SCCA National Convention Presentation – Race Chair Roundtable

General Topic: A round table for all current and future race chairs to share their collective wisdom to discuss any and all aspects of putting on a well-organized and successful event. Topics may include: what are the most challenging aspects of putting on a race, what things are most well received and what an “ideal” event would look like.

In order to stimulate additional discussion, I plan to approach the topics based on what’s components needed to put on an event:

* Renting a track – what kind of relationship do you have with your track(s) owners? – Any good/bad experiences? – note past concerns with billing for track/facility damage – track rental cost trends?
* Attracting and keeping volunteers – discuss various specialties particularly F&C – challenges in getting enough volunteers to put on a race – any recruitment strategies – ideas for worker perks – things to keep the event fun
* Attracting and satisfying Drivers – any trends in turnout (seems to fluctuate with the economy – strategies for attracting more drivers –
* Communication – to get information to drivers and volunteers prior to the event, during the event, and after the event (who uses announcers and where do you find them? – hospitality tent or other central information exchange
* The registration process – often a driver’s first interaction with the race organizer so needs to impart a good impression – use of new technologies to speed the process
* Developing an event schedule and supps – any trends in what driver’s want – multiple races, lots of practice/qualifying time or more race time – challenges with folks wanting to leave early and small fields for the last few races
* Providing emergency services/car recovery – does your track provide or your region – issues with hot pulls – Code 35/virtual pace car experiences
* Working with officials – team players? - a help or a hinderance?