



Race Report

2017/8/20 Rd-4 Twin Ring MOTEGI

Weather : Cloudy Temperature : 27°C 19 cars

Audience : 14, 000/19th (Sat) 、 18, 000/20th (Sun)

Twin Ring Motegi was established as a rare circuit with two courses as 'twin' shows, a European style road course and an American style super-speed oval course, and has brought out a number of great matches since then.

Super Formula Rd4 was held at Twin Ring Motegi celebrating 20th anniversary this year adopts new spec soft tires in addition to existing standard spec tires.

In unpredictable weather, each car on the grid installed either soft tires or medium tires compound tires due to tactics and strategy.

Top 3 cars including Nojiri started with soft tires. Nojiri made an excellent start and stepped up to 2nd position. Izawa who also chose soft tires made a remarkable start, and kept 6th position on Lap3. While the leading 3 cars ran ahead of cars behind, on Lap10, the team called in Izawa, who could not quicken his pace in the second group competing for 4th position, to the pits to change to medium tires.

Nojiri in 2nd position waited for a chance to change tires, watching out for competitors. On Lap18, just as performance of soft tires began to drop, the team instructed him to make a pit stop, and send him back on-track after fueling and installing medium tires.

On Lap31, Izawa in 6th position was hit from behind by Lotterer in Hairpin Curve, and retired. Lotterer got drive-through penalty later.

Nojiri could not drive fast with medium tires, and finished in 8th getting 1 point.

#40: Tomoki Nojiri Position 8th (2nd among HONDA users)

I made a good start first, and drove in 2nd position managing soft tires. I changed to medium tires seeing how others would do, but I couldn't quicken my pace after that, and in result, I dropped my position. I was fast in QF, so, I have to figure out what I needed for the race. We don't have much time before next race at Autopolis. We will concentrate and prepare for it.

#41: Takuya Izawa Retired

I ended up retired by a rear-end collision, but I couldn't have gotten any points, because my race pace with medium tires was much slower than I expected. Next Autopolis is a circuit which is very tough for tires, so we will examine data including Nojiri's to break through this situation.