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## **Nord Stream Race leg 2 with winds gusting up to 30 knots**

### **Cape Crow Yacht Club (Team Sweden) wins leg home in Volvo Ocean Race-like conditions**

Stockholm, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017 – After a stormy night and 20 knots boat speeds, Cape Crow Yacht Club (Team Sweden) scored a glorious victory into their home country this morning at the end of leg 2 of the 2017 Nord Stream Race.

At 420 miles this was the longest of the four legs. It took the boats around the south of Sweden from Copenhagen to the Royal Swedish Yacht Club (KSSS) at Saltsjöbaden, south of Stockholm.

The Deutscher Touring Yacht-Club (Team Germany), winner of the Nord Stream Race leg 1 from Kiel to Copenhagen, got off to the strongest start. He was leading the fleet of five ClubSwan 50s east along the south of Sweden on the first night. But halfway to the turning mark near the island Bornholm, they were overtaken by their Swedish rivals. Later the Germans ripped their gennaker, so the Swedish crew was able to get the groove and extend away.

#### **Like a mini-Volvo Ocean Race**

Last night the boats experienced winds gusting up to 30 knots making for a fast ride that was somewhere between exhilarating and terrifying in the black night. “It is not often that I get really scared on a boat, but last night I did. It was like a mini-Volvo Ocean Race,” admitted the Swedish crew’s Martin Krite. He should know as he won the round the world race in 2011-12. “I was standing at the back, really nervous! But we were fast.”

#### **Top speed for the Nord Stream Race**

Last night, running downwind, the powerful ClubSwan 50 boats were hitting 22 knots, a new speed record for the Nord Stream Race. But there was a price: “Just before we got into the archipelago, we were on our side for about four minutes,” admitted Krite. Fortunately no one was injured and the boat and sails held together.

It was the extreme pace of the Nord Stream Race boats on this leg that their arrival into Stockholm was more than a day earlier than the organisers had scheduled. But this will allow crews more recovery time before the Nord Stream Race’s third leg begins on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

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Leg times:

1. Cape Crow Yacht Club (Team Sweden) – 43h 29m 09s
2. Frederikshavn Sejlklub (Team Denmark) – 44h 18m 34s
3. Nyländska Jaktklubben (Team Finland) – 44h 33m 32s
4. Lord of the Sail – Europe (Team Russia) – 44h 51m 27s
5. Deutscher Touring Yacht-Club (Team Germany) – 46h 13m 06s

The best yacht clubs of the National Sailing Leagues from the Baltic countries Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Russia are competing this year at the relaunched Nord Stream Race. The clubs are racing in a fleet of brand-new, one-design ClubSwan 50 racing yachts.

The Baltic Offshore Regatta - Nord Stream Race - has been held by the Saint Petersburg Yacht Club with the support of Gazprom and Nord Stream AG since 2012. The race connects Russia, Germany, Finland, Sweden and Denmark.

From 25<sup>th</sup> August to 7<sup>th</sup> September, the 1,000 nautical mile race course follows the Nord Stream pipeline from Kiel to Saint Petersburg, with stopovers in Copenhagen, Stockholm and Helsinki. The idea of this revised format for the Nord Stream Race is “Connecting Baltics through Sport”.

You can follow the Race:

[http://www.tractrac.com/web/event-page/event\\_20170822\\_NordStream/1139/](http://www.tractrac.com/web/event-page/event_20170822_NordStream/1139/)

Five champions have qualified to participate in the Nord Stream Race 2017 via their National Leagues from the previous season: Deutscher Touring Yacht-Club from Germany, Frederikshavn Sejlklub from Denmark, Cape Crow Yacht Club from Sweden, Nyländska Jaktklubben from Finland and Lord of the Sail – Europe from Russia. Each of the five sailing clubs has send a crew with ten of their best sailors.

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