



## DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

*Team Release*

### Qualifying Report

#### 2019/6/22 Rd-3 Sport Land SUGO

Weather : Cloudy/Rain Temperature : 22°C 20cars

DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING fought the survival games of Suzuka, the season opener, and Rd2 at Autopolis, and now goes into Rd3 at Sportsland SUGO topping both the drivers' standings and the teams' standings.

To take advantage during the season, they are willing to win here at SUGO, one of the favorite circuits for the team and Yamamoto.

The track of SUGO is narrow and short. So, considering the possibility that drivers cannot do time attacks enough because of heavy traffic, in QF1, the 20 cars were divided into two groups of 10 each, Group A and Group B.

Knock-out QF1 was held under the unstable weather. In Group A, Fukuzumi attacked steady after thoroughly warming up tires, and recorded the second fastest lap. Before QF1 for Group B started, the rain pelted. Still, Yamamoto came out top with the lead of more than 0.4sec.

In following QF2, all the cars attacked with soft tires. Renewing his best time, Yamamoto was the only driver who recorded 1 minutes 3 seconds and made it into QF3 first. Fukuzumi also moved on to QF3 in third place, breaking the course record.

At the time when QF3 started, large drops of rain began falling and wetting the surface, however, all the cars went on-track with dry tires. Yamamoto recorded the fastest time before anyone else, then, when the others were just about to attack, two cars crashed in SP Corner, and QF3 was interrupted by the red flag. QF3 was over with one and half minute left, and Yamamoto took the pole position.

Fukuzumi could not get his attack time measured, and finished QF unsatisfactorily in sixth position.

#1: Naoki Yamamoto Position 1st (QF1 GrpB 1st, QF2 1st, QF3 1st) 1st among HONDA users  
I had a good feeling since Free Practice and I could test tires well enough. In QF, I realized my team's capability to compete once again. I am glad to have taken the pole position, but I am disappointed that QF was over without attacking satisfactorily because of the red flag and that we couldn't show fans competition of Super Formula in earnest for the second time following Autopolis.  
I will focus on finishing first tomorrow.



## **DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING**

*Team Release*

#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 6th (QF1 GrpA 2nd, QF2 3rd, QF3 6th) 5th among Honda users  
I had been in good shape from QF1 to QF3. In QF3, expecting that the surface condition would get better in the latter half, I was warming up tires for attacks. I was confident that I could record good time, but it was over before the time was up. I am disappointed at the unsatisfactory result.  
In the race tomorrow, I will aim to stand on the podium along with Yamamoto with team strategy and start dash.