



# 60 Years of Honda Racing History



**1948**

Honda Motor Company established.

**1954**

Soichiro Honda declares his intention to enter the Isle of Man TT Races.



## Motorcycles

## Automobiles



Naoki Taniguchi aboard the RC142 at the 1959 Isle of Man TT.

- First Honda entry in World Grand Prix racing at the Isle of Man TT – 125cc class.
- Awarded Manufacturers' Team Prize.



RC142 [125cc twin]

**1959**

- Honda's first full season in World Grand Prix racing begins with entries in both 125cc & 250cc classes.

- First 125cc class victory at the opening round Spanish GP.
- First 250cc class victory at the W. German GP.
- 1st – 5th places monopolized in both 125cc & 250cc classes at the Isle of Man TT.
- Honda wins its first-ever World GP Riders' and Constructors' titles in both 125cc & 250cc classes.



RC162 [250cc inline-4]



RC143 [125cc twin]

**1961**

- Racing activities expanded to 4 classes with the addition of 50cc & 350cc classes.
- First wins in 3 classes at the Dutch TT.
- 19 consecutive 250cc class victories achieved at the Italian GP.
- First 50cc class victory at the Finnish GP.
- First 350cc class Riders' and Constructors' titles.



RC171 [350cc inline-4]



RC112 [50cc twin]

**1962**

- November, 1962: Suzuka Circuit opens.

- 50cc 2-cylinder RC113 and 125cc 4-cylinder RC146 entered at first FIM-sanctioned Japan Grand Prix.
- Riders' and Constructors' titles taken in both 250cc & 350cc classes.

**1963**



Soichiro Honda and the RA270 Formula One (F1) prototype

- August, 1963: Honda automobile sales begin.

**1964**

- First 4-class win at the Dutch TT.
- 250cc 6-cylinder 3RC164 (RC165) introduced at the Italian GP.
- Riders' and Constructors' titles taken in both 125cc & 350cc classes.
- A clean sweep of the 350cc class season with 8 wins out of 8 races.



2RC146 [125cc inline-4]



RA271 [1,500cc V12]

- Honda declares its intent to race in the Formula One (F1) Grand Prix Championships.
- Competes for the first time at the 6th round German GP.

**1965**

- 5-cylinder 125cc RC148 and 6-cylinder 250cc RC166 introduced at the Japanese GP.
- Riders' and Constructors' titles won in both 50cc & 350cc classes, including first-ever 50cc Riders' title.



4RC146 [125cc inline-4]



RA272 [1,500cc V12]

- October: Richie Ginther takes Honda's first win in the RA272 at the final round Mexican GP.

**1966**

- Racing activities further expanded to include 500cc class, for full participation in all classes.
- First 500cc class win at W. German GP.
- Constructors' title won in all classes. (First total 5-class Constructors' titles in World GP history)
- Riders' titles also won in 125cc, 250cc & 350cc classes.



RC149 [125cc inline-5]



RA273 [3,000cc V12]

- New rule change increases displacement to 3,000cc.

- 1966: Brabham Honda achieves 11 consecutive wins in F2 for the first time ever.



**1967**

- Winner of 250cc & 350cc class Riders' and Constructors' titles.
- Temporary withdrawal from World GP competition announced at end of season.



RC166 [250cc inline-6]



RC181 [500cc inline-4]



RA300 [3,000cc V12]

- September: John Surtees wins the Italian GP in the RA300.

**1968**

- August, 1969: CB750 Four (K0) released.



RA301 [3,000cc V12]



RA302 [3,000cc V8]

- F1 activities suspended at season end to concentrate on production vehicle development.

## Motorcycles

## Automobiles



- 1976: First participation in production-based European Championship motorcycle endurance series. April: First victory at the Zandvoort 600km race. September: European Championship series won at the Bol d'Or 24-Hour Endurance Race.

**1977**

- November: World GP return declaration.

**1979**

- June: NR500 debuts at the British GP. (marking Honda's return to Grand Prix racing)



NR500 [500cc V4]

- 1979: Graham Noyce wins Honda's first 500cc Championship in the 1979 FIM Motocross World Championship series. (André Malherbe takes the crown in 1980 & '81)

- Honda debuts the 2-stroke, 3-cylinder NS500.
- Honda wins its first Grand Prix race in 15 years at the Belgian GP.
- HRC established in September of 1982.



NS500 [500cc V3]

**1982**



- 1982: Eddy Lejeune wins Honda's first FIM Trial World Championship. (taking 3 consecutive wins through 1984)

- Honda wins its first 500cc class Constructors' title in 16 years.

- Freddie Spencer takes his first 500cc class Rider's crown with 6 wins out of 12 races.

**1983**

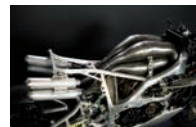


Spirit Honda 201C [1,500cc V6 Turbo]

- F1 activities resume as an engine supplier. 6 races run.

**1984**

- The V4 NSR500 debuts, later winning the Constructors' title for the season.



NSR500 [500cc V4]



Williams Honda FW09 [1,500cc V6 Turbo]

- Following its return to F1, Keke Rosberg wins Honda its first victory at the 9th round Dallas GP.

**1985**

- Honda returns to the 250cc class with the NSR250 (RS250RW), taking Constructors' titles in both 250cc & 500cc classes.
- 500cc: 8 wins out of 12 races
- 250cc: 9 wins out of 12 races
- Freddie Spencer wins his first ever 250cc & 500cc double Riders' title.



NSR500 [500cc V4]



Williams Honda FW10 [1,500cc V6 Turbo]

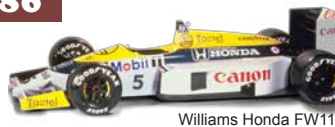
- The FW10 debuts with a carbon composite monocoque body.
- After winning the 6th round Detroit GP, the FW10 takes the last 3 races in a row, for 4 wins out of 16 races.

**1986**

- Honda takes the 250cc class Constructors' title.



- 1986: Honda places 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th in the motorcycle section of the Paris Dakar Rally. (The first of 4 consecutive wins through 1989)



Williams Honda FW11 [1,500cc V6 Turbo]

- Honda takes its first Constructors' title with 9 wins out of 16 races.
- A new telemetry system, the first in F1, is also introduced to closely monitor the machines.

**1987**

- Honda returns to the 125cc class with the RS125R.
- Both Riders' & Constructors' titles won in the 250cc class.
- Wayne Gardner takes the 500cc class Riders' title.



NSR500 [500cc V4]



Williams Honda FW11B [1,500cc V6 Turbo]

- Constructors' title won with 9 wins out of 16 races along with first Driver's title for Nelson Piquet.



Lotus Honda 99T [1,500cc V6 Turbo]

- Satoru Nakajima becomes Japan's first full-season F1 driver.

**1988**

- 250cc class Riders' & Constructors' titles won with 10 wins out of 15 races.



McLaren Honda MP4/4 [1,500cc V6 Turbo]

- The team of Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna set a new record of 15 wins out of 16 races to take the Constructors' title.
- Senna wins his first Drivers' title.

**1989**

- NSR500 fitted with new gull-wing swingarm.
- 500cc class Riders' & Constructors' titles won by Eddie Lawson.



NSR500 [500cc V4]



McLaren Honda MP4/5 [3,500cc V10]

- First year of the 3.5-liter NA engine wins the Constructors' title with 9 wins out of 16 races, and the Drivers' title for Alain Prost.

## Motorcycles

## Automobiles

### 1991

- Constructors' titles won in both 125cc & 250cc classes.
- Luca Cadalora wins Honda a record 10th consecutive 250cc class Riders' title.



McLaren Honda MP4/6  
[3,500cc V12]



Tyrrell Honda 020  
[3,500cc V10]

- Two completely different types of engine supplied simultaneously to two different teams.

### 1992

- NSR500 equipped with revolutionary new 68° 'Big Bang' engine.
- NSR250 fitted with new cantilever swingarm.
- Honda takes its 300th World GP victory at the Dutch TT.



McLaren Honda MP4/7A  
[3,500cc V12]

- At the final round Australian GP, Honda notches up a total of 71 victories and suspends its F1 activities.

### 1994

- NSR500 equipped with new in-cylinder water injection system and electronically controlled variable damping mechanism.
- Mick Doohan takes the 500cc class Riders' title — the first of 5 consecutive wins through 1998.
- Honda wins its 10th 125cc class Constructors' title.



NSR500 [500cc V4]

- 1994: First participation in the American CART series.



- 1995: The NSX GT2 wins the GT2 class in the 24 Hours of Le Mans race.



### 1997

- NSR500 equipped with new 'Screamer' engine; Totally dominates the season with 15 wins out of 15 races.
- Riders' & Constructors' titles won in both 250cc & 500cc classes.



NSR500 [500cc V4]

- 1996: Jimmy Vasser wins Honda's first CART championship.



- August, 1997: Twin Ring Motegi opens.

### 2000

- Honda takes its 140th 500cc class win at the Italian GP.



B.A.R Honda 002  
[3,000cc V10]

- Honda returns to F1 activity as an engine supplier.

- A grand total of 500 GP victories achieved at the season-opening 2001 Japanese GP.

### 2002

- New RC211V 4-stroke V5 introduced the first year of the MotoGP class.
- Constructors' title won with 14 wins over 16 races.
- Valentino Rossi becomes the world's first MotoGP champion with 11 wins out of 16 races.



RC211V [990cc V5]



Jordan Honda EJ12  
[3,000cc V10]

- Driver Takuma Sato takes part in his first F1 race.

### 2004

- RC211V engine receives major improvements.
- 3rd consecutive Constructors' title won in MotoGP.



Honda B.A.R 006  
[3,000cc V8]

- The team of Jenson Button and Takuma Sato takes 2nd place in the F1 Constructors' championship.



Buddy Rice

- 2004: Buddy Rice wins Honda's first Indianapolis 500.
- Tony Kanaan wins Honda's first IRL IndyCar championship.



Tony Kanaan

### 2006

- Two types of RC211V are raced in MotoGP.
- Nicky Hayden wins the MotoGP Riders' title.
- Constructors' and Team titles give Honda a triple crown.



RC211V [990cc V5]



RA106 [2,400cc V8]

- First participation in the Full Works Team system.
- August: Jenson Button wins his first career victory at the 13th round Hungarian GP.

### 2007

- MotoGP displacement reduced to 800cc.
- New RC212V V4 engine introduced.



RC212V [800cc V4]



RA107 [2,400cc V8]

- Full season participation in the logo-free 'Earth-Colors' F1 racing machine.

### 2008

- RC212V engine equipped with new pneumatic valve drive system.



RA108 [2,400cc V8]

## Motorcycles

## Automobiles

**2011**

- Total domination of the MotoGP season gives Honda another triple crown (Rider', Constructors', Team titles).
- New NSF250R debuts in Moto3 class.



RC212V [800cc V4]

**2013**

- Marc Márquez becomes youngest MotoGP champion in history, giving Honda another triple crown.



RC213V [1,000cc V4]

**2014**

- Marc Márquez takes the Riders' title with 10 consecutive wins.
- MotoGP triple crown won for two consecutive years.
- Moto3 Riders' title won.



- Grand total of 700 GP wins achieved at Indianapolis GP.
- Moto3 Riders' & Constructors' titles won again.



RC213V [1,000cc V4]

**2015**



McLaren Honda  
MP4-30  
[1,600cc V6 Turbo + ERS\*]

- In search of new technological challenges, Honda rejoins F1 as a power unit supplier producing high-efficiency power units.

\*ERS: Energy Recovery System

**2016**



- 50 years marked since Honda first competed in motorcycle racing's premier class.
- Marc Márquez brings home MotoGP Riders' and Constructors' titles.
- 2016: 3 top world championships won in the same year — MotoGP, MXGP (Motocross) & FIM Trial World Championship.



McLaren Honda  
MP4-31  
[1,600cc V6 Turbo + ERS]

**2017**

- Marc Márquez wins MotoGP title for 2nd consecutive year.
- Honda takes yet another triple crown.
- Moto3 Riders' & Constructors' titles also won.



RC213V [1,000cc V4]



McLaren Honda  
MCL32  
[1,600cc V6 Turbo + ERS]

- 2017: Takuma Sato becomes first Japanese driver to win the Indianapolis 500.



**2018**



- Marc Márquez wins MotoGP Riders' title for 3rd consecutive year.
- Honda takes 2nd consecutive triple crown. Moto3 Riders' & Constructors' titles won.
- 2018: Toni Bou wins his 12th consecutive Indoor & Outdoor FIM Trial World Championships.



Red Bull Toro Rosso Honda STR13  
[1,600cc V6 Turbo + ERS]

- New power unit supplied to the Scuderia Toro Rosso team.

**2019**

- Honda continues its MotoGP challenge with a new system and further refined RC213V.



RC213V [1,000cc V4]

- New power units supplied to Scuderia Toro Rosso and new partner Red Bull Racing.



Red Bull Toro Rosso Honda STR14  
[1,600cc V6 Turbo + ERS]



Aston Martin Red Bull Racing  
RB15 [1,600cc V6 Turbo + ERS]

