



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Qualifying Report

2019/9/28 Rd-6 OKAYAMA International Circuit

Weather : Cloudy/Fine Temperature : 26°C 20cars

There are only two rounds left in 2019 season. Rd6 here at Okayama International Circuit will narrow down the drivers who still have hope of winning. Yamamoto who stood at the podium in the first three races is now second in the drivers' standings because of the last two races with no points. Fukuzumi is the sixth and the team keeps the lead in the teams' standings. For every driver and for every team, it will be the tough race which cannot be lost.

Because of the short and narrow track of Okayama International Circuit, 20 cars were divided into two groups of 10 each (Grp A and Grp B) for QF1. Yamamoto attacked in Grp A. Although he did not make any mistakes after warming up tires enough, medium tires might not fit the surface condition. He finished QF in 8th position in Grp A.

Fukuzumi cleared QF1 in 2nd place by a hair in Grp B.

In following QF2, all the cars started to attack with soft tires. Fukuzumi went on-track with 6 min remaining. He made it to QF3 in 4th position by 0.08sec to the top.

In QF3, Fukuzumi attacked after adjusting the car balance, and shortened his QF2 lap. He ended up in 5th.

#1: Naoki Yamamoto Position 16th (QF1 GrpA 8th) 8th among Honda users

It was regretful QF. I couldn't adjust the grip difference from the feeling of the free practice in the morning. I should have estimated the surface condition for Grp A who drove first to control my car.

I will start from the rear part, however, I am sure I will have a chance. I will focus on raising my position to bring points home.

#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 5th (QF1 GrpB 2nd, QF2 4th, QF3 5th) 1st among Honda users

I was a little uneasy to see Yamamoto's drive in Grp A, but I had a good feeling from QF1 to QF3. I warmed up tires carefully in QF2 and QF3 before attacking. I didn't make any mistakes, however, I ended up in 5th place. Even though I am at the top of Honda users, I could have done more to drive faster.

The weather is forecasted to be unstable tomorrow. I will aim at the podium by team strategy and a start dash.