

PRESS INFORMATION

SUZUKA 2&4 RACE (Saturday April 13-Sunday April 14)
2013 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series
Round 1 in Suzuka Circuit

Tokyo, April 9, 2013—Japan Race Promotion Inc. (President: Hiroshi Shirai, Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan) announced today the details of the SUZUKA 2&4 RACE “2013 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series, Round 1 in Suzuka Circuit” scheduled to take place on April 13-14 on the international race course (length= 5.807km) of the Suzuka Circuit in Mie Prefecture, Japan.

Building on an illustrious history extending over 17 years as Japan’s top formula racing category ever since it was first launched in 1996, the just renamed Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series officially starts the 2013 campaign with Round 1 in Suzuka Circuit.

The race will extend over 51 laps of the international race course of the Suzuka circuit located in Mie Prefecture for a total racing distance of 296.16km. A clever race strategy on when to bring the car in for tires as well as which fuel strategy to adopt will play as important a role as pure driving skills in what is the longest round of the season.

Qualifying will take place in three knock out-style sessions from Q1 to Q3 to decide the places on the starting grid. With 19 entries in this first round of the season, the five slowest cars during the 20-minute long Q1 session will be knocked out of the next session and given the 15th to 19th positions on the grid. After a 10 minute break, the 7-minute long Q2 will determine the 9th to 14th positions on the grid in the same way. Another 10-minute break will precede the last 7-minute long Q3 session which will decide the top 8 positions on the starting grid for Sunday’s race. There is no margin for error as any momentary lack of speed immediately signals being knocked out of the next qualifying session.

A total of 19 drivers from 11 teams are entered in this Suzuka round. They include three champion title holders in the persons of 2007 and 2008 champion Tsugio Matsuda (Lenovo TEAM IMPUL), 2010 champion J.P. de Oliveira (Lenovo TEAM IMPUL) and 2012 champion Kazuki Nakajima (PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S). After having narrowly missed the title last year, Koudai Tsukakoshi (HP REAL RACING) is back this season with renewed ambitions and the backing of a new team. Takuya Izawa (DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING) is another pretender to the title following last year’s 3rd place in the season rankings. Another big entry in this Suzuka round is fully fledged IndyCar Series driver Takuma Sato. A close eye should also be kept on NAKAJIMA RACING and its two drivers Takashi Kogure and Daisuke Nakajima which have shown a surprising turn of speed in the pre-season tests. All the elements are in place for another close-fought season befitting the undisputed standard-bearer top formula racing in Asia.

Among the newcomers, all eyes will be on Ryo Hirakawa (KYGNUS SUNOCO Team LeMans) following a very successful 2012 season crowned with two champion titles in the Japanese Formula 3 Championship Series and the Porsche Carrera Cup Japan together with the Formula Challenge Japan (FCJ) vice-champion title thrown in for good measure.

This year again, top-class drivers from around the world will be racing in the series. In this Round 1 in Suzuka circuit, the already mentioned J.P. de Oliveira is joined by James Rossiter (PETRONAS TEAM TOM’S) and Richard Bradley (KCMG) from the United Kingdom and Andrea Caldarelli (KYGNUS SUNOCO Team LeMans) from Italy.

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2013 Championship Series: Point Allocation System

■ Point Allocation System

Position	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th~	PP
One Race per Rd.	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	1
2 Races per Rd.	5+3	4	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0.5	0	1

Note: In case of 2 races in one round, the winner of race 1 and race 2 each earns a 3-point bonus in addition to the regular number of points

【General Information】

1. SUPER FORMULA

Organized by Japan Race Promotion Inc. and fully sanctioned by the Japan Automobile Federation (JAF), the Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series traces back its origins to the Japanese Championship Formula NIPPON first launched in 1996. 2013 signals a new beginning under the new SUPER FORMULA name. The series fields fully fledged single seater racing machines befitting its status as Japan's top formula racing category. The series will be fought on five circuits in Japan and one circuit in the Republic of Korea over a total of seven rounds followed by an additional post series round.

2. Series Awards

The driver winning the year's Series Champion title will be awarded a Series Driver's Champion Cup and a corresponding cash prize from Japan Race Promotion Inc., a Confederation Cup from the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan Motorsports Promotion Diet Members Confederation and a Commissioner Cup from the Japan Tourism Agency. At the same time, the Series Champion team will be awarded the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's Minister Cup.

3. Race Machine

This year's SF13 chassis is officially supplied by Swift Engineering of the United States. Honda and Toyota are once again the official engine suppliers with their respective HONDA HR12E and TOYOTA RV8K 3.4-liter V8 engines while Bridgestone officiates as the sole official tire supplier.

4. Overtake System (OTS)

The Overtake System (OTS) increases maximum engine speed from 10,300rpm to 10,700rpm for 20 seconds at a time. It is activated by the driver pushing the OTB (=OverTake Button) located on the steering wheel. The driver can activate the OTS a maximum of 5 times over the length of the race to facilitate overtaking. When activated, lights fitted onto the rollover bar start blinking for all to see. The car of the leader in the championship standings at the time of the race is fitted with Leader Red-type red lights instead of the regular white lights. This Overtake System is unique to SUPER FORMULA.

2013 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series, Round 1 in Suzuka Circuit

Dates	Round	Circuit
April 13-14	Round 1 Suzuka Circuit	Suzuka Circuit
June 1-2	Round 2 Autopolis	Autopolis
July 13-14	Round 3 Fuji Speedway	Fuji Speedway
August 3-4	Round 4 Twin Ring Motegi	Twin Ring Motegi
August 24-25	Round 5 Inje (Republic of Korea)	Inje International Circuit
September 28-29	Round 6 Sportsland SUGO	Sportsland SUGO
November 9-10	Round 7 Suzuka Circuit	Suzuka Circuit
November 15-17	FUJI SPRINT CUP 2013	Fuji Speedway

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2013 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series, Round 1 in Suzuka Circuit Entry List

(Chassis: SF13, Tires: Bridgestone)

No.	Driver	Birth date Birth place	Team Name Team Manager	Engine
1	中嶋 一貴 Kazuki Nakajima	1985.1.11 Japan (Aichi Prefecture)	PETRONAS TEAM TOM'S ペトロナス・チーム・トムス	TOYOTA RV8K
2	ジェームス・ロシター James Rossiter	1983.8.23 United Kingdom	Nobuhide Tachi	
3	安田 裕信 Hironobu Yasuda	1982.11.11 Japan (Shiga Prefecture)	KONDO RACING コンドー レーシング Masahiko Kondoh	TOYOTA RV8K
7	平川 亮 Ryo Hirakawa	1994.3.7 Japan (Hiroshima Prefecture)	KYGNUS SUNOCO Team LeMans キグナス スノコ チーム ルマン	TOYOTA RV8K
8	アンドレア・カルダレリ Andrea Caldarelli	1990.2.14 Italy	Hiroyoshi Donuma	
10	塚越 広大 Koudai Tsukakoshi	1986.11.20 Japan (Tochigi Prefecture)	HP REAL RACING エイチピー リアル レーシング	HONDA HR12E
11	中山 友貴 Yuhki Nakayama	1987.7.29 Japan (Ishikawa Prefecture)	Katsutomo Kaneishi	
15	佐藤 琢磨 Takuma Sato	1977.1.28 Japan (Tokyo)	TEAM 無限 チーム 無限	HONDA HR12E
16	山本 尚貴 Naoki Yamamoto	1988.7.11 Japan (Tochigi Prefecture)	Nagataka Tezuka	
18	リチャード・ブラッドレー Richard Bradley	1991.8.17 イギリス	KCMG ケーシーエムジー Ryuji Doi	TOYOTA RV8K
19	ジョアオ・パオロ・デ・オリベイラ Joao Paulo de Oliveira	1981.7.13 Brazil	Lenovo TEAM IMPUL レノボ チーム インパル	TOYOTA RV8K
20	松田 次生 Tsugio Matsuda	1979.6.18 Japan (Mie Prefecture)	Kazuyoshi Hoshino	
31	中嶋 大祐 Daisuke Nakajima	1989.1.29 Japan (Aichi Prefecture)	NAKAJIMA RACING ナカジマ レーシング	HONDA HR12E
32	小暮 卓史 Takashi Kogure	1980.8.1 Japan (Gunma Prefecture)	Satoru Nakajima	

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38	平手 晃平 Kohei Hirate	1986.3.24 Japan (Aichi Prefecture)	P.MU/CERUMO INGING プロムュー/セルモ・インギング Yuji Tachikawa	TOYOTA RV8K
39	国本 雄資 Yuji Kunimoto	1990.9.12 Japan (Kanagawa Prefecture)		
40	伊沢 拓也 Takuya Izawa	1984.6.1 Japan (Tokyo)	DOCOMO TEAM DANDELIONRACING ドコモ チーム ダンデライオン レーシング Kiyoshi Muraoka	HONDA HR12E
41	武藤 英紀 Hideki Mutoh	1982.10.6 Japan (Tokyo)		
62	嵯峨 宏紀 Koki Saga	1983.4.25 Japan (Aichi Prefecture)	TOCHIGI Le Beausset Motorsports トチギ ル・ポーセ モータースポーツ Tadao Tsubomatsu	TOYOTA RV8K

- Race Details -

- Official Round Name: SUZUKA 2&4 RACE
2013 Japanese Championship SUPER FORMULA Series, Round 1 Suzuka Circuit
2013 MFJ SUPERBIKE All JAPAN ROAD RACE CHAMPIONSHIP Series, Round 2
- Support Races: 2013 Japanese Formula 3 Championship Series, Round 1 and 2
Honda Sports & Eco Program CR-Z 10-liter Challenge
- Event Organization: Automobile: GROUP OF SPEED SPORTS (GSS), Suzuka Motor Sports Club (SMSC), Mobilityland Corporation
Motorcycle: Motorcycle Federation of Japan (MFJ), Mobilityland Corporation
- Sanctioning Bodies: Automobile: Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), Japan Automobile Federation (JAF)
Motorcycle: Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM), Motorcycle Federation of Japan (MFJ)
- Certification: Automobile: Japan Race Promotion Inc. (JRP), Japan Formula 3 Association (JF3A)
- Patronage: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan Tourism Agency, Mie Prefecture, The City of Suzuka, The Suzuka F1 Japan Grand Prix Regional Revitalization Council, Tourist Information Office Suzuka, Suzuka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI)

[TV Broadcasting]

- **JSPORTS1:** Live broadcast of all the races.
Re-runs of the full race broadcasts and race digest programs are also available.
Note: For the latest information on re-run and digest program schedules, kindly consult the SUPER FORMULA official website (<http://www.superformula.net/>) or the J SPORTS homepage (http://www.jsports.co.jp/program_guide/month/japanese/c_month14.html).
- **BS Fuji:** 55-minute long SUPER FORMULA feature program covering each round of the season
Note: For the latest information on broadcasting date and time, kindly consult the SUPER FORMULA official website (<http://www.superformula.net/>).
- **YAHOO! GyaO!:** Coverage of each SUPER FORMULA race available on demand starting at midnight 14 days after each round.

Note: Broadcasting day and time is subject to changes without prior notice. Kindly consult the SUPER FORMULA official

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website (<http://www.superformula.net/>) for the latest information

[Tickets]

- Two day passes (April 13-14) also give access on Friday April 12.

Adults: ¥3,900 (Including a one-day pass giving access to the adjacent Motopia amusement park)

Junior high school/high school students: ¥1,600 (circuit entrance only)

For further information on races/attractions and ticket purchase kindly consult the Suzuka Circuit official website at <http://www.suzukacircuit.jp/>

For any further information kindly forward your inquiries to:

Japan Race Promotion Inc. (<http://www.superformula.net/>)

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