



ABC Video Tape Procedures

Preparation

- Prepare and check video camera, be sure that it records both picture and sound.
- Install video cassette and check for good tape supply. Use only good quality video tape.
- Set recording speed for SP (Standard Play) only.
- At the very beginning of each cassette, be sure to "pre-roll" at least ten seconds of tape to allow for later editing or copying.
- Install in boat, connect electric and check again for operation.

Identification

- "Slating" is very important. Record division, event, date, boat used and round (if applicable) at the beginning. Do this at least on the audio. A visual card with this information is even better.
- "Slate" each competitor at least at the beginning of the first pass; the second pass is also desired.
- In "slating", be sure the camera is "up-to-speed" before announcing and that you do it in a loud, clear voice. The built-in microphone is not ordinarily pointed at you. Also be sure that the audible timing device is being recorded at the start and finish of each pass. In some cases, you may wish to cancel auto audio control if boat or wind noises are causing it to limit input.

Picture

- In tricks, you must include the start trick, including dock flying starts. The start is not necessary in the slalom event. Try to keep only necessary information, i.e., the scoring part of each pass. Stop camera for all preparation before the first pass and between the first and second passes.
- The picture itself is very important. Be sure your (the camera) view is unobstructed by such things as the outboard motor, pylon or other officials in the boat.
- Zoom in to get the skier as "close" as possible, but still far enough away to include the skier's feet and any wakes involved in both the slalom and tricks events. Small, distant images are very difficult to judge later.
- Try to keep the camera level with the water and horizon. "Pan" smoothly and avoid erratic movement of the camera.
- In poor lighting conditions and "back-lighting" early and late in the day, you may wish to cancel auto light control and set the exposure manually.