

Robinson and Orion B2G2 back on top

Matthew Thomas

24/8/11

Mercury

ROYAL Natal Yacht Club's Ricky Robinson was back at the top of the Lipton Challenge Cup leaderboard after the completion of the third race on a cold and wet day three off Mossel Bay. Yesterday's racing was sailed in south-westerly winds varying between 6 and 12 knots, with gusts at around 15 knots.

With two of the three compulsory courses already sailed, yesterday's race course was the last of the required courses, the "sausage", which turned out to be a battle royal at the front.

Rob Archibald, sailing Redhouse Yacht Club's Orion, was first at the top mark followed by Luke Wagner, on PYC Element, and Robinson, on Orion B2G2, with defending champion Greg Davis, on Knysna Yacht Club's Colorpress, close by.

The continuous squalls made for even more difficult conditions but racing remained tight as Robinson worked Orion B2G2 into second place as the fleet rounded the top mark for the last time. He was just behind Archibald, with Davis now in third spot.

The battle was far from over, though, as the False Bay Yacht Club entry, Team Intasure Marine Insurance, sailed by Andrea Giovannini and Markus Progli, fought its way to the front to win the third race from



Royal Natal Yacht Club entry Orion B2G2, with Ricky Robinson at the helm, battles the elements on day three of the Lipton Cup Challenge in Mossel Bay yesterday. Orion B2G2 eventually finished second to take a share of the overall lead with Greg Davis's Knysna Yacht Club's Colorpress, the defending champions.

PICTURE: TREVOR WILKINS

Orion B2G2, with Robinson managing to stave off the challenge from Davis on Colorpress.

Robinson's second place moved Orion B2G2 up from third overnight

into joint first place overall, tied with Davis.

Wagner finished ninth, which dropped PYC Element from fourth to fifth.