



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Race Report

2019/8/18 Rd-5 Twin Ring MOTEGI

Weather: fine Temperature: 36°C, 20cars

Audience: 17,500/17th (Sat.) 19,500/18th (Sun.) 37,000 total

Rd5 at Twin Ring Motegi was held under the toughest condition in this season. Fuzumi starting from the 3rd grid and Yamamoto from the 8th grid tried to raise up their position. However, Yamamoto stalled the engine when the formation lap began and he had to start from the pit lane.

When all the cars were placed on the starting grid after the formation lap, two more cars stalled their engines and caused a delay of race start. It was restarted as 51-lap (instead of 52) race.

Fukuzumi made a good start and drove the first lap keeping the 3rd position. Three cars had competed intensively for 2nd place for 30 laps, and on L33, Fukuzumi made a pit stop. Right after he went back on-track with medium tires, he tried to block a following car. On breaking, smoke rose from his tires which were not warm yet, and he almost had gone out of the track. He dropped his position to 5th.

Although he pushed hard to overtake competitors for the podium, in the end, he finished in 5th place.

Yamamoto who started for the tail end gained his position up steadily, and made a pit stop on L13. After changing to soft tires, he returned on the track at the spot where there was large space between cars. He drove at a good pace and finished in 9th at last.

#1: Naoki Yamamoto Position 9th (5th among HONDA users)

I had stalled the engine on the formation lap and had to start from the tail end. After changing to soft tires, I drove at a good pace in 1 minute 36 seconds and I am glad I raised my position up to 9th. However, I am disappointed that I couldn't get any points and I have much to reflect upon. There are two races left this season. In next Okayama round, I will use every means to display my ability and go back to where I can aim for the championship title.



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#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 5th (2nd among HONDA users)

During the fight for 2nd place after the start, our capacities were so close that I couldn't overtake the others. In the latter half, I made a pit stop at the same time with Palou who was in 2nd place. I think I should have delayed mine a little to raise my position. Also, after changing tires, I locked them. I did everything I could to recover losses, but sadly, I couldn't reach the podium.

There are several things to improve, so I will analyze data including Yamamoto's with my team to achieve further growth.