

## My First JATCO Day – A Day in the Life of a PR Deputy Photographer



The other day, Forman Maezawa, who previously wrote a “reverse interview article” for *My JATCO*, has now brought us something new: a report on his very first experience attending **JATCO Day at Nissan Stadium!**

Although this was originally written as an internal portal article, it was so fun and full of vivid detail that—by decision of the editor-in-chief (once again, without asking…)—we’re publishing it here!

### **【I Joined JATCO Day!】**

On Saturday, August 23, I joined **JATCO Day**, held at Nissan Stadium in Kanagawa—for the very first time!

The last time I watched a J.League match was 32 years ago, when I saw Marinos vs. Verdy at the National Stadium as a new graduate.

This event, however, offered much more than just soccer. From community clean-up activities around the stadium to a track walk, it was a full day of experiences.

As the head of the Forging Department’s volunteer team, and serving as a “deputy PR cameraman,” I joined both the community activities and the track walk!



📷 *Photographer Maezawa in action, wearing the PR armband*

### **【Community Contribution – Stadium Clean-Up】**

I joined several volunteer groups collecting trash around the stadium. To my surprise, the area was already very clean reminding me how important it is to maintain that standard for welcoming guests.

Even so, participants enthusiastically searched for litter as if on a treasure hunt, cooperating with smiles all around. Some groups enjoyed the atmosphere of the area while working, others teamed up as families—it really felt like “fun and entertaining trash-picking.”



👉 *Volunteers in JATCO bibs cleaning up around the stadium*

### **【Pre-Match Events】**

Before kickoff, the program was packed with events: a greeting from CEO Sato, Galaxy Night fireworks, escort kids, flag bearers, and bouquet presentations.

- **CEO Sato's Greeting**

He spoke clearly about JATCO's challenges and vision, so well that I found myself nodding along and listening intently... almost forgetting to take photos!

- **Galaxy Night**

Fireworks and lighting effects that looked even more stunning in motion than in photos—it felt like a live concert atmosphere, sending excitement soaring!

- **Escort Kids & Flag Bearers**

Seeing children proudly walking hand in hand with the players—what an unforgettable summer memory that must be for them. Summer memories really do stay with you for life.

- **Bouquet Presentation**

This was done by my colleague, Sugisawa san! Seeing his different, beaming smile as he handed over the bouquet was heartwarming. He even wished the Marinos captain a happy birthday—such a wonderful moment.

### **[Track Walk]**

This halftime event gathered about 25 participants. Guided through areas usually off-limits, we saw uniforms and match balls up close—everyone was thrilled!

Then came a special appearance: the beloved Marinos mascot, **Marinosuke**. Calls of “Marinosuke!” rang out everywhere as fans rushed to take photos.

Finally, we stepped onto the sacred ground where players enter the field. The atmosphere tightened as we stood there, overwhelmed by cheers from the stands. Accompanied by an announcement introducing JATCO, we proudly waved flags while walking one full lap of the track.

Applause from the stands made us feel almost like an idol group! Some fans even held up JATCO Day towels, prompting me to capture the moment on camera.

It was over in a flash, but standing there gave us a small taste of what it feels like to be a player—an unforgettable experience.





### 【And the F. Marinos Match Result...?】

To be honest... I'm not very knowledgeable about soccer, so I didn't know most of the player names (laughs).

Still, the tension of near-goals, the stadium-wide gasps and cheers, the supporters chanting until the very end—it was overwhelming.

Soccer is played by 11 players, but the number "12" belongs to the supporters. Seeing players and fans fighting as one truly moved me.

Next time, why not come to the stadium as "No. 12" yourself?

I'm sure you'll discover something new! 😊



*(He even joined the official fan club after JATCO Day!)*