



## **DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING**

*Team Release*

### **Qualifying Report**

**2020/12/6 Rd-6 SUZUKA circuit**

Weather : Fine Temperature : 15°C 20cars

In Rd5 yesterday, DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING showed excellent QF performances with Yamamoto taking the pole position and Fukuzumi in 3rd. They went into Rd6, the second day of the series of two races, naturally setting on the pole position.

Knock-out QF1 took a 2-group format.

Fukuzumi in GrpA did not move even when the other drivers had started the check-run. Then, with 3 min remaining, he went on-track finally.

He attacked while checking the feeling of his car and moved on to QF2 in 5th position.

Yamamoto in GrpB waited for timing as well as Fukuzumi, and went on-track to attack with less than 4 min remaining, a little earlier than his rivals.

He drove calmly and made it to QF2 in second in GrpB.

In QF2, Fukuzumi checked the set-up with used tires first.

Yamamoto went on-track after the check-run group came back to the pits, and started to attack on the clear lap.

Fukuzumi followed with new tires. Yamamoto was 6th and Fukuzumi was 5th to make it to QF3 together.

QF3 was to determine the top 8.

The team planned to use two sets of new tires. With the first set, Yamamoto became 2nd and Fukuzumi was 3rd provisionally.

They attacked harder with the second set of new tires, to shorten their own times, however, Yamamoto finished QF in 4th and Fukuzumi did in 5th.

\*The car in 3rd was penalized with 10 grids down for changing the engine after the crash yesterday. So, Yamamoto was going to start from 3rd grid and Fukuzumi from 4th grid in the race.



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#5: Naoki Yamamoto Position 4th (QF1 Grp B 2<sup>nd</sup>, QF2 6<sup>th</sup>, QF3 4<sup>th</sup>) 3rd among Honda users

Our strategy was focused on taking the pole position, but we could not fit the car to the track condition perfectly.

The car was good and the set-up felt good, however, everything should have met at a high level for the pole position.

Fukuzumi and I will start from the second row, where we can still aim at a win.

I hope to stand the podium together.

#6: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 5th (QF1 Grp A 5<sup>th</sup>, QF2 5<sup>th</sup>, QF3 5<sup>th</sup>) 4th among Honda users

We shared Yamamoto's set-up in the team for QF, however, I didn't have a good feeling in QF1. We tried to adjust the set-up to the surface condition, but we should have been more aggressive. Because of the penalty for somebody else, my starting grid will be in forth, the second row. I will concentrate on starting first and try to be calm to enjoy the race.