



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Race1 Report

2017/5/27 Rd-2 OKAYAMA International Circuit

Weather : Clear/Cloudy Temperature : 20°C 19 cars

2017 Rd2 Okayama takes place using two-race format as 2016 Rd5 did, which are 30-lap Race1 after 20-minute qualifying session on Saturday and Race2 with a mandatory tire change of all 4 tires after knock-out qualifying session1 & 2 on Sunday.

During the off-season, the track surfaces of Okayama International Circuit re-paved entirely. So, each driver had to check the new surface conditions and set-up during 2-hour free practice on Friday and 45-minute free practice in Saturday morning. Both Nojiri and Izawa finished these free practice runs in the top 3, which gives high expectations for QF.

In 20-minute QF for the starting grid of Race1, Nojiri and Izawa went for attacks with new tires on right away. They felt car balance changed and decided to adjust set-up a little. In last 6min, Nojiri began to attack with the second set of new tires. Even though his car got better balance, he finished in 6th position. Izawa ended up in 15th position because of a time loss.

The following Race1 was a 30-lap sprint race.

Nojiri needed to get off to a very good start for the podium, however, he made a mistake and dropped his position down to 13th. Izawa got out of a jam, and moved up to 14th. It was a sprint race without tire change, especially on a track hard to overtake. Positions did not change until the end. Nojiri finished Race1 in 13th, and Izawa in 14th.

#40: Tomoki Nojiri Position QF 6th / Race1 13th (3rd among HONDA users)

After reevaluating the set-up for Rd1 which ended unsuccessfully, I had a very good feeling during the free practice and I got confidence for QF. However, I wasn't fast enough. At a start in Race1, I dropped my position a lot because of my own mistake.

I have to reset a set-up and my mind for tomorrow, and I will bring out my potential to leave a good result.



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#41: Takuya Izawa Position QF 15th / Race1 14th (4rd among HONDA users)

The performance of my car had improved much by examining the result of the season opener, but I couldn't take advantage of it in QF.

There were some good parts in Race1, so, I will compare my data to Nojiri's to prepare for Race2 tomorrow.