



Race Report

2020/12/5 Rd-5 SUZUKA circuit

Weather: fine Temperature: 23°C, 20cars

Audience: 8,000/5th (Sat.)

The first race of the series of two at Suzuka Circuit in the latter half of the 2020 season turned out to be a rough race in which the safety car came in over and over again.

During the 2-lap formation lap, one car stopped on the track and two more laps were added in order to remove it. Rd5 became a 28-lap race.

Both Yamamoto who started from the pole position and Fukuzumi from the third grid got off a hot start and drove the opening lap in 1-2 formation.

However, behind them, a car went off the track and caused a safety car situation.

When the race was restarted on Lap6, Yamamoto extended his lead improving his own record.

At the very moment when the team called Fukuzumi into the pits on the pit stop-allowing Lap10, his car suddenly slowed down because of a trouble.

He managed to come back to the pits, however, retired from the race there.

Yamamoto made a pit stop after Lap18 to change tires. Right after he went back on-track keeping the first position, a crash occurred in 130R, and the safety car came in for the second time.

The race restarted on Lap23, and Yamamoto dominated the race.

Then, this time on First Corner, multiple cars crashed and the safety car came in for the third time.

It was on Lap27 when the race restarted with 2 laps remaining. Yamamoto won the 2-lap super sprint race steadily and finished the race with the perfect victory of 'pole to win'.



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

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

It was a rough race, but I could keep my concentration on driving until the end. My team fully supported me with the excellent car and strategy and I am truly grateful for them.

I am sorry for Fukuzumi's retirement. I am sure we could've done '1-2 finish' because we had real ability.

Anyway, tomorrow is another day. I will do my best in accordance with the situation.

#6: Nirei Fukuzumi Retired

I was doing well, forming 1-2 formation with Yamamoto. I responded to the confusion of the race with the strategy, but I had to retire the race because of trouble with the gear control system.

I am so frustrated with the result and too bad to miss the team's first '1-2 finish' considering the teams' championship.

However, it is certain that we are in good shape, so I will change my focus in a positive way to win Rd6 tomorrow, sharing information with Yamamoto.