

MEDIA INFORMATION

Aug 18, 2015
Japan Race Promotion Inc.

Aug 22 (Saturday) – Aug 23 (Sunday)

2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA

Round 4 : TWIN RING MOTEGI

Competition set to hot up as Championship moves into second half of season

Japan Race Promotion Inc. (President: Hiroshi Shirai, Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan) today announced details of the “2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA, Round 4 Twin Ring Motegi,” scheduled to take place on August 22-23 on the Twin Ring Motegi Road Course (length = 4.801km) in Tochigi Prefecture, Japan.

The 2015 Japanese Championship is the only internationally accredited driver championship series in Asia, run over seven rounds and six circuits across Japan. A total of 11 teams (entrants) and 19 drivers (cars) from Japan and overseas* are competing to win this year’s Championship.

*12 drivers from Japan and seven from six other countries (UK, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Brazil and India)

Round 4 at Motegi is likely to be crucial to the final outcome of the Championship as it moves into the second half of the season.

Hiroaki Ishiura (P.MU/CERUMO • INGING) currently sits at the top of the rankings with 21 points after his pole-to-win drive in Round 2 at Okayama – his first ever Championship victory. Not far behind on 19 points is Joao Paulo de Oliveira (LENOVO TEAM IMPUL), who secured the win in Round 3 at Fuji Speedway after a blistering start from second on the grid. Last year’s champion Kazuki Nakajima (PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S) is still looking for a win this season, but he is currently on third with 16 points from two second place finishes. Teammate André Lotterer (PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S) is also in a strong position in fourth with 15 points after controlling Round 1 at Suzuka. Chasing the top group are Kamui Kobayashi (KYGNUS SUNOCO Team LeMans) in fifth, who secured his first podium finish in Round 2 at Okayama, and Tomoki Nojiri (DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING) in sixth, who has taken points in every round so far. Both drivers are on 8 points and still have a chance to win the Championship.

Six drivers are within 13 points of current leader Hiroaki Ishiura, setting up the second half of the 2015 season for an epic battle.

Another point to watch in Round 4 is the engines, with the rules allowing teams to introduce new versions of their current engines in the second half of the Championship. Spectators will be watching closely to see if this leads to any changes in the competitive position of Honda and Toyota engine users from the first three rounds.



No. 38 Hiroaki Ishiura (P.MU/CERUMO • INGING) is currently top of the point standings

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2015 JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIP SUPER FORMULA Round 4 : ENTRY LIST

(Chassis: SF14, Tires: Bridgestone)

NO.	DRIVER	DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH	ENTRANT MANAGER	CAR	ENGINE
1	Kazuki Nakajima	11 January 1985 Aichi, Japan	PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S Nobuhide Tachi	PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S SF14	TOYOTA R14A
2	Andre Lotterer	19 November 1981 Germany			
3	James Rossiter	25 August 1983 United Kingdom	KONDO RACING Masahiko Kondo	FUJI x D'station KONDO SF14	TOYOTA R14A
4	William Buller	17 September 1992 United Kingdom			
7	Ryo Hirakawa	7 March 1994 Hiroshima, Japan	KYGNUS SUNOCO Team LeMans Hiroyoshi Donuma	ACHIVMENT Team KYGNUS SUNOCO SF14	TOYOTA R14A
8	Kamui Kobayashi	13 September 1986 Hyogo, Japan		Team KYGNUS SUNOCO SF14	
10	Koudai Tsukakoshi	20 November 1986 Tochigi, Japan	REAL RACING Katsutomo Kaneishi	REAL SF14	Honda HR-414E
11	Takuya Izawa	1 June 1984 Tokyo, Japan			
16	Naoki Yamamoto	11 July 1988 Tochigi, Japan	TEAM MUGEN Nagataka Tezuka	TEAM MUGEN SF14	Honda HR-414E
18	Yuichi Nakayama	25 July 1991 Tokyo, Japan	KCMG Ryuji Doi	KCMG Elyse SF14	TOYOTA R14A
19	Joao Paulo de Oliveira	13 July 1981 Brazil	LENOVO TEAM IMPUL Kazuyoshi Hoshino	LENOVO TEAM IMPUL SF14	TOYOTA R14A
20	Andrea Caldarelli	14 February 1990 Italy			
34	Takashi Kogure	1 August 1980 Gunma, Japan	DRAGO CORSE Ryo Michigami	DRAGO CORSE SF14	Honda HR-414E
38	Hiroaki Ishiura	23 April 1981 Tokyo, Japan	P.MU/CERUMO/INGING SF14 Yuji Tachikawa	P.MU/CERUMO · INGING SF14	TOYOTA R14A
39	Yuji Kunimoto	12 September 1990 Kanagawa, Japan			
40	Tomoki Nojiri	15 September 1989 Ibaraki, Japan	DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING Kiyoshi Muraoka	DOCOMO DANDELION M40S SF14	Honda HR-414E
41	Kumar Ram Narain Karthikeyan	14 January 1977 India		DOCOMO DANDELION M41Y SF14	
64	Daisuke Nakajima	29 January 1989 Aichi, Japan	NAKAJIMA RACING Satoru Nakajima	NAKAJIMA RACING SF14	Honda HR-414E
65	Bertrand Baguette	23 February 1986 Belgian			

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2015 CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

DRIVERS Standings

Pos.	No.	Driver	Pts.	2015/4/19	2015/5/24	2015/7/19	2015/8/23	2015/9/13	2015/10/18	2015/11/8	
				SUZUKA Rd.1	OKAYAMA Rd.2	FUJI Rd.3	MOTEGI Rd.4	AUTOPLIS Rd.5	SUGO Rd.6	SUZUKA Rd.7-1 Rd.7-2	
1	38	Hiroaki Ishiura	21	4	11	6					
2	19	Joao Paulo de Oliveira	19	5	4	10					
3	1	Kazuki Nakajima	16	8	—	8					
4	2	Andre Lotterer	15	10	1	4					
5	8	Kamui Kobayashi	8	—	8	—					
6	40	Tomoki Nojiri	8	1	6	1					
7	16	Naoki Yamamoto	6	1	5	—					
8	41	Kumar Ram Narain Karthikeyan	6	6	—	—					
9	39	Yuji Kunimoto	5	—	—	5					
10	20	Andrea Caldarelli	4	—	3	1					
11	11	Takuya Izawa	4	2	2	—					
12	7	Ryo Hirakawa	3	—	—	3					
13	64	Daisuke Nakajima	3	3	—	—					
14	3	James Rossiter	2	—	—	2					
	10	Koudai Tsukakoshi	—	—	—	—					
	4	William Buller	—	—	—	—					
	18	Yuichi Nakayama	—	—	—	—					
	34	Takashi Kogure	—	—	—	—					
	65	Bertrand Baguette	—	—	—	—					
	1	Kazuya Osima	—	—	—	—					

* Winners are in ***Bold italics*** / Polesitters are in ***Bold***.

TEAMS Standings

Pos.	No.	Team	Pts.	2015/4/19	2015/5/24	2015/7/19	2015/8/23	2015/9/13	2015/10/18	2015/11/8	
				SUZUKA Rd.1	OKAYAMA Rd.2	FUJI Rd.3	MOTEGI Rd.4	AUTOPLIS Rd.5	SUGO Rd.6	SUZUKA Rd.7-1 Rd.7-2	
1	1 2	PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S	31	18	1	12					
2	38 39	P.MU/CERUMO·INGING	25	4	10	11					
3	19 20	LENIVO TEAM IMPUL	22	5	7	10					
4	40 41	DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING	14	7	6	1					
5	7 8	KYGNUS SUNOCO Team LeMans	11	—	8	3					
6	16	TEAM MUGEN	5	—	5	—					
7	10 11	REAL RACING	4	2	2	—					
8	64 65	NAKAJIMA RACING	3	3	—	—					
9	3 4	KONDO RACING	2	—	—	2					
	18	KCMG	—	—	—	—					
	34	DRAGO CORSE	—	—	—	—					

* Winners are in ***Bold italics***

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GET TO KNOW THE BASICS

■ WHAT IS SUPER FORMULA?

Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA is the top category of Japanese formula racing featuring purpose-built racing cars with single-seat, open cockpit and open wheel. Organized by Japan Race Promotion Inc. and fully sanctioned by the Japan Automobile Federation (JAF), SUPER FORMULA traces back its origins to the Japanese Championship Formula NIPPON first launched in 1996. 2013 saw the relaunch of the series given a new name of SUPER FORMULA.

■ CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2015 Japanese Championship has a total of 11 teams (entrants) and 19 drivers (cars) from Japan and overseas (the seven overseas drivers are from six countries: UK, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Brazil and India). Teams and drivers are awarded points for each race, with accumulated points determining the final standings.

2015 CHAMPIONSHIP POINT SCORING SYSTEM

POSITION	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th & beyond	PP
1 race round	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	1
2 races round Race 1	5(+3)	4	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0	1
2 races round Race 2	5(+3)	4	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0	1

- PP=Pole Position (a driver who set the fastest lap in the qualifying session). One point is awarded to the polesitter (only to the driver but not to the team).
In the 2-race rounds, half points are awarded for both Race 1 & Race 2.
- In Rd.7 Suzuka, three extra points are awarded to each race winner of Race 1 & Race 2 (i.e. up to a maximum of 18 points are awarded to the driver who claimed pole position and wins of both Race 1 & Race 2).
- In case two or more drivers/teams are in a dead heat for a championship standing at the end of the season, the driver/team with the higher number of superior race results is awarded the position.

■ CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

The Drivers' Championship title is awarded to the driver who scores the most points over the course of the season. The Driver Champion is given the Series Driver's Champion Cup and prize money by Japan Race Promotion Inc. On top of this, he receives the Confederation's Cup offered by Parliamentary Association for Motorsport Promotion of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan, as well as the Commissioner's Cup from the Japan Tourism Agency. Towards the Team Champion, the Minister's Cup will be awarded by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, plus prize money by Japan Race Promotion Inc.

■ RACE CAR

The base chassis SF14 is supplied by Dallara (Italy). The cars are powered by 2.0-litre turbo-charged inline-4 direct injection engine either from Honda (HR414E) or Toyota (RI4A). Bridgestone serves as the sole tyre supplier.

■ OVERTAKE SYSTEM

The Overtake System (OTS) is an overtaking aid that works by leveraging the fuel flow restrictor (fuel flow rate control system) employed on the new engine. It can increase fuel supply temporarily to provide approximately five(or ten)^{*1} per cent of engine performance improvement. By pressing a button called OTB (Overtake Button) on the steering wheel, the system will be activated for 20 seconds per use. Drivers may use the OTS up to 5 times a race. The status of the OTS use can easily be recognized by "Overtake Lamp (five small LEDs)" on the roll hoop. The number of lighted Lamp(s) shows the number of OTS activation, and on top of this they are blinking when the system is in use. The Lamps basically illuminate white while the championship leader comes with red lights called "Leader's Red". The Overtake Lamp system can only be seen in SUPER FORMULA.

^{*1}: Suzuka & Fuji Speedway Circuit : 5%. Other Circuit : 10% engine performance improvement.

■ QUALIFYING KNOCK-OUT STYLE

Qualifying will take place over three knock-out sessions to determine places on the starting grid for the Championship race. In the event of 19 entries, the five slowest cars during the 20-minute long Q1 session will be knocked out of the next session and assigned the 15th to 19th positions on the grid. After a 10-minute interval, the 7-minute long Q2 session will determine the 9th to 14th positions in the same way. After another 10-minute interval, the final 7-minute long Q3 session will decide the top 8 positions on the starting grid. As the name of the qualifying round suggests, drivers are knocked out if they do not post strong qualifying times.

■ RACE

Twin Ring Motegi Racing Course (Circuit length 4.801km) : 52 laps / total distance 249.652km.

2015 CHAMPIOSHIP RACE CALENDAR

DATES	ROUND / CIRCUIT	QUALIFYING FORMAT	RACE FORMAT
April 18 – 19	Round 1 / Suzuka Circuit	Knockout	250km
May 23 – 24	Round 2 / Okayama International	Knockout	250km
July 18 – 19	Round 3 / Fuji Speedway	Knockout	250km
August 22 – 23	Round 4 / Twin Ring Motegi	Knockout	250km
September 12 – 13	Round 5 / Autopolis	Knockout	250km
October 17 – 18	Round 6 / Sportsland SUGO	Knockout	250km
November 7 – 8	*Round 7 / Suzuka Circuit	Knockout	2-race

* “The 14th JAF GRAND PRIX SUZUKA”

■ Twin Ring Motegi Racing Course

The road course is built in a stop-start style with multiple low-speed hairpin corners and short straights. Motegi is said to be harder on brakes than any other circuit in Japan.

ABOUT THE TWIN RING MOTEGI ROUND

- **Official name :** **TWIN RING MOTEGI 2&4 RACE**
2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Round 4 : Twin Ring Motegi
2015 MFJ SUPERBIKE All Japan Road Championship Round 5 (J_GP2)
- **Held Jointly with :** 2015 Japanese Formula 3 Championship Round 14・15
2015 N-ONE OWNER'S CUP Round 7
FIM Asia Cup National Challenge Road Race
- **Dates :** 2015 Aug 22 (Saturday) – Aug 23 (Sunday)
- **Location :** Twin Ring Motegi Racing Course, Tochigi Prefecture (Circuit length: 4,801km)
- **Hosted by :** Mobilityland Corporation
MO Sports Club (M.O.S.C.) / Motorcycle Federation of Japan (MFJ)
- **Official Recognition by :** Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) / Japan Automobile Federation (JAF)
Fédération Internationale de Motorcyclisme(FIM)
- **Authorized by :** Japan Race Promotion Inc. (JRP) / Japanese Formula 3 Association (JF3A)
Honda One make Race Secretariat (HORS)
- **Sponsored by :** Ministry of Education / Japan Tourism Agency / Motegi Town
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Ticket Information & Enquiries

- **Ticket :**
 - Advance sale tickets : ¥5,000 / ¥2,500 (students) valid for both days, qualifying and race
 - Ticket sold on the day : ¥3,600 (sat) / ¥6,200 (sun)
 - * Junior high school students and younger : Admission free (with guardian's)
 - Perking tickets (2-days) : ¥1,500 (passenger cars) / ¥Free (motorcycles)
 - Paddock (w Pit-walk) pass : ¥3,100 (2-days)
 - Pit-walk pass : ¥1,100 (sat) (sun)
 - Circuit safari : ¥4,000 (pair ticket) Reserved seat only

* Please visit the Twin Ring Motegi official website for more details.

< <http://www.twining.jp/2and4/ticket/index.html> >

TV Coverage & Race Footage Delivery

• J SPORTS :

Live broadcast of all rounds (both qualifying and race).

Rebroadcastings and digest programs also available.

On-air dates:

Aug 22 (Sat) at 13:00 -15:00 [Live coverage of the qualifying sessions on J SPRTS 3]

Aug 23 (Sun) at 14:30 -17:30 [Live coverage of the race on J SPRTS 3]

Sep 05 (Sat) at 22:00 -22:15 [Digest program : J SPRTS 3]

* For more info on the programs, visit SUPER FORMULA official website <<http://www.superformula.net/>>

or J SPORTS website < http://www.jsports.co.jp/motor/super_formula/ >

• BS FUJI :

“SUPER FORMULA Go On!” features all race highlights

On-air dates:

Aug 28 (Fri) at 24:00 - 24:55 · Special feature : Tomoki Nojiri

Sep 04 (Fri) at 24:00-24:55 (Rebroadcasting)

* For more info on the programs, visit SUPER FORMULA official website <<http://www.superformula.net/>>

or BS Fuji website < <http://www.bsfuji.tv/top/pub/superformura2015.html>>

• FUJI TELEVISION CS :

“SUPER FORMULA TV” features all race highlights plus talk show with invited guest drivers

[ONE] [TWO] [NEXT]

Fuji TV F1 broadcast announcer along with language fluent fashion model Ms. Erika Yokoyama will host the show

[NEXTsmart]

On-air dates:

Aug 28 (Fri) at 22:30 - 23:00 [NEXT] · Gest driver : Hiroaki Ishiura

* For more info on the programs, visit SUPER FORMULA official website <<http://www.superformula.net/>>

or CS Fuji website < http://otn.fujitv.co.jp/b_hp/914200066.html>

• GYAO! :

Race footage of each SUPER FORMULA round will be available on-demand 10 days after each round at

< <http://gyao.yahoo.co.jp/sports/> >

• You Tube :

Race and qualifying footage of each round will be available in digest format at

<<http://www.superformula.net/>>

***On-air schedule is subject to change.**

Visit SUPER FORMULA official website <<http://www.superformula.net/>> for updates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT :

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