



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Qualifying Report

2021/5/15 Rd-3 AUTOPOLIS

Weather : Rain Temperature : 19°C 19cars

2021 Super Formula Rd3 was going to be held at Autopolis, the only international circuit in Kyushu. It was forecast for rain on both QF day and the race day. Especially QF day, heavy rain was expected in the afternoon, so knock-out QF was changed to 40min-single-stint format.

Makino, who had been absent because of poor health, came back here to the competition for the championship. His performance in the rain was greatly anticipated.

QF session started 20 min late due to the bad weather, however, a red flag came out because of a crash right after. When the session was restarted, Fukuzumi started to attack with new tires at a good timing. Only 8 min after the restart, a red flag came out for the second time because of a car spun. It was restarted with 27 min remaining, and both Fukuzumi and Makino went on-track with new wet tires.

This time it was Fukuzumi who caused the third red flag condition. He ran on to a curb and went off the track in the last sector while attacking.

When QF restarted again with 21 min remaining, the rain got heavier. Under the sevier condition for shortening laps, a crash occurred and a red flag came out for the fourth time.

As soon as the session restarted with 15 min remaining, the rain got even heavier, and finally QF was over.

Fukuzumi was penalized for causing a red flag, and his QF record was deleted. He was going to start from the tail end. Makino missed the timing and finished in 8th.

#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Deletion of QF record

It was nice to hold QF in a lull in the heavy rain, but while the condition changed rapidly, I lost control during attacking and span to cause the red flag interruption. I will start from the tail end. It will also rain tomorrow, so I will examine set-up and strategy with my team to survive the race.



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#6: Tadasuke Makino Position 8th (2nd among Honda users)

I had been ill since last year-end, and finally came back here. I am truly grateful for your support and also for Sasahara's professional achievement.

This is my first race with Dandelion Racing. I had a little concern about the load to my body and the rainy condition, however, I did all right in Free Practice and QF. I was not able to show my ability 100%, but I will prepare for the race tomorrow to compete in my way.