

ERPA OBSERVERS REPORT INFORMATION

Before you fill in your observer's report please remember a few things: You have the choice of marking on a scale of one to five, so please think first and act second. Remember that zero (0) is for very bad, one (1) point is for poor, two (2) points for acceptable, three (3) points for good, four (4) points for very good and five (5) points for superb. Thus, five points should only be awarded when something is very close to perfect. **SO PLEASE BE VERY CAREFUL WITH MAXIMUM POINTS!** If you give zero or one point only or five points please give some short/concise reason for your decision (except for 10.) in the "Comments" section at the bottom of the sheet.

1. Information in advance

Have you been able to find at the organiser's website in due time (latest two weeks before the race!) prior to the event: Information about the event?; a timetable of the weekend and/or the race?; an entry list of drivers?; etc.

2. Information during the race

Have you, during the course of the event, been able to obtain from the press office: Timesheets?; heat results?; final results?; information about black flags, exclusions from the event, protests/appeals and decisions of the jury?; etc.

3. Information after the race

Have you been able to find at the organiser's website within one week after the race: The official results?; the updated Championship points situation?; time sheets and heat results without any mistakes that may have been printed in unofficial information during the event?

4. Signing-on

Have you had problems in reaching the press office? Have you had problems to get all the necessary information, press tickets and car pass from the press office? Was the press office open in due time and was the press officer or their assistant present? Did you get a friendly welcome?

5. Printed matters

How accurately has the organiser printed the information sheets? Check if full names (forename and surname!) plus nationality are given and spelled correctly. Some organiser's give you one sheet for each Division with all three qualifying heats shown, which is very handy. Others give you three pages instead (one per heat) or another lot of unnecessary paper, sometimes even without helpful serial numbers.

6. Results lists

Have you been able to get unofficial results within half an hour of the finals finishing? Has the organiser printed new or amended final results sheets after any changes (exclusions, etc.)?

7. Point standings

Has the organiser updated the Championship points situation after the race? See also 3. and 5.

8. Possibility of telephone and fax

Have you been able to use a telephone or fax at the circuit to get in touch with your newspaper or magazine? Was it for press (!) use only or also open for PR workers/people, hobby 'journalists' and/or 'photographers' of Tom, Dick or Harry's website, drivers, team members, officials, etc. to use? Give more than three points only if there was more than one telephone and one fax solely for the press.

9. Possibility of internet lines

Have you been able to use an internet line to get in touch with your newspaper, magazine, photo agency or your publisher's website? Was it for press (!) use only or open to other parties (as under 8.). Give more than three points only if there were three or more internet lines solely for the press.

10. Telephone, fax and internet lines free of charge

This is a must for true and accredited press people! A zero if you had to pay and five points if free. And no reason for your decision compulsory in the "Comments" section.

11. Working conditions at the circuit

Have you been able to do a proper job or have you found too many restrictions and/or too many prohibited areas? Have the marshals been friendly to you or have you found some people who did not accept even your press pass from the organiser? Was it a good circuit for taking pictures and/or films? Have you seen people without the right passes in the inner track? Have you been disturbed by too many people or even amateurs in the inner track? Have you been able to park your car in the paddock or at least rather close to the track?

12. General press facilities and hospitality

Has the press office collected all printed matters of the day for you in a folder, envelope or box after you have asked for this service? Have you found a decent press room or a real press centre? Was it open only for members of the press or uncontrolled, so that other people took over your space? Was there somewhere for you to relax during the breaks or a place where you could meet with and talk to other journalists? Have you been able to get some fresh drinks or hot coffee/tea free from the organisers or the press office and maybe even a snack or little meal?