



無限 MUGEN



March 11, 2024

TEAM MUGEN

#16 Nojiri maintained the first place from beginning to end owing to his brilliant start

#15 Iwasa got rock-solid confidence with his 9th place finish for the next race

Series name: 2024 All Japan Super Formula Championship Round 1

Tournament name: SUZUKA 2&4 race

Distance: 180.017km (5.807km x 31 Laps or 75 mins.)

Saturday, March 9, 2024 Weather: Sunny / Road surface: Dry

Sunday, March 10, 2024 Weather: Sunny / Road surface: Dry

[Qualifying]

#16 Tomoki Nojiri: 3rd place (1'35.926)

#15 Ayumu Iwasa: 11th place (1'36.446)

[Driver: Tomoki Nojiri]

Qualifying for the opening race was over, and I finished in 3rd place. It was a disappointing result for me personally, and there were some points need to be improved regarding communication with the team and strategy.

My team and I will consider today's qualifying as our worst day and will firmly aim for the top in the race tomorrow. Please support us. I am so mortified then I will do my best.



【Driver: Ayumu Iwasa】

The opening match on Saturday has just ended. To be honest, I suffered from the harder free practice than I imagined, and the result was disappointing.

There were many things I wanted to try, but I could not make it, and I was forced into a situation where I had no choice but to underestimate our potential, leaving me in a negative state of mind. However, in the qualifying, we took on the big challenge of changing the setup with the engineers and were able to pass Q1 in 3rd place.



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Our performance in Q2 was not good enough, resulting in a disappointing result. We want to make a strong comeback in the race. I will steadily apply the many things I learned in this qualifying round to the next race. Also, there are a lot of things we can try in the race, then I will do my best with the team members together. Everyone, please support us.

[Director: Tanaka]

Nojiri had done well from the morning's free practice, and we were hoping for pole position in qualifying, but due to a slight timing discrepancy and a set change for Q2, he was unable to show his performance as he could have and ended up finishing in 3rd place.

Iwasa was not able to record the time he had hoped for since the morning practice and was in a troubled state. Although we could adjust the situation for the direction of improvement in Q1, we seemed not do enough for getting the satisfactory results.

We will make adjustments for winning the race. Please cheer us up.



【Race】

#16 Tomoki Nojiri: 1st place

#15 Ayumu Iwasa: 9th place

【Brief Overview】

Nojiri, who started from 3rd position, got off to a good start and quickly overtook two cars and took the pole shot and rose to the top. Iwasa also got off to a good start from 11th place.

A safety car as early as the second lap appeared due to a crash at the S-shaped corner. Despite the low track temperature, Nojiri continued to warm up his tires and restarted on lap 6. Nojiri held on to the lead, while Iwasa restarted the race in 11th place.



Nojiri made a pit stop on lap 14 and quickly returned to the track. Iwasa made a pit stop on the 27th lap. In the end, Nojiri did a great job winning the opening match.



[Driver: Tomoki Nojiri]

I was able to win the opening round of Super Formula!

I am happy!

Today's warm-up was not good enough, and I was afraid that it would be a little difficult to win the race. But I could somehow get a good start and was able to get into a good flow, and as a result, I was able to get through the race with my usual style of driving!



We could win the race in spite of starting from the 3rd position and were able to showcase the strength of TEAM MUGEN. At the same time, we were able to take the lead in the race for the championship from the very start of the season, so I feel we will be able to compete in a good manner through this season. I was really happy to receive so much support. Thank you very much. Hopefully please support us a lot more next time! Thank you so much!

【Driver: Ayumu Iwasa】

The opening round of Super Formula, Suzuka, has ended. I was able to earn points in 9th place. I am extremely disappointed with the result of qualifying yesterday because I performed well and had a good fight in the race today.

However, through this weekend, it became truly clear to me what points I need to improve or adjust regarding my driving, and how I should grow as a driver, so I want to prepare for the next race at AUTOPOLIS with a positive mindset in order to show a good performance. Thank you everyone for your support. We will do our best to win the next match, so please continue to support us. I am so frustrated that I have been blaming myself for my poor performance yesterday, but I will definitely show how much I have improved in the next match.



[Director: Tanaka]

Nojiri got off to a great start, took the lead at the first corner, and went on to win the race. This start was everything for today's victory, and I think Nojiri did a really excellent job.



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Iwasa struggled all weekend, but his car improved, and his pace was not bad in the race. Over this weekend we found out how to proceed with the setup for the race, so please look forward to the second round, AUTOPOLIS.

We would also like to congratulate Yamamoto on his recovery from an injury last season and 3rd place on the podium! We are glad to fight together as we have in the past years.



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