

MEDIA INFORMATION

May 19, 2015
Japan Race Promotion Inc.

May 23 (Saturday) – May 24 (Sunday)

2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA

Round 2 : Okayama International Circuit

Japan Race Promotion Inc. (President: Hiroshi Shirai, Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan) today announced details of the “2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA, Round 2 Okayama International Circuit,” scheduled to take place on May 23–24 at the Okayama International Circuit (length= 3.703km) for the first time in seven years.

The 2015 Japanese Championship is the only internationally accredited driver championship series in Asia, run over seven rounds and six circuits across Japan. Points accumulated by drivers during the season determine the final rankings.

Round 2 qualifying will be held on May 19 (Saturday) over three knockout stages. As the name suggests, drivers are knocked out if they do not post strong qualifying times during the three short qualifying races. In the event of 19 entries, the five slowest cars during the 20-minute long Q1 session will be knocked out 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.

An ideal qualifying session would involve the drivers going all out to make the top 14 in Q1 and the top eight in Q2, and then aiming to put in their best time in Q3 to secure a prime spot on the grid.

The race on May 23 (Sunday) will be fought over 68 laps of the Okayama International Circuit for a total distance of 251.804km. The length of the race means all cars will need to pit for fuel. Tire changes, as well as rapid pit stops, will also be a key factor in team strategy, testing the abilities of the whole race team.

A total of 11 teams (entrants) and 19 drivers (cars) have entered this year’s Japanese Championship. Spectators will have the chance to enjoy a domestic competition with world-class levels of racing, featuring seven top drivers from six countries (UK, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Brazil and India), driving cars with the same cornering speeds as the top Formula 1 racing cars.

In the opening race of the season at Suzuka, Andre Lotterer and Kazuki Nakajima, driving for last year’s winning team PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S, took an early lead in the season with an impressive 1-2 finish in their TOYOTA R14A-powered cars. However, Naoki Yamamoto (TEAM MUGEN) secured pole position after the qualifying rounds with the HONDA HR-414A engine, raising hopes of a fight back from Honda-powered teams in Round 2 at Okayama.



PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S secured a 1-2 finish in the opening race. Winner Andre Lotterer is in the foreground in the No.2 car, followed by second-place finisher Kazuki Nakajima in the No.1 car.

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2015 JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIP SUPER FORMULA Round 2 : ENTRY LIST (Chassis: SF15, Tires: Bridgestone)

NO.	DRIVER	DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH	ENTRANT MANAGER	CAR	ENGINE
1	Kazuya Oshima	30 April 1987 Gunma, 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			

2015 CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

DRIVERS Standings

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

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

TEAMS Standings

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

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

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2015 CHAMPIONSHIP POINT SCORING SYSTEM

POSITION	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th & beyond	PP
1 race per round	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	1
2 races per round	5	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.

2015 CHAMPIONSHIP 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”

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 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 (R14A). 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 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.

■ 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.

ABOUT THE SUZUKA ROUND

- **Official name :** 2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Round 2 : Okayama International Circuit
- **Held Jointly with :** 2015 Japanese Formula 3 Championship Round 6・7
2015 N-ONE OWNER'S CUP Round 3
- **Dates :** 2015 May 23 (Saturday) –May 24 (Sunday)
- **Location :** Okayama International Circuit, Okayama Prefecture (Circuit length: 3703m)
- **Hosted by :** Okayama International Circuit Co.,Ltd.
Aida Club(AC)
- **Official Recognition by :** Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA)
Japan Automobile Federation (JAF)
- **Authorized by :** Japan Race Promotion Inc. (JRP)
Japanese Formula 3 Association (JF3A)
- **Sponsored by :** Okayama Prefecture ; Mimasaka City ; Okayama International Circuit Club
Okayama Prefectural Government Tourism Division : Mimasakanokuni Sightseeing Union ;
The Sanyo Shimbun ; Chugoku Shimbun

Ticket Information & Enquiries

- **Ticket :** Advance sale tickets : ¥5,400 (valid for both days, qualifying and race)
Ticket sold on the day : ¥4,300 (sat) / ¥7,600 (sun)
* Junior high school students and younger : Admission free (with guardian's)
* Ticket details: Please visit the Okayama International Circuit official website for more details.
<http://www.okayama-international-circuit.jp/special/sf-2015/ticket.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:

May 23 (Sat) at 13:20 -15:50 [Live coverage of the qualifying sessions on J SPRTS 2]

May 24 (Sun) at 13:00 -17:30 [Live coverage of the race on J SPRTS 2]

* 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:

May 29 (Fri) at 24:00 - 24:55

June 6 (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:

May 29 (Fri) at 22:30 - 23:00 [NEXT]

* 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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