

Cape yachts take Lipton Trophy again

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Yachting Log

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THE 2003 Lipton Cup Trophy series sailed offshore Durban saw the trophy once again won by Cape yachts. Despite high hopes from KwaZulu-Natal sailors, they were unable to match the skill and boat speed of the Cape-based L26s.

The winners were Dalys Express, skippered by M. Sadler and R. Nankin, on eight points, sailing for Theewaters Sailing Club in the Western Cape. They won three races and had a second and a third. No discards are permitted in the Lipton Cup.

In second place was Greenlight on 15 points, skippered by former Durban sailor Dave Hudson and D. Rae, sailing for the Royal Cape Yacht Club.

Orion Challenger, from the Royal Natal Yacht Club and the first KZN yacht home, came in third place. It was sailed by G. Amoils and M. Lambrecht, on 16 points.

The second KZN yacht to finish was Lipton Yellow Label, sailing for the Bluff Yacht Club and skippered by Craig Millar and Alec Lanham-Love, in seventh on 48 points. Parental Guidance, sailing for Henley Midmar Yacht Club and skippered by Harry Ellens, finished in 10th place on 54 points.

In Durban at the Blue Lagoon pond on Sunday, Durban Radio Boat Club held an International one-metre class race. Eight yachts took part in near-perfect sailing conditions. A total of seven races were held and the results were in doubt up to the end of the event.

Maritzburg Radio Yacht Club Commodore Des Fairbank continued his fine form to win the race on nine points.

Durban sailor Peter Simons came second on 10 points, with Norrie Taylor third on 14 points.

On Saturday afternoon, the MRYC is holding a R36 Shipmate Class League race at Camps Drift, starting at 2 pm.

In Durban on Sunday, the Radio Laser Class is holding a special regatta at the Blue Lagoon, starting at 10.30 am. A very big fleet is expected to compete. A handicap system is to be employed where skippers sail around different buoys, depending on known performance; the slower sail around a shorter course, while the scratch sailors have to sail a greater distance in each race.

Three Radio Lasers in Pietermaritzburg are expected to be sailed by Des Fairbank, Guy Bompas and Keith Gerson on Sunday in the regatta.