

MEDIA INFORMATION

Sep 7, 2015
Japan Race Promotion Inc.

Sep 12 (Saturday) – Sep 13 (Sunday)

2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA

Round 5 : AUTOPOLIS

Which driver can pull ahead in the tight battle for the Championship?

Japan Race Promotion Inc. (President: Hiroshi Shirai, Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan) today announced details of the “2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA, Round 5 AUTOPOLIS” scheduled to take place on September 12-13 on the AUTOPOLIS International Racing Course (length = 4.674km) in Oita 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 Japanese Championship.

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

The battle for the Championship is still very tight after four of the seven rounds in this year’s SUPER FORMULA season. With the competition now past the halfway mark, Hiroaki Ishiura (P.MU/CERUMO • INGING) sits at the top of the rankings with 32 points after victories in Round 2 at Okayama and Round 4 at Twin Ring Motegi. He is the only driver this season with more than one win to his name. Close behind in second spot with 25 points is Joao Paulo de Oliveira (LENOVO TEAM IMPUL), who won Round 3 at Fuji Speedway, followed by Kazuki Nakajima (PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S) in third with 24 points, who is still looking for a win but has come second in every race so far, excluding the round when he was out with an injury. André Lotterer (PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S) is in fourth with 20 points after controlling Round 1 at Suzuka. Only 12 points separate the top four drivers, in what is shaping up to be a very tight Championship. Interest in Round 5 is high, with any one of the drivers in the leading group potentially pulling ahead of rivals. Drivers without a win so far could also make a late charge in the rankings.

As with the other rounds in the Championship, drivers at this year’s AUTOPOLIS race are allowed to take on fuel during pit stops, enabling teams to employ various strategies. The track will also give drivers the chance to show off the real speed of the SF14 Race car.



No. 38 Hiroaki Ishiura (P.MU/CERUMO • INGING) is currently top of the standings on 32 points

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2015 JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIP SUPER FORMULA Round 5 : 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 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.	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	AUTOPOLIS Rd.5	SUGO Rd.6	SUZUKA Rd.7-1 Rd.7-2	
1	38	Hiroaki Iishiura	32	4	11	6	11				
2	19	Joao Paulo de Oliveira	25	5	4	10	6				
3	1	Kazuki Nakajima	24	8	—	8	8				
4	2	Andre Lotterer	20	10	1	4	5				
5	40	Tomoki Nojiri	11	1	6	1	3				
6	8	Kamui Kobayashi	8	—	8	—	—				
7	16	Naoki Yamamoto	7	1	5	—	1				
8	64	Daisuke Nakajima	7	3	—	—	4				
9	41	Kumar Ram Narain Karthikeyan	6	6	—	—	—				
10	39	Yuji Kunimoto	5	—	—	5	—				
11	7	Ryo Hirakawa	5	—	—	3	2				
12	20	Andrea Caldarelli	4	—	3	1	—				
13	11	Takuya Izawa	4	2	2	—	—				
14	3	James Rossiter	2	—	—	2	—				
	4	William Buller	—	—	—	—	—				
	34	Takashi Kogure	—	—	—	—	—				
	65	Bertrand Baguette	—	—	—	—	—				
	18	Yuichi Nakayama	—	—	—	—	—				
	10	Koudai Tsukakoshi	—	—	—	—	—				
	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	AUTOPOLIS Rd.5	SUGO Rd.6	SUZUKA Rd.7-1 Rd.7-2	
1	1 2	PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S	44	18	1	12	13				
2	38 39	P.MU/CERUMO-INGING	35	4	10	11	10				
3	19 20	LENOVO TEAM IMPUL	28	5	7	10	6				
4	40 41	DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING	17	7	6	1	3				
5	7 8	KYGNUS SUNOCO Team LeMans	13	—	8	3	2				
6	64 65	NAKAJIMA RACING	7	3	—	—	4				
7	16	TEAM MUGEN	6	—	5	—	1				
8	10 11	REAL RACING	4	2	2	—	—				
9	3 4	KONDO RACING	2	—	—	2	—				
	34	DRAGO CORSE	—	—	—	—	—				
	18	KCMG	—	—	—	—	—				

* 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. SUPER FORMULA offers the chance to enjoy highly competitive racing featuring top drivers from Japan and overseas in the SF14 race car, which has the same cornering speeds as the top Formula 1 race cars.

■ 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 ten (or five)^{*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

AUTOPOLIS Racing Course (Circuit length 4.674km) : 54 laps / total distance 252.396km.

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”

■ AUTOPOLIS Racing Course

AUTOPOLIS is an internationally accredited race course with a length of 4,674m. With a home straight of 902m, an elevation change of 52m and maximum uphill and downhill slopes of 7.2% and 10%, respectively, AUTOPOLIS is a technical track with challenging changes in gradient. The course is also unusual in Japan in that the pit lane is on the outside of the track, so the direction of race car travel, as seen from the pit lane, is the opposite of other courses.

ABOUT THE AUTOPOLIS ROUND

- **Official name :** AUTOPOLIS SUPER 2&4 RACE 2015
2015 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series Round 5 : AUTOPOLIS
2015 MFJ SUPERBIKE All Japan Road Race Championship Round 6 (JSB) : KYUSHU
- **Held Jointly with :** GAZOO Racing Netz Cup Vitz Race 2015 west Round 3
2015 HONDA N-ONE OWNER'S CUP Round 8
- **Dates :** 2015 Sep 12 (Saturday) - Sep 13 (Sunday)
- **Location :** AUTOPOLIS International Racing Course, Oita Prefecture (Circuit length: 4,674km)
- **Hosted by :** AUTOPOLIS Co., Ltd. / AUTOPOLIS CLUB
Motorcycle Federation of Japan (MFJ)
- **Official Recognition by :** Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) / Japan Automobile Federation (JAF)
Fédération Internationale de Motorcyclisme (FIM) / Motorcycle Federation of Japan (MFJ)
- **Authorized by :** Japan Race Promotion Inc. (JRP)
- **Special cooperation :** Bright Co., Ltd.
TV-Kumamoto Co., Ltd. (TKU)
- **Sponsored by :** Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology / Japan Tourism Agency /
Kyushu District Transport Bureau / Oita Prefecture / Kumamoto Prefecture / Hita City / Kikuchi City /
Aso City / Yanagawa City / Ozu Town / Oguni Town / Minamioguni Town / Ubuyama Village /
Hita City Board of Education / Kikuchi City Board of Education /
Aso City Board of Education / Yanagawa City Board of Education /
Ozu Town Board of Education / Oguni Town Board of Education /
Minamioguni Town Board of Education / Ubuyama Village Board of Education /
Hita City Tourist Association / Kikuchi City Tourist Association /
Aso City Tourist Association / Yanagawa City Tourist Association /
Higo-Oozu Tourist Association / Oguni Town Tourism Association /
Tsuetate Onsen Tourist Hotel Cooperative / Minamioguni Town Tourist Association /
Ubuyama Village Tourism Association

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:
Sep 12 (Sat) at 14:00 -16:25 [Live coverage of the qualifying sessions on J SPRTS 3]
Sep 13 (Sun) at 14:15 -17:00 [Live coverage of the race on J SPRTS 4]
Sep 24 (Thu) at 17:45 -17:55 [Digest program : 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:
Sep 18 (Fri) at 24:00 - 24:55 · Special feature : Hiroaki Ishiura (driver) and Yuji Tachikawa (manager)
Sep 25 (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 :** Fuji Television broadcasts race highlights of all 7 rounds and a talk show program called “SUPER FORMULA TV,” which features interviews with guest drivers about a range of topics, such as the appeal of the SUPER FORMULA format and genuine insights into how they feel during races. The highlights and talk show are broadcast simultaneously on internet pay channel “Fuji Television NEXTsmart”.
[ONE] [TWO] [NEXT]
[NEXTsmart]
On-air dates:
Sep 18 (Fri) at 22:30 - 23:00 [NEXT] · Gest driver : Joao Paulo de Oliveira
*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.

Ticket Information & Enquiries

- **Ticket :**
 - Advance sale tickets (2-days) : ¥4,200 (valid for both days, qualifying and race)
 - Ticket sold on the day : ¥3,000 (sat) / ¥5,500 (sun)
 - * Junior high school students and younger : Admission free (with guardian's)

 - Paddock (w Pit-walk) pass : ¥3,000 (sat) / ¥5,000 (sun)
 - Pit-walk pass : ¥1,000 (sat) / ¥1,500 (sun)
 - * For high-school students and older / separate entry tickets required

 - Kids pass : ¥1,000 (sat) / ¥1,000 (sun)
 - * For elementary and junior high school students

 - Perking tickets (2-days) : ¥1,500 (passenger cars) / ¥Free (motorcycles) w / Advance sale tickets

* Please visit the AUTOPOLIS official website for more details.

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

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