



Engine Manufacturer Testing and Rookie Driver Tryouts Report 2017/12/6~7 SUZUKA

2017 Engine Manufacturer Testing and Rookie Driver Tryouts was the last event for this season. Rookie drivers from home and abroad, who participated in FIA F2, FIA European F3 or else, drove among active Super Formula drivers. The test gaining the world's attention was held at Suzuka Circuit in chilly weather brought by cold wave.

DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING appointed Nobuharu Matsushita, who participated FIA F2 for three years and was ranked 6th this season, besides Team's ace driver Nojiri.

On Day1, in spite of sunny weather, it was difficult condition for warming up tires with the surface temperature around 7°C. Matsushita gradually quickened his pace getting used to Yokohama tires and the track. On the other hand, Nojiri executed the testing plan, mainly gathering basic data and checking new set ups. On Day2, the weather was also stable. Nojiri energetically executed the test programs for the next season looking back his drive in 2017. Matsushita had already adopted himself to the feeling of Super Formula and showed nice attacks from the morning. Both Nojiri and matsushita were in good condition.

There were a lot of red flag interruptions during the test. With 15min left in the afternoon session, they made attacks wearing 2018 spec soft tires. Nojiri finished in 2nd position, and Matsushita who drove SF14 for the first time showed stable driving to finish the session in 5th position. In the overall standings for two days, Nojiri was 6th and Matsushita was 10th.

#40: Tomoki Nojiri Position 6th (3rd among HONDA users)

On the first day of the test, I focused on checking the present data and trying the new set ups. On Day2, I evaluated the set ups for the next season and learned their good and bad points. That was exactly what the test was for. Now, it is very important for us to analyze the data during the off-season for our strength next season. I am glad I have been fast for two days, but I should brace myself to prepare for the next season.



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING *Team Release*

#41: Nobuharu Matsushita Position 10th (5th among HONDA users)

Compared with FIA F2, down-force and tire grip were thrillingly high, so paying much attention to that, I had to adjust my driving on the first day. Nojiri was very fast and his data became a good reference. Since Engineer Yoshida solved problems accurately and proceeded with the test, I could learn SF through several trials on the second day. I wish to demonstrate my capability in Super Formula next season.