



Qualifying Report **2021/6/19 Rd-4 Sports Land SUGO**

Weather : Rain Temperature : 19°C 19cars

Sportsland SUGO is located in the Tohoku region, where the rainy season will set in before long. As had been forecasted, the qualifying was held in the rain sequentially last round at Autopolis. As an exceptional case, at Sportsland SUGO whose track is long and narrow, top seven cars in each of A and B groups run at a time in QF2 just like QF1 to avoid traffic during attacks.

In QF1, Makino in Grp A went on-track with new wet tires as soon as the course opened. He warmed up the tires lap by lap, and recorded the best time in the fifth measuring. He moved on to QF2 first.

Fukuzumi in Grp B broke the top time every lap and made it through QF2 in first place in the group.

In QF2, Makino in Grp A recorded the fastest time from the beginning as he did in QF1, however, he felt performance degradation of the rear tires during the attack lap. He finished in third for QF3.

Just about QF2 for Grp B started, the rain got heavier. When Fukuzumi attacked carefully and became second, two cars went off-track and the red flag came out. It was restarted with 3 min remaining. Fukuzumi finished in second, however, since the car at the top was the one which caused the red flag condition and its time was deleted as penalty, Fukuzumi moved onto QF3 in first.

In the following QF3, Makino, who felt lowering the grip force of the rear tires, changed to scrubbed wet tires.

On the other hand, Fukuzumi had no trouble in tire performance, so he only adjusted the set-up without tire change and went on-track.

The both drivers shortened their times in each section. Although their good records were expected, Makino finished in second by only 0.04 sec, and Fukuzumi ended up in fifth because his set-up did not meet the heavier rain.



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 5th

(QF1 GrpB 1st, QF2 GrpB 1st, QF3 5th) 2nd among Honda users

My time was pretty good from the start and I was in the lead, but I didn't feel enough grip force. I was never uneasy about tires, so I changed the set-up for QF3. It didn't turn out to be what I expected, however, I will still start from a good position to compete for a victory and it will be a dry condition race tomorrow. I will drive to win!

#6: Tadasuke Makino Position 2nd

(QF1 GrpA 1st, QF2 GrpA 3rd, QF3 2nd) 1st among Honda users

My team had prepared an excellent car which had potential for taking the pole position, but because of my mistake, I became second by a narrow margin. Considering the last race at Autopolis, I am positive about my quickness in QF. It will be my first dry condition race with Dandelion Racing tomorrow. I am a little anxious, but I will fight well with the total team capabilities.