

This is never a dull race, featuring a myriad of options as well as rocks and islets.

1. Four options to get from Revengegrundet (well-founded revenge) to Mysingeholm (missing home):

- the in-route,
- the north route
- the south route, and
- the out route.

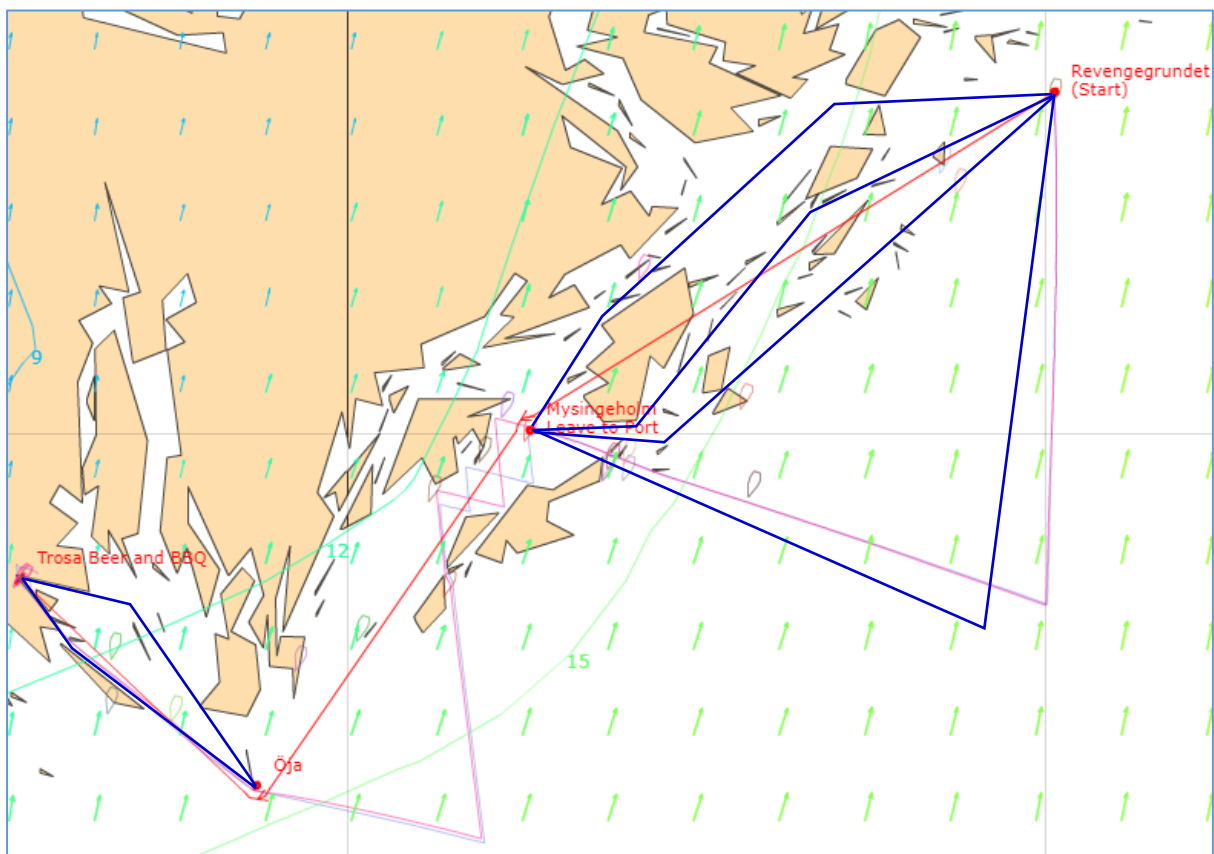
2. Two options to get from Mysingeholm (missing home) to Oja (yes!):

- the straight route, and
- the out route.

3. Two options to get from Oja (yes!) to Trosa (toss up):

- the west route, and
- the east route.

It would make you emotional or giddy or both.

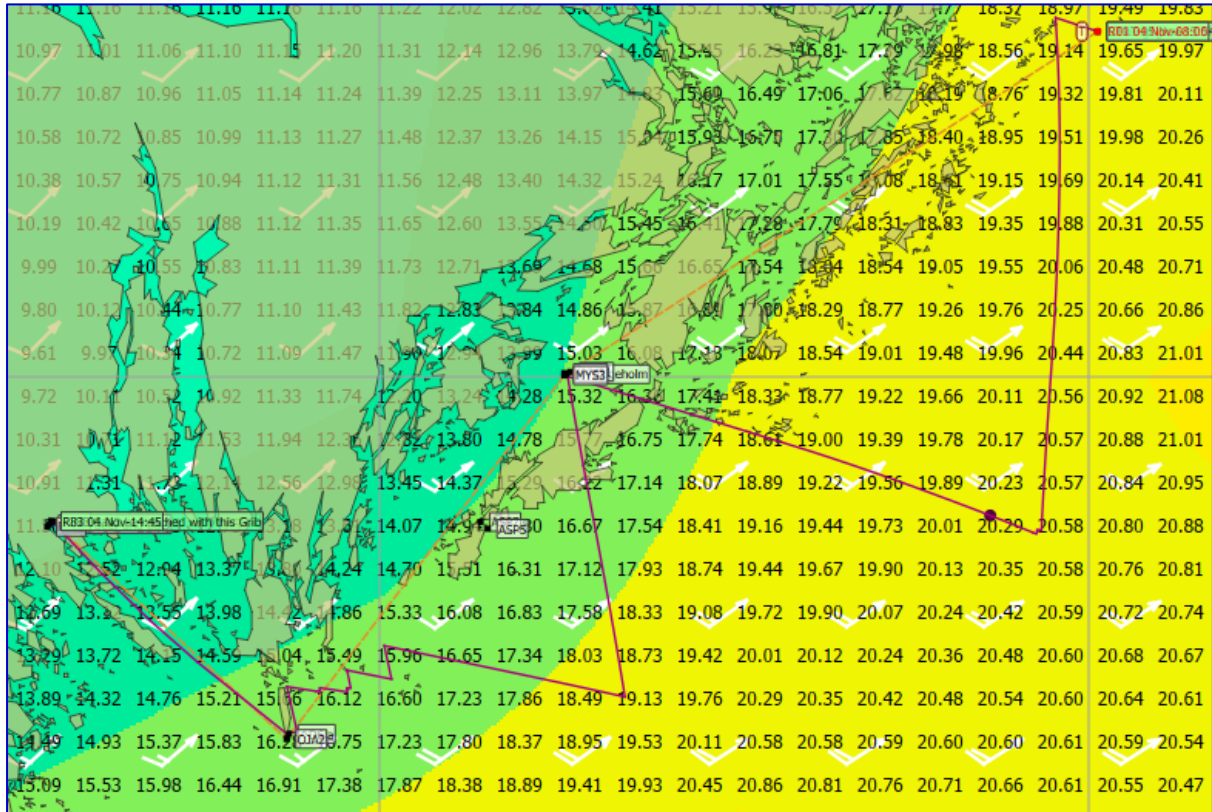


I am showing the options for parts 1. and 3. In the screengrab above, but leaving them out for part 2. as this is the only part where rumskib's and my strategy varied.

The wind shown above has moderated a little from what we raced in on Saturday and gone round a bit to the south, but the situation is still the same; headwinds all the way to Oja and more wind out to sea.

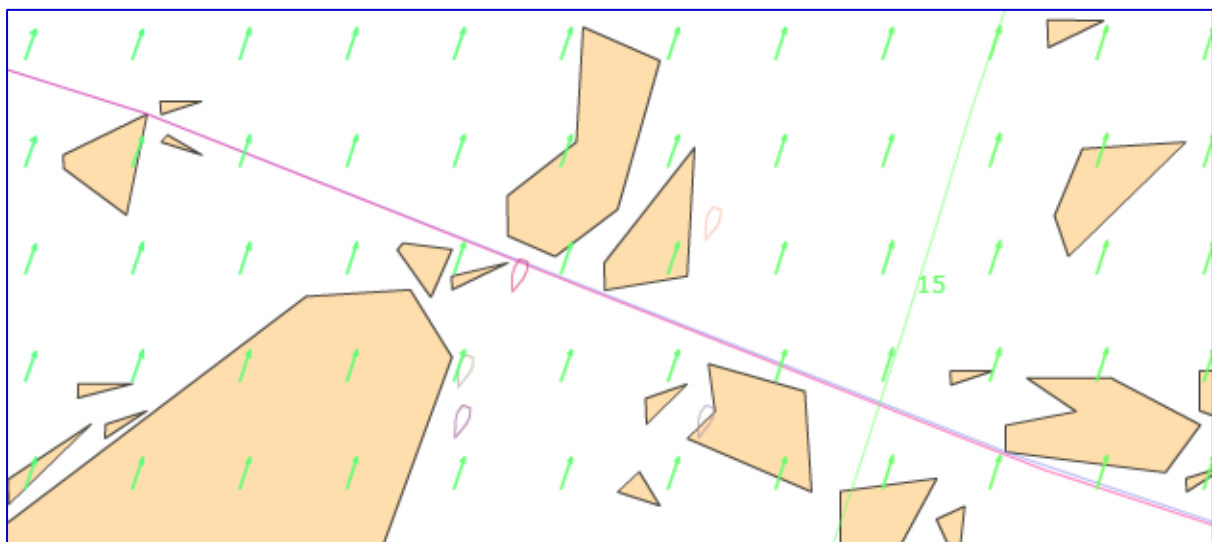
You really didn't need a router to reckon that tacking out and away from the coast was going to be the thing to do, and with our Seacarts hitting 14 knot plus once you got into the breeze that it wasn't going to pay to put in too many tacks.

But if you did use a router and switched off "coast avoidance", then this is what you would have got.



Ignoring those little ticky-tacky zigs, Qt's advice was clear. Head out to sea and tack when you lay Mistletoe. Then get back out to sea again as soon as you can. Finally keep slightly west of the rhumb line from Oh-yeah to the finish.

Which is what I did; as did rumskib and a gaggle of others. But as I steered bonknhoot in through the narrows approaching Järnholmsund, I had a narrow lead of maybe one server hop.



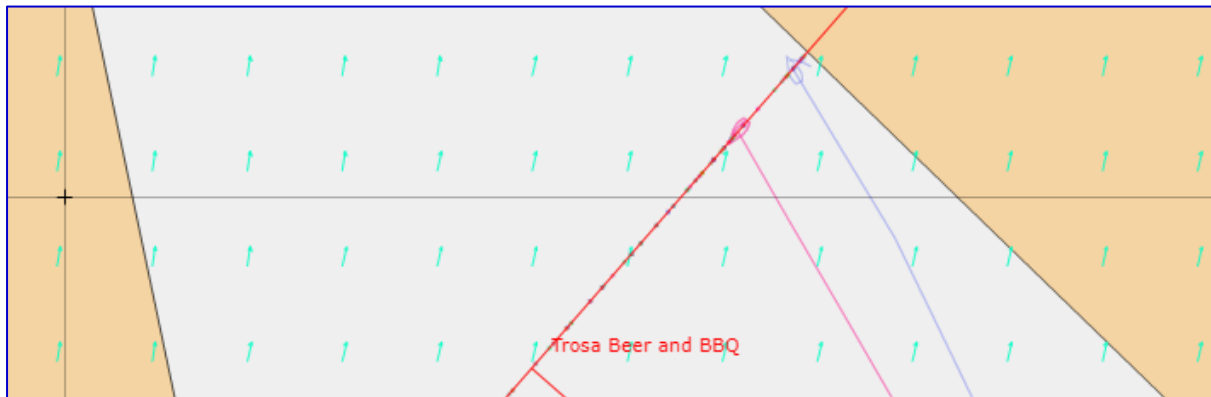
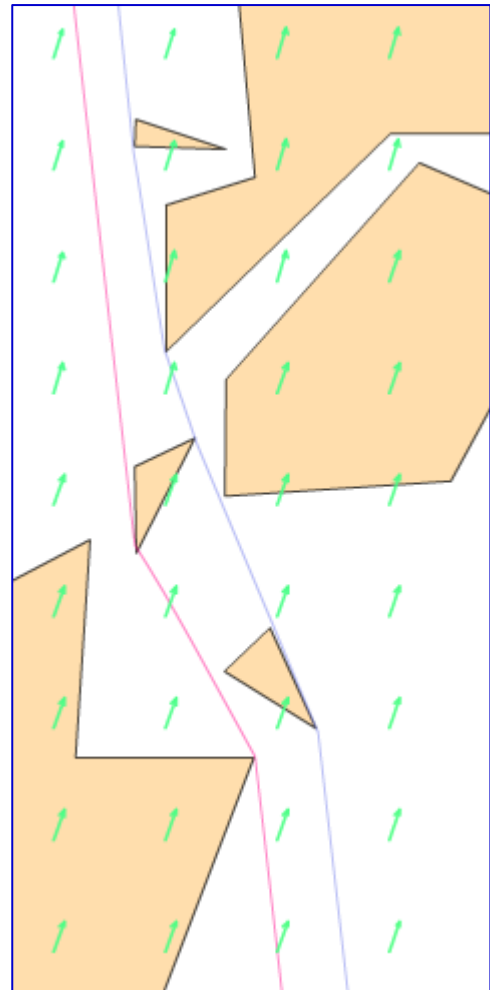
At Musingholm, I tacked immediately to get back out towards the breeze; rumskib carried on planning to save two tacks. Which option was best we will however never know, as I managed to “kiss under the mistletoe”, thus losing the lead. When we met up again for the exit through the gap past Aspön, rumskib had probably 30 seconds of a lead on bonk in the leeward position (grey track adjacent). I had gone for the passage that would get me out to the breeze quickest.

Out at sea, I gybed maybe 30 seconds later than rumskib. Again this gave me a smidgin more breeze and also got me further inside the lift. Romping in to Oja I probably gained a bit.

Finally on the reach in to the finish, I held that bit more west of the rhumbline than rumskib did, hugging all the corners of the Askö land tongue. Perhaps that gained me another bit.

Having kept to the west, the favoured end of the line was B, the eastern extremity. After rounding the little rock in the middle of the Trosa inlet, I lined bonk up, and then thought. “Oh, my goodness, if I aim for the very corner, SOL will bounce me off the coast before I cross the line”, and just in time I straightened bonk out.

Two seconds.



An exciting race, hutchen to rumskib and grattis på födelsedagen Mistli!

And that was that. Gonna have to pull up my socks.

bonknhoot, November 2017