



## **Qualifying Report**

**2020/12/5 Rd-5 SUZUKA circuit**

Weather : Fine Temperature : 15°C 20cars

Super Formula 2020 season, which had finally opened in August since the schedule had changed greatly under the measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, entered the latter half.

Originally, the season should be over by December, however, Rd5 was held on 5th (Sat) and Rd6 on 6th (Sun).

2-group format was taken in Knock-out QF1.

Yamamoto in GrpA went on-track with used tires as soon as QF started to grasp a feeling of car performance. With 2 min and a half remaining, he went on-track again with new tires, and after warming them carefully, he attacked on his second lap. Maintaining favorable performance from yesterday, he moved on to QF2 first. Fukuzumi in GrpB, as well as Yamamoto, did a check-run with used tires and went back on-track in the last 3 min. He attacked calmly, and made it to QF2 at the top of GrpB.

After an interval of 10 min, QF2 started.

Yamamoto went on-track earlier than his competitors, and marked 1'35.0 on the clear lap and became first provisionally.

Fukuzumi attacked with new tires after checking the set-up with used tires.

His car was slightly out of balance because of the surface condition change and made it through QF3 on 7th while Yamamoto did on 1st.

In QF3 to determine the top 8, Yamamoto planned to attack twice with a new set of tires each time.

He came out on top recording 1min34seconds' with the first set of the new tires. Wearing the other set, he shortened his own time with 1'34"533.

He took the pole position recording the fastest time in every sector of the track.

Fukuzumi adopted Yamamoto's set-up and started to attack in the last 3 min.

He marked the time very close to Yamamoto's and finished QF3 in 3rd position.



## DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

*Team Release*

#5: Naoki Yamamoto Position 1st (QF1 Grp A 1<sup>st</sup>, QF2 1<sup>st</sup>, QF3 1<sup>st</sup>) 1st among Honda users

I had a good feeling from the start and I could perform well in every attack. I thank my team for the excellent car. However, there is a small margin to the second position, and a race is completely different from QF. So, I will plan a strategy with my team to go into the race.

#6: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 3rd (QF1 Grp A 1<sup>st</sup>, QF2 7<sup>th</sup>, QF3 3<sup>rd</sup>) 3rd among Honda users

I had not been in good shape since yesterday, but I changed my focus in a positive way for QF. It was good that I could refer to Yamamoto's set-up. The third place is a relief in a sense, but I am sure I can push harder to fill the time gap between Yamamoto's and mine. I hope to finish the race with both of us on the podium.