

July 18th, 2022

TEAM MUGEN SUPER FORMULA RACE REPORT

#15 Sasahara the very first win eventually! #1 Nojiri 3rd and both stood on the podium!

■ Qualifying: #1 Tomoki Nojiri: 3rd place / #15 Ukyo Sasahara: 13th place

【Driver: Nojiri】



Qualifying of Round 6 Fuji has just ended. Due to rainy conditions, there was concern some like figuring out the right time to attack. But the result itself was not bad 3rd place.

Judging from my condition then, I was afraid the result could be quite bad. But in reality, I could finish the qualifying in the 3rd place and feel positive about it.

Of course, I wanted to win the pole position. But first of all, I should respect our challenging work to bring about this result and figure out what needs to be done for the

win at the race and simply do it. We will do our best anyway and please keep on supporting us.

I apologize for today's qualifying result. I have nothing to comment about it. In the morning practice session, I felt good about the car. In the qualifying I tried to find out the best car set-up while I was driving, but from the beginning I had a tough time to warm up tires.



Condition in the free practice and that in qualifying was totally different. We need to figure out what was the matter with it. I will reboot my mind and make a strategy with forecasting conditions in the race for good start. Since I will do my best to overtake as many competitors as possible, please look forward to our race.

(Director: Tanaka)

Though both drivers had complaints about car conditions, time of both cars were good then I expected satisfactory results for both of them in the qualifying. Considering weather forecast (when to rain), we had no choice but to find out how to layout the race and when to attack within 10 minutes after the race starts, which bothered us a lot.

#1 Nojiri did not show any clear laps but scored the 3rd place in the qualifying. Reflecting the conditions of the qualifying in which red flags appeared from time to time. I believe this result should be appreciated. As for #15 Sasahara due to dramatic change of car performance between in the morning session and in the qualifying, he could not maneuver his car as he wished. We need to find out what was wrong with the car then.

I believe the race condition would be dry. We will do our best to show the best performance in the race. Keep on cheering us up, please.

■ Race: #15 Ukyo Sasahara: 1st place / #1 Tomoki Nojiri: 3rd place



[Driver: Noiiri]

I started the race from the 3rd grid with which I could aim for the win. My start was good enough to overtake #38 Tsuboi. I believe this is the moment when I had the wind at my back in this race.

There happened a huge crush and a safety car appeared then I chose the minimum laps pit stop. Targeting at #19 Sekiguchi, I was caught by a slower car and lost speed. You know, this is the race, and we have no choice but to accept it.

Car condition was good, and I anyway tried not to give up this race and could score 3rd place in the end. I would evaluate this result quite positively. My teammate Ukyo this time showed incessant overtaking and team's strategy worked well and won the race in the end. I am really happy with it. Congratulations!

Even the race did not work as I wished; I still could keep my position steadily. Which I felt good about and would like to continue such a performance for the next race. I am certain that Round 7 and 8 at Motegi will be the turning point. I will try my best extremely hard. Please continue to give us the stronger support. Thank you so much.

Thank you so much for your support! I have been struggling since I could not show satisfactory results at all for a long while. I felt often exhausted but when I heard your cheering voice and a message "Don't give up!," I was always encouraged.

I have nothing but to express gratitude for Honda, sponsors, and team members. I deeply appreciate your



[Driver: Sasahara]

support. We are still on a way and 4 races to go. I would like to keep going steadily for the next race. Since this is the very first win for me, I would like to bring myself hours of pleasure tonight. But from tomorrow, I will switch my mind and work hard with my team members to win the next round Motegi and the championship for TEAM MUGEN in the end. I highly appreciate your continued support. Thank you very much indeed.

(Director: Tanaka)

Regarding the race I am extremely happy that #15 Sasahara scored the very first win. Though he showed the speed in the season opener Fuji but then things have not gone well, and he has been struggling with severe situation. This win should not be attributed to sheer luck but to mostly his proper judgement in each stage of the race including strong support of TEAM MUGEN for him. I am so satisfied with it. And most of all I am so happy to provide you with this brilliant news.

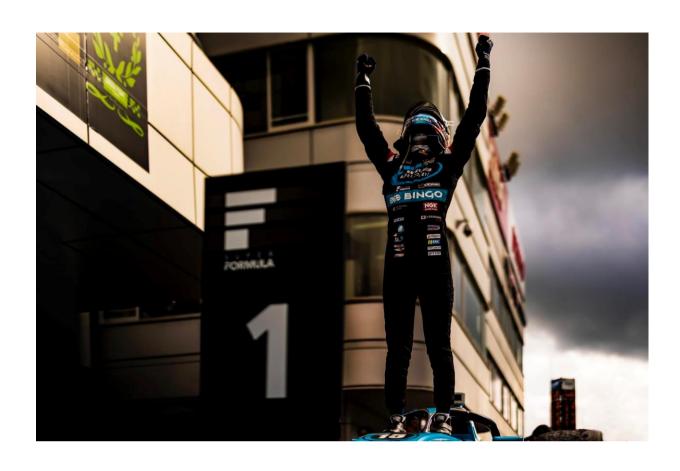
#1 Nojiri of course aimed to win the race from the beginning. The race went as he expected until middle stage of the race, but then it was not going to be that easy. As the result #15 Sasahara won the race and #1 Nojiri scored 3^{rd} place and both of them stood on the podium as TEAM MUGEM. I would have to say you guys are so great!

I thank sponsors, companies concerned, and all the fans who gave us kind support so much! We will do our best to show another impressive performance in the next race.

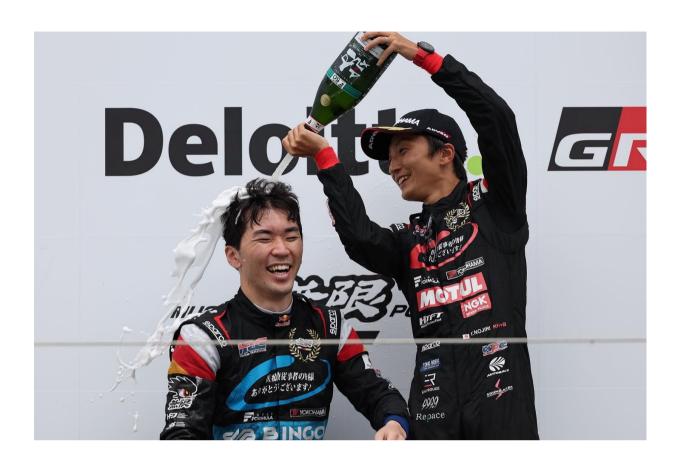


















































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