



Engine Manufacturer Testing and Rookie Driver Tryouts Report 2015/11/25~26 SUZUKA

Over two weeks after 2015 finals at SUZUKA Circuit, Engine Manufacturer /Rookies Test, which all teams attended with cars fitted YOKOHAMA (2016 Official Tire Supplier) tires, was held.

DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING engaged in the test, with Stoffel Vandoorne (BE) 2015 GP2 Champion, Jazeman Jaafar (MY) a Formula RENOULT 3.5 driver, and Stefano Coletti (MC) who had participated in IndyCar Series.

Test Day1.

Vandoorne driving Car #40 was the first to break the 1'40" barrier and jumped to the top of the rookies. However, engine trouble occurred right after that, and his morning test came to the end. Jaafar followed him with a good lap of 1'40" and coped with programs such as collecting basic data or checking new tires.

It was unstable wet condition in the afternoon. Vandoorne continued to drive Car #40 whose engine had changed. Coletti drove Car #41. Both finished Day1 with nearly 40 laps testing car condition change which accompany set-up change and doing other programs.

Test Day2.

It was drizzling time to time, but during 3-hour session, it was completely dry condition. Jaafar drove Car #40 instead of Vandoorne who left for Abu Dhabi GP after Day1. Coletti continued to drive Car #41.

Jaafar drove around energetically to learn the track coping with the test schedule. On the other hand, Coletti's driving style did not match a set of brake, so he went out of the course twice. It took an hour to change brake. With less than 1 hour left, Jaafar had new tire fitted and tried to attack. He shortened his time in Sec1 and Sec2, however, he got in traffic and had to slow down. Unfortunately, second attack was interrupted by a red flag condition.

Coletti also changed brake, and when he was just about to attack, a red flag condition was thrown again. Even the session was extended for 10 min, there was the 5th red flag condition during the extension. After all, there were only 5 min remained, and it was not enough for an attack lap. Jaafar and Coletti reluctantly finished the test without satisfactory simulation for QF.



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING *Team Release*

Stoffel Vandoorne

Day1 was an excellent day. Although it was not perfect because of engine trouble and bad weather, I enjoyed my new experience with a wonderful team. I could drive at a good pace in dry condition in the morning until engine trouble occurred, and even in unstable wet condition, I think I did good job. The car was nice, the team was nice and a lot of fans were there. Everything was more than expected. I would have to be perfectly prepared to compete in this high-level championship. It would be so nice if I could participate next spring.

Jazeman Jaafar

I thank the team for giving me a chance to attend SUPER FORMULA test for 5 and half hours in 2 sessions at SUZUKA Circuit where I have wanted to drive. The cornering speed was unlike any I had ever experienced before, and I was surprised at grip and down force level at the same time I enjoyed it. I have longed for FORMULA NIPPON since I saw a race at Sepang International Circuit when I was a child, so, I don't want to blow this chance.

Stefano Coletti

On Day1, it was raining during my stint, and still I enjoyed amazing down force and cornering G force of SUPER FORMULA. But brake set-up which had no problem in wet condition on the first day didn't suit my driving in dry condition on Day2, and I lost time to change it so I couldn't finish the schedule. I am disappointed that I couldn't show my true ability in QF simulation because I didn't have enough time.

For me, this high-level championship is one big option next year.