

PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S

2012 Formula Nippon Rd.2
TWIN RING MOTEGI
12 MAY 2011

Spectators: 6,500 (Weather : Sunny)

QUALIFYING



PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S drivers, Andre Lottere clinched first Pole position in this season and Kazuki Nakajima was P2. Tom's team dominated first row for the race.

- Special stage of single car qualify under way in this event.
- Andre set pace from morning free practice and got his 4th Pole position.
- Andre was over 0.5 second faster than his team mate Kazuki
- Kazuki was also good shape from free practice and he made good run in Special stage

Drivers	Car No.	Q1	Special Stage			
Andre Lotterer	1	P1 1:33.277	P1 1:33.264			
Kazuki Nakajima	2	P3 1:33.823	P2 1:33.779			
Weather	Sunny					
Temperatures	Air: 19-19 °C	Track: 32-32 °C				

ANDRE LOTTERER (Driver for car No.1)

"I was really happy with my car balance of today. Condition was difficult with wind but it was better than rain so I was not able to complain. You need something better always, best window was so small but I was generally happy. Thanks to team that prepare fantastic car for qualify. It was really nice thing that I was more than five tenth faster to Kazuki. I hope, I can keep my advantage for tomorrow in the race to win."

KAZUKI NAKAJIMA (Driver for car No.2)

"I had good qualify in Special stage here in Motegi. My car was good and I drove as good as to make time but I was not able beat Andre. I do not know why there was 0.5 seconds gap from Andre. We will make good race set up tomorrow morning free practice. It is very important and big advantage to start from front row in Motegi. I will try good start against Andre."

TSUTOMU TOJO (Engineer for car No. 1)

"Our set up for Twin Ring Motegi was good and we put some adjustment for track temperature and some points for qualify today. Andre made great drive to make big gap. It was real driver's achievement. Our race set up in last year was strong in Motege, so we will see tire wear and fuel consumption tomorrow morning. I hope Andre will make good start from best grid and also make good race with Kazuki."

MASAKI SAEDA (Engineer for car No. 2)

"I am not worry about 0.5 seconds gap from Andre in Special stage. Kazuki was as fast as Andre in sector 3 and 4 but he was not in 1 and 2. It must be, he was not push too much at first two sectors. Our basic car balance was not bad. We put together the data of last year and new set up for 2012, it make great result in first round Suzuka. I can remember the final race in here in Motegi. I hope Kazuki and Andre will make nice race tomorrow and Kazuki win this time."

NOBUHIDE TACHI (Team Director)

"Thanks to all staff of Tom's and two drivers. We had great qualify result that I can not to want more today. Andre set time from this morning and Kazuki as well but Andre's drive in Special stage was supreme. I am really looking for tomorrow race as Motorsports lover. Both driver start from front row and I hope one driver will lead and the other follow to finish 1-2."

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13 MAY 2012

Spectators: 9,000 (Weather : Cloudy)

RACE

PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S driver Andre Lotterer made Pole to win in 2nd round of Formula Nippon at Twin Ring Motegi today and Kazuki Nakajima finished 3rd.

- Andre start from Pole got away to pull gap from his team mate Kazuki
- After pit stop, Andre pushed and took over J-P de Oliveira coming out from pit, led again
- Kazuki one position back after pit stop and got final podium and he extended his podium record in this series from last year



Drivers	Car No.	Result / Fastest Lap
Andre Lotterer	1	P1 1:35.531
Kazuki Nakajima	2	P3 1:35.989
Weather	Sunny-Overcast	
Temperatures	Air: 24-22 C	Track: 40-33 C

ANDRE LOTTERER (Driver for car No.1)

“It was really good race, start was good and to keep lead, I wanted to pull more gap but pace of Kazuki and JP were good. JP did smart driving to save fuel beginning of the race, better than me to short pit stop that he was more than 3 seconds fast pit stop than me. I was not surprised to see JP in front of me, I knew he did good drive before pit stop and I made tight over taking, using over-taking system to lead gain. Car balance on new tires was good but on used tires, I had over steer, it was weak point of my car. In final part of the race, front brake suddenly fade and brake balance was worse that why JP got closer little bit to me. But I managed put brake balance to front then car back to good again. I did not worry too much when JP got closer, Motegi was very difficult over take. Thanks to team, I am happy to my car whole week end. I want to keep this pace to lest of season.”

KAZUKI NAKAJIMA (Driver for car No.2)

“I made reasonably good start to challenge to Andre but it was not able make it. My car was good to follow him but car balance changed after pit stop. JP made good pit stop to came up in front of me and I was struggled to follow him. We have to find reason why we struggled in 2nd half of race. To take another podium finish was good for me and team. I want to keep on and extend my podium finish record in next round Autopolis.”

TSUTOMU TOJO (Engineer for car No. 1)

“We spend great week end, to get Pole and winning by Andre. Team scored second win from Suzuka. But I have to pay attention that JP's stop to refuel was shorter than us. And his pace in after pit stop was fantastic. We got victory thanks of Andre's great drive but we have to prepare better car in Autopolis.”

MASAKI SAEDA (Engineer for car No. 2)

“Kazuki showed off good drive again here in Motegi. We are happy to finish podium. Car was good before pit stop but he struggled then. We have to figure out why car balance changed and was not able to catch up JP. We look forward to win again in Autopolis.”

NOBUHIDE TACHI (Team Director)

“Great drivers and team. I am more than happy to win in Motegi. We scored two straight win from Suzuka. Qualifying result was key issue for winning here and made good result. Our drivers started from front row and led but Kazuki lost 2nd position at timing of pit stop . We need to find why Kazuki was not able to keep his position. I want to sustain a strong for next race in Autopolis.”