COMMENTS FROM RACE TEAMS TO IMPROVE THE RACE EXPERIENCE  
Race Committees: Please use these comments to critique your own event to evaluate if your specific event has some shortcomings regarding the comments.

1. On arrival at race site, volunteer/pit boss provide directions for parking
2. Registration---quicker process is needed; specify location; require pre-registration by racers
3. Billboard Communication method for important information and race schedule; central location of billboard
4. Drivers meeting: conduct on time, keep meeting brief, communicate location to teams on arrival
5. Post-race schedule/breaks on board
6. Start the racing program and on time
7. Have a plan for pits, boat movement, and crane areas; staff should know their jobs in the pits
8. Committee should communicate and use class reps to help with communication
9. Turn Judges--select before the race.
10. Results of races posted within +/- 2 hours, including penalties and final boat position
11. Spectators: provide them with details on who is racing and some details, require racers to biographies
12. Changes should be announced and posted
13. Have enough course boats for towing disabled race boats from the race course; towing disabled boats should not impact keeping the race program moving unless it is absolutely necessary to hold up the racing program
14. Breaks for those on the water (safety/rescue; course boats; turn judge boats) clear and timely
15. Alternate show/entertainment during breaks
16. Arrange schedule so that no driver sits in boat ready to go more than 1 or 2 heats
17. Give pre-notice to driver to get ready; provide accurate count-down
18. Provide one to the five announcement
19. Specify award location and time
20. Race course buoys—provide sufficient number of buoys that are large enough
21. Announce issues regarding race conditions/changes
22. Loudspeakers of good quality in pits to communicate to race teams
23. A DJ is a great addition to the quality of the show along with a knowledgeable, exciting announcer
24. Provide parking for race team tow vehicles; if not close to pits, provide transportation
25. Have a provision or statement for boats wanting to leave pits early
26. Announce location of ambulance/first aid
27. Expect ambulance on time and contracted for the entire day
28. Entries time enforced – force and/or encourage preregistration
29. Tow money should be cash up front; designate when and where to receive; distribute Sunday morning
30. Expect all attending to “respect” each other, and enforce
31. Rewards are nice for other than racers (i.e. best team, volunteers, most helpful, etc.)
32. Identify key committee staff at driver’s meeting; helpful when all volunteers have clothing that identifies them
33. Provide pit security – days and nights
34. Pay out – fairness vs absolute
35. It is unacceptable for staff to not be trained and knowledgeable in what they are supposed to do
36. Schedule planning – focus to keep race on schedule – a big issue with racers & fans
37. At end of day, racers and fans should know who won, position of boats and penalties applied.
38. Sufficient porta pots in pits for racers and always at least two at the crane area.
39. Sufficient porta pots in the docking area where safety, tow boats and all others on water come in at breaks; fast turnaround and their comfort during breaks is important
40. Food for those volunteering is nice
41. Water hoses for flushing/washing boats, especially in salt water races
42. Identify key staff and their function
43. Divisional and National races should be recognized as special and committees should treat them as such when considering tow/prize money, awards, and awards presentations.
44. Trophies should be appropriate for the race
45. Tow money and race win money: essential
46. Inappropriate actions of anyone should be dealt with quickly and effectively and in a professional manner; some issues can and should be settled privately with officials/race committee
47. Long lectures in driving meetings start the day out on a bad note
48. Note: the biggest complaint of racers and spectators is delays and nothing happening during breaks
49. Understand that race teams appreciate having an event to race; however, racers are not necessarily happy with specific issues such as those listed here. Race committee needs to understand how deep this issue is and make changes or suffer poor attendance.