

# ARTA



August 5, 2025

## ARTA Race Report Round 4 Fuji -Race 2-

### ■ August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 (Sun): #8 Race Report

**Although the battle at the first corner damaged the tires,  
it was a highly motivated race for the next one**

#8 finished the morning practice session in 14th place. #8 struggled to move up from the back then revised its setup ahead of qualifying.

Like yesterday, it was hot in qualifying with high track temperatures. Tire compatibility was a concern, but Nobuharu Matsushita maximized his car's potential and managed to post a better time than his morning result's. He finished qualifying in 10th place, not a great position, but still a good enough place to score points.

The start time was 4:50 PM, with clouds appearing and the temperature dropping. It was hoped that this temperature would improve performance.

After 2 formation laps, the 50-minute race began.



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Matsushita finished his first lap in 8th place, then moved up one position at the first corner of the 2nd lap, and then further up to 6th position as he returned to the home straight. The balance of the car seemed good.

But the cars in the top 10 positions were all lapping in the 1'29s, and there were little changes in the rankings.

From around the 14th lap, his pace began to drop to the 1'31s, and by the 18th lap he had lost another position.

By the 21st lap he had dropped further to 9th position. By the 22nd lap, his lap time had recovered to the 1'30s, but by the 27th lap he was down to 10th position.



His tires also began to lose grip, preventing him from increasing his pace, and by the 29th lap he had dropped to 12th position. 50 minutes passed and the checkered flag was waved.

Although Matsushita missed points in this race, he showed a captivating race, and the team looks forward to seeing him perform even better in the next race.



## Director: Aguri Suzuki

Nobu showed a mentally strong performance. Yesterday, Nojiri also took advantage of a small opportunity to score points, and both of them always drive races that lift the team's morale. Although we did not get a good result this time, the drivers created motivation that will carry us into the next race.

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## **Executive Advisor: Keiichi Tsuchiya**

The wall of rivals is too thick and difficult for us to barely break through, but I told Nobu to go for it even if his tires were worn out. He showed some flashes early on, and I believe he showed his determination. I am certain Nobu showed good performance.



## **Director: Hirokatsu Tanaka**

Following yesterday's results, we made significant changes to our setup. While we made some improvements, our position in free practice was by no means good, then we will change the setup for qualifying. Things got better a bit, and we were able to start qualifying in a position where we felt we could earn some points. Our pace was good early on, and Nobu did a great job. But the car put a lot of strain on the tires, and we damaged them during a close race and could not maintain our pace.

However, I believe we ran a race that will give us hope for the next race.



## **Driver: Nobuharu Matsushita**

I started from 10th position and was determined to score points and aim for the podium, and I was doing well in the initial stages, but the tires did not stay in good condition after that, and I was caught up. I damaged my tires during the battle at the first corner, and that changed the flow of the race. This weekend was really tough, but I felt like I could see a light at the end of the tunnel. I am determined to get a good result next time.

## **■ August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 (Sun): #16 Race Report**

### **Despite receiving a penalty for track limits, Sato attacked boldly and got ready for the next race**

Sato struggled to find a good setup during the morning free practice, finishing in a disappointing 12th place. He changed setups for qualifying but was not able to improve on his morning time and would start from 14th position.

Anticipating that the race would be in the evening and temperatures would drop, Sato made setup changes and waited for the 50-minute race to begin.

The race started after 2 formation laps.

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Although he gained position on the first lap, he dropped to the back of the pack on the 2nd lap.

In the melee, downforce decreased, causing strong understeer. This caused him to receive a track limit (off-track) warning at the corner exit. Going off-track 4 times would result in a penalty.

The team communicated this to Sato over the radio, but when he tried to pass the car in front, he was forced into a close battle, which led to symptoms of understeer. Sato also understood the track limit penalty, but he could not open up a gap between himself and the car in front of him and ended up receiving a track limit penalty (drive-through).



He moved up one position on the 13th lap but had to enter the pits on the 17th lap to serve a drive-through penalty.

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He dropped to the back of the pack, but the car in front of him took a pit stop due to a problem, and by the 21st lap he moved up to 14th position.

Running alone, Sato was able to maintain lap times close to the lead group, partly because he did not have to accept any symptoms of understeer, but on the 31st lap he gave way to the leading car closing in from behind and fell a lap behind.

The checkered flag was waved after the 33rd lap and 50 minutes passed.

This race had many challenges, but he will change his mind set and would like to take on the next challenge at Suzuka, his favorite track.



**Director: Aguri Suzuki**

I had communicated the track limits to Ren over the radio, and he was also aware of them, but I also understand the desire to go for it when you get an opportunity to overtake a car in front. That was when the understeer symptoms appeared. I regret that we were not able to provide him with a better car. We are entering the latter half of the season, and we want to score points in every remaining race, and we would like to score as many points as possible somehow at the next

race, Suzuka.



**Executive Advisor: Keiichi Tsuchiya**

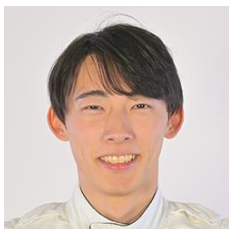
Ren was struggling from a symptom of losing downforce when getting too close to the car in front. I feel sorry for not being able to prepare a proper car in a crowded field for him. But he fought with a strong spirit, and I am certain that he was able to conduct the race that will lead to the next one. We are so good at Suzuka that we definitely will get a good result.



**Director: Hirokatsu Tanaka**

Considering yesterday's positioning, we made major changes to the setup. Though we were able to make improvements, we were not satisfied with our position. There were some areas where we struggled to figure out how we make changes for qualifying. We tried changing the setup in a different direction from #8, but it actually went in a worse direction, resulting in the last place in qualifying. We received a penalty in the race, and I feel sorry for Ren for the poor handling of the car in

the crowded field. Since our time alone was not slow, we would like to improve our situation from now on.



**Driver: Ren Sato**

When there was a car in front, I lost downforce, making it difficult to stay on the track, and I received a drive-through penalty. But my pace was good when there were no cars in front of me. That means it is not a hopeless situation. We will find out the cause and prepare for the next race.

\*Contents of this race report including all pictures are provided by ARTA.