

STAR 25-8-92

Foul weather puts the lid on Lipton Cup

CAPÉ TOWN — For the first time in 40 years, the Cape's notorious weather has forced the organisers of a Joko Lipton Challenge Cup regatta to cancel a race.

With the weather 40 percent worse in Hout Bay yesterday compared to Sunday, when stormy conditions and mountainous seas caused havoc in the fleet, race committee chairman Harold Cragg said the huge sea with swells varying between four and seven metres, north-westerly winds gusting up to 27 knots and lashing rain had given them no option but to cancel.

He added that the major problem caused by the heavy seas was difficulty in setting the course, as the marker buoys kept being dragged out of position.

Sunday's racing was dramatic with boats broaching and many crew members violently ill in the turbulent Hout Bay waters. Despite this, all the boats battled to the finish of the 12-mile race in less than two hours.

After the first day's racing, Cape Town yacht Royal Cape led, and the two Transvaal boats, Co-ordination (Victoria Lake Club) and Tatoosh (Lake Deneys Yacht Club), were in fourth and 12th spots. — Sapa.