

LIPTON CUP

Norman Sheriff Reports

EXCITEMENT is growing in Durban over the revival of the Lipton Cup series of regattas. (Full report next issue).

The Lipton Cup was first donated by Sir Thomas Lipton in 1908, and was raced for almost annually, till about nine years ago. A challenge issued by RCYC Commodore, Harold Sender, and taken up by the holders of the Lipton Cup, RNYC, under the commodoreship of Guy Reynolds, has revitalised this competition.

The annual regatta was formerly sailed in Thirty Squares, but with the withering of this class, the decision has been taken to use Quarter-tonners for the event.

Eight clubs have entered this year. They are: Royal Cape Yacht Club - *Royal Flush*; Royal Natal Yacht Club - *Xosha Moya*; Point

Yacht Club - *Fuel Free*; Island Sailing Club - *Red Flyer*; University of Cape Town Yacht Club - *Mini Mouse*; Defence Sailing Club - *Snoopea*; Aeolians Yacht Club - *Sweet Pea*; Zeekoe Vlei Yacht Club - *French Connection*.

Royal Flush and *Fuel Free* have recently been launched, after being specially built for this event.

Royal Flush is a Lavranos design, with three Springbooks in the crew of four, which is headed by the skipper, Rick Nankin.

Fuel Free is a Jacques Faroux design, and a sister to the yacht which won the past Quarter-ton Worlds.

Red Flyer is another overseas design, by Ed Dubois, and will be skippered by Rob Thorpe.

The rest of the fleet is made up of Sweet Pea Class quarter-tonners.

The Lipton Cup Regatta will take place

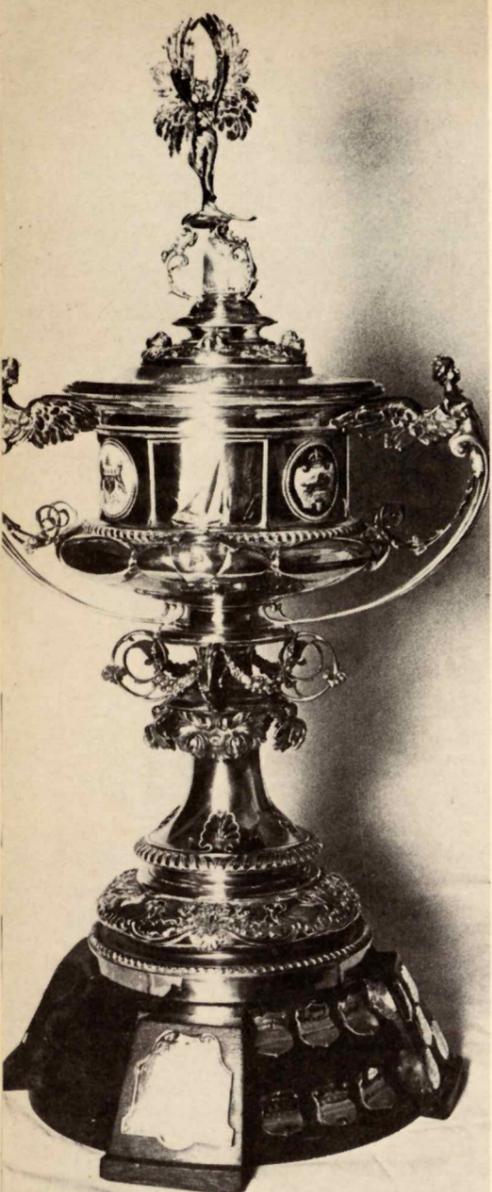
★ STOP PRESS - LIPTON CUP RESULTS

- 1 **Fuel Free** — PYC Harry Ellens 362,5 pts.
- 2 **Royal Flush** — RCYC Rick Nankin 337,5 pts.
- 3 **Mini Mouse** — UCTYC Jakkie van Ryswyk 250 pts.
- 4 **Red Flyer** — ISC Robin Thorpe 218,75 pts.
- 5 **Xosha Moya** — RNYC Charles Reynolds 187,5 pts.
- 6 **French Connection** — ZVYC Joey Schubert 175,5 pts.
- 7 **Sweet Pea** - Aeolians Mark Guthrie 162,5 pts.
- 8 **Gunsmoke** - DSA Richard Bates 100,00 pts.

Full report next issue.

ABOVE LEFT: The magnificent solid silver Lipton Challenge Cup, standing nearly one metre tall and currently valued at approximately R30 000.

BELOW: Winners of the Lipton Cup, the Point Yacht Club's *Fuel Free*, with crew Dick Haliburton (cockpit), Peter Cardwell (tactican), Jimmy Melville (foredeck), Derek Warne (helmsman) and Harry Ellens (cockpit/skipper) on launching day, June 19.



FEVER

straight after Mainstay Week, with most of the fleet competing in that event also, using it as a tune-up series.

The magnificent and historic trophy - certainly the most prestigious in the country, will be presented by the managing director of Lipton S.A. (Pty) Ltd, Mr K. D. Varnalls. Liptons themselves have enthusiastically supported the revival of this competition to perpetuate their founder's dedication to yacht racing.

Give us a chance...

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Sir,
With respect, the revived, revised Lipton Cup idea is a load of horse.

Firstly the boats used should be a one-design class. One off quarter tonners are disproportionately expensive babies, and for a sailing community that spends practically nothing on junior training programmes, the tens of thousands of rands that are being spent on the Lipton Cup, is money misdirected. Also, the sheer cost of mounting a competitive campaign excludes from the running a number of talented helmsmen and a number of clubs.

Secondly, the regatta is limited to a few select clubs and a few select yachtsmen. Apart from being anachronistic snobbery, this system removes our best sailors from where they can help others. The competition in the Lipton Cup fleet is going to be fantastic - what a pity that so many enthusiastic sailors are going to be deprived of that experience. Competitions with a restricted entry are only healthy for a sport where the spectator/competitor ratio is quite the opposite to that of yachting.

Alex Stone

Royal Flush

AT Royal Cape Yacht Club recently Mrs Sender, wife of Commodore Harold Sender, launched *Royal Flush* - the hot new Royal Cape Yacht Club entry in the Lipton Cup this year. She is seen with Dave Abromowitz - one of the prime movers behind the syndicate which commissioned and owns her.

Royal Flush is the latest quarter-tonner from Angelo Lavranos. Initial reactions when she was in the water were how much bigger and stiffer she was than a sweet Pea. Lex Raas and his team at Ton Cup Yachts did an incredibly good job in an amazing nine weeks - in spite of the rush, still managing a high standard of finish. The day after launching she was out on Table Bay for her first sail.

The crew who will be campaigning her at the Lipton in Durban are L to R: Robbie Meek, Rick Nankin (skipper), Eric Krepelka and Lex Raas.

SA Yachting - August 1982

