



Qualifying Report **2017/9/23 Rd-6 SPORT LAND SUGO**

Weather: Cloudy Temperature : 21°C 19cars

In the early stage of 2017 season, DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING could not leave satisfactory results. However, Nojiri recorded a course record in Rd4 at Motegi, and in following Rd5, he took the pole position with the spectacular performance. The team had started to show its true color. They executed a race simulation during free practice, and both Nojiri and Izawa were all set for the round at SUGO, their favorite circuit.

In knock-out QF1, two cars of DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING started to attack with new tires. Although Izawa was in 10th position and Nojiri was in 11th, their car balance was not bad, except tire grip was not enough because of the surface condition change due to the rain in the morning. They changed set-up a little for the second attack, however, Nojiri finished QF in 15th by 9/1000sec. Izawa moved on to QF2 in 13th position.

In the following QF2, Izawa who went on-track after changing set-up a little more started to attack carefully warming tires. There might be slight loss in time, he slowed down once, and then attacked again on Lap5. He quickened his lap, but finished in 11th after all.

#40: Tomoki Nojiri Position 15th (QF1 15th) 6th among HONDA users

I had adjusted myself either to practice session on Friday or to free practice this morning, and I had good feeling. However, I wasn't well-matched to QF condition, and I was finished in QF1.

I will work on a race strategy with my team, and do my best to bring a point home at least.

#41: Takuya Izawa Position 11th (QF1 13th, QF2 11th) 3rd among HONDA users

I brought out my best in QF2. My car balance was good, but I didn't get enough grip of tires for making it through QF3.

I will start from a point aiming position tomorrow. I will concentrate on starting so that I will finish in the top group.