is a message that is taught first to the junior department and can be seen in every one of our activities. Events such as the ICCY and those that partake are a very healthy sign that the club sees no borders and welcomes friends new and old to come and sit at our table, hopefully the cruising section are in charge of the catering!

X-Yachts and 2Stars

Two events this summer emphasised a side of yacht racing that is often ignored. It is not all professionals and millionaires who enjoy the thrill of hard fought competition.

From the 16th until the 19th July the Royal Danish Yacht Club hosted the X-Yachts Gold Cup -112 boats from 18 nations, 1100 participants and 63 officials from X-Yachts and the club. The Cup consisted of a number of classes and two courses. Every type of yacht sailor was represented: Highly experienced ocean racers to family "holiday" cruisers.

On Friday the 22nd of August the club in association with Helsingor Sailing Club raised the starting signal on the Watski2Star double handed race. As for the X-Yachts this was a wide open field with some trying it for fun for the first time and others having prepared seriously and aiming for no less than a win. For safety reasons the number of participants is limited to 100 boats, without that limit it is difficult to say how many would have been making their way to the Danish island of Anholdt and back again.

These two events were packed with sailors doing just exactly what they enjoy best and that is just exactly what we are here for.



Danish Open 2008

- a thriller to last race

From the 28th until the 31st of September crowds gathered in Frederikshavn (just south of the northern most tip of Europe) to watch some of the most exciting match racing so far this year.

Last year the Royal Danish Yacht Club decided to take the event (the oldest part of the World Match Racing Tour) "on the road" and were delighted to find the town and sailing club of Frederikshavn as enthusiastic partners.

2 lorries, 10 RIB rubber boats, a mobile workshop, a complete office suite for 10 people, 18 sets of sails (each composed of four sails) sail sewing machines, wet weather sailing clothes for 50 guests, walkie-talkies, signal flags, committee boat...the list goes on and on, - all had to be transported and set up to deliver a world class event. Not only did we manage it but competitors and sponsors alike seem to think that we even managed to improve it!

The racing was extremely tight and at the end of the round robin stage there was: 1 crew on 7 points, 1 crew on 6 points and 5 crews on 5 points. It was so tight that the confirmation of the semi-final positions took over an hour to calculate and check.

In the end the final result was only revealed after the last race with the British sailor Ian Williams and his crew deserving victors. It still seems strange to celebrate beating everyone by being thrown into the harbour!



Photo: Bent Lyman



Photo: Per Heegaard

Use it or lose it

- Classic boats race on

The second weekend in August is the spot in the diary for the Svendborg Classic Regatta.

This is the one regatta of the year that the Royal Danish Yacht Club does not run but our members turn up in large numbers to take part -instead of volunteering as helpers for!

There is always a danger for the owners of precious old motorbikes, cars and boats to be rather over protective of their treasures. The problem with this is that over time the skills in sailing the boats (and indeed repairing them!) disappear if they are not used in the way they were designed.

The competitors at the Svendborg Regatta are deserving of a warm round of applause for being practical and competitive owners rather than custodians of museum pieces.

With the weather this year blowing somewhat of a summer storm it was gratifying to see such beautiful boats being raced on the water. Indeed one might say that it was an even better sight than normal to see their sails so full of wind and foaming wakes off their sterns.

Put the date in your diary for a real treat in Svendborg!

Sailing Events Calendar for 2008 (selected events)

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October

4th	Rungsted	Thiele Cup Fleet race for Class and sporting boats
11th-12	Rungsted	Seguin Cup Fleet Race for Class boats
14th	Skovshoved	Start of the bi-weekly winter Bridge competition

November

7th	Rungsted	End of summer season drinks party
8th	Skovshoved	Royal Match Race Centre Club Championship

December

10th	Langelinie Pavillionen Annual General Meeting	
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On our website www.kdy.dk there are further details of future events including : The Yngling Open World Championships, The junior European Yngling Championships, Farr40 events, Baltic Sprint Cup, The Danish Open, the X-Yachts Gold Cup and so forth!

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