

# Twice in a row for Royal Cape

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THE Royal Cape Yacht Club has successfully retained South Africa's premier yacht racing trophy, the Lipton Cup, with consistent racing through a wide spectrum of winds in Table Bay this week.

The Royal Cape Yacht Club entry, *Joko II*, skippered by Etienne van Cuyck, took the overall honours after accumulating 77 points during the four days of sailing.

Cape yachts claimed five of the top eight spots in the week-long regatta — including second position, which went to the winner of yesterday's race, *Zeekoevlei's* Southern Cross Stainless Steel, skippered by Rick King.

RCYC experienced a minor eruption when Van Cuyck steered the victors into the basin, with Commodore Jo Walden among the first to step aboard *Joko II* (Omega Heatwave) to congratulate them.

It was the first time since the re-introduction of the race in 1982 that the cup has been successfully defended by any club. Royal Natal Yacht Club last held that distinction in 1966, hanging onto it for three consecutive years.

*Joko II* (Omega Heatwave) were four points ahead of King's crew when they crossed the finish line yesterday.

## RESULTS

<i>Joko II</i>	Royal Cape YC	77
<i>SX Stainless Steel</i>	Zeekoevlei YC	73
<i>Ronnie Bass Sigma</i>	Dencysville Aqua C	68
<i>Nebport</i>	Point YC	68½
<i>Hombra</i>		
Chamolswear	Vogelvlei YC	63
French Connection	Natal University YC	61
Bolt Fast	False Bay Sail C	58
Judron	Hout Bay YC	57½
Diners Club	Wits University YC	56
Prinz Eugen	Pretoria Sailing Club	55
Co-ordination	Aeolians Club	50
Orsmond Ariel	Island Sailing Club	48½
Romess Equation	UCT YC	46
Spirit of IGI	Seal Point YC	46
Brass Bell	False Bay YC	45½
Cape Columbine	SADF (WP)	41
Dashing	SADF (Pretoria)	37
P and S Power	Royal Natal YC	34
Three Trees	Hermannus YC	28
B and G	Transvaal YC	26
Kaap St Lucia	SADF (Durban)	22
Rote Hexe	Victoria Lake YC	21
Una Lewis		
Endeavour	Gordon's Bay YC	10

There were many disappointed contestants who felt that the inflexibility of the rules of the competition handicapped them all. This was to be discussed at a crew and organisers meeting today.

Standing on the deck of his white and red boat, Van Cuyck said consistency throughout the race had paid off and in spite of the fact that they did not win any heat, keeping in the lead pack was sufficient to retain the cup.

"We knew we had to stay in the top five in each race to win the event and that is exactly what we did," he said.

"I was not too happy with the boat's speed, but am very happy with the end result.

"We know the unpredictable winds here in August and kept our eyes open and picked the right place in each race," he

said.

In the four days of racing they finished third, fifth, sixth and fifth, giving them a total of 77 points.

Van Cuyck, who leaves shortly with numerous other Cape Town yachtsmen to compete in the Crystic Beachcomber Crossing between Mauritius and Durban, also announced that he was retiring from the Lipton Cup competition.

King said his team — which won two of the four races — lost the regatta due to the fluky winds in Thursday's race when they found themselves committed to a course and the wind changed. They finished 16th on the day.

"Yesterday we went full out for a win. We got clear after a battle with Nebport from Point Yacht Club after the first and second marks and then got ahead and stayed there," he said.

The Victoria Lake entry, *Rote Hexe*, was disqualified after jumping the gun and failing to restart. Another three boats retired, two following a collision.

Royal Natal Yacht Club entry *P & S Power* was holed in the port quarter by University of Cape Town entry, *Romess Equation*, and started taking in a small amount of water. Both left the course.

Two other boats failed to complete within the regulation time after they were becalmed when the wind dropped.