



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Qualifying Report

2017/8/19 (QF2 and QF3 were held on 20th Aug)

Rd-4 Twin Ring MOTEGI

Weather: rain(19th),cloudy(20th) Temperature : 24°C (19th)、29°C (20th) 19cars

Super Formula Rd4 at Twin Ring Motegi, Midway Point of 2017 season, adopts 2spec-tire regulation for the first time this season. Mounting the engine especially for the latter half, DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING has been working to show its true ability at this turning point.

10 min before knock-out Qf1, rain drops began to fall from a mass of dark clouds with rolling thunder in the distance. Trying to attack before raining in earnest, every car went out on-track one after another. Both Nojiri and Izawa left the pits for attacking. However, the rain became heavier soon, and all the cars came back to the pits. Nojiri was on 14th and Izawa was on 11th when they started to attack again after changing to wet tires. No one shortened his lap in the rain afterwards, so the order stayed. The weather got even worse, and QF2 and QF3 were postponed because of poor visibility to next morning.

On Sunday morning, QF2 and QF3 were held under cloudy sky but dry condition. As soon as QF2 began, Nojiri was the first to went on-track and set a course record. Izawa recorded the 7th time and they both made it into QF3.

QF3 was for deciding ranking of top 8. Nojiri went on-track early for clear lap , but still, he was blocked by cars came in late and finished unsatisfactorily in 3rd position. Izawa lost time a little in Sec3 and finished QF3 in 7th.

#40: Tomoki Nojiri Position 3rd (QF1 14th, QF2 1st, QF3 3rd) 1st among HONDA users

In a word, disappointed! I couldn't keep enough distance between other cars, so I couldn't use my full ability. I'm getting better feeling about new spec tires, and I'm looking forward to starting from this position. I hope to earn many points tomorrow.

#41: Takuya Izawa Position 7th (QF1 11th, QF2 7th, QF3 7th) 3rd among HONDA users

I was in good condition from free practice, and could have ranked higher. I have a mixed feeling about 7th position. My car is improving and getting more competitive. There is a variety of uncertainties, including soft tires, in race tomorrow, but this is equal to competitors, too. I will raise my position at a start and watch for a good chance.