

## Country Report, Denmark

Another season is now in the books, and what a season for the Danish Melges 24 fleet.

To start up with the absolute highlight, a Danish crew came in third at the World Championship in San Francisco. It is a historic result as Team Softe becomes the first podium finishers from Denmark ever. This is a result that we in Denmark are very proud of and we believe that it really shows that the class in Denmark are getting stronger and stronger every season.

Looking at the Danish season, we had aimed of an early start but our first event of the season was actually cancelled due to solid ice covering the harbours of Denmark. However, we did a few weeks later complete our first event of the season which was part of the Danish Ranking where we in total completed 3 regattas, as the first was cancelled.

Another highlight was our Danish Nationals which was an open 3-day event with 30 participating teams. It had participators from 7 different nations and was won by Chris Rast from Switzerland, while our Danish champion was Team Softe.

For the Europeans we again this year had a strong field competing, including a former Olympic Champion Jonas Warrer, and this really shows us that the Melges 24 is an attractive class where sailors from the top shelf is coming to compete against other top level sailors. For the results of the Europeans, Denmark had a boat in at number 5 in the Corinthian class, which was also the best European Corinthian result by a Danish boat ever.

Looking forward we see some very proactive clubs in Denmark, which for sure sees the great potential of the Melges 24. Several Danish clubs wish to host Melges 24 events and it has therefore been possible to have bidders for both the Worlds in 2015 and 2017. We of course know that we are not to host both events. However we do hope for your support in bringing a World Championship to Denmark. We do believe that the two bids combined with great international results in 2013 are placing Denmark on the international Melges 24 map. This is a place we wish to keep for many years ahead.

It is our hope that we can already boost this position in the beginning of next season where we are planning a large 3-day Easter Regatta to make sure form is up before the European Championships.