



Qualifying Report

2017/7/8 Rd-3 Fuji Speedway

Weather : sunny Temperature : 30°C 19cars

In early stage of 2017 Super Formula, 3 races of 2 rounds used sprint-race format.

Now, Rd3 at Fuji Speedway is a 250km-race. Who and which team will break away from the pack at the beginning of the middle stage? It will be a very important race for how 2017 season goes.

In Knock-out QF1, after checking the track conditions and attack timing with used tires, both drivers went back on-track with new tires on in last 5min. Nojiri recorded the best times in Sec1 and Sec2, but could not quicken his pace in Sec3. He settled in 9th position. Izawa struggled with the lack of rear tire grip, and ended up in 14th. They both moved on to QF2.

In the following QF2, Nojiri and Izawa adjusted set-up slightly, and jumped into the track as soon as the gate opened to make tire condition best for attacks. However, when they finally began to attack after warming up tires, the session was interrupted by a red flag because of a car spun with 1min left. Later, the session restarted with the remaining time extended to 3min. In the one last attack, both Nojiri and Izawa only shortened their laps a little, since their tires were far from the best conditions. Nojiri finished in 11th, and Izawa in 13th.

#40: Tomoki Nojiri Position 11th (QF1 9th, QF2 11th) 3rd among HONDA users

My car had potential for QF3. However, because of the interruption by a red flag and the intense competition, I ended up in 11th position.

Tomorrow, I will make a good start first, and try to get some points in the end. I will develop a strategy with my team to race for the podium, and will show my ability 100%.

#40: Takuya Izawa Position 13th (QF1 14th, QF2 13th) 4th among HONDA users

We had a little hard time to complete set-up from the beginning.

I finished QF in 13th position, however, I had a better feeling as I drove during free practice and QF. I will share data with Nojiri for a race tomorrow, and I want to bring home at least one point.