

DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING Team Release

Race Report 2021/6/20 Rd-4 Sports Land SUGO

Weather: fine/Cloudy Temperature: 24°C, 19cars Audience: 2,600/19th (Sat.) 4,600/20th (Sun.) 7,200 total

It was not anything like as rainy and cold as it was yesterday.

On race day, the strong sunlight poured through the clouds and the temperature was going up. It is said that there lives an evil spirit in SUGO. The power relations of the drivers might be completely different from those in QF yesterday.

Makino who started from the second grid in the front row dropped his position to fifth because acceleration had been weakened a little.

On the other hand, Fukuzumi in the fifth grid got off to a hot start, and raised two positions up to third. He drove breaking the fastest lap time lap by lap and he won the intense competition for the second position in the First Corner.

Makino raised his position in the high-speed technical corner.

The both drivers kept driving steadily in line with the team's strategies.

When Sekiguchi, the leader, made a pit-stop, Fukuzumi used the overtake system and then made a pit stop on L18. The team finished rapid pit work in 7 sec responding to his performance, and Fukuzumi succeeded to go back on-track in front of Sekiguchi.

Makino was taking the strategy of shortening time while forward of him was open, however, he was blocked by a slow car and lost time. He made a pit-stop on L24. When all the cars finished pit stops, Fukuzumi was going far ahead of the runner-up by more than 6 sec, and finally won his first victory of Super Formula. Makino won the close fight over 10 laps with Nojiri and finished in fifth with 6 points.



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#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 1st (1st among Honda users)

In QF in the rain yesterday, I felt the gap between the leader and me. Today, in dry condition, I had a good feeling about my car and could focus on starting. My car was fast from the beginning, and when I competed for second in First Corner, I could raise my position while sideswiping the competitor. I could calmly deal with my pace and timing of pit-stop by frequent correspondence with my team. I lost races that I could have won until today, but I finally won the race, and my only feeling right now is gratitude to all the supporters.

It is just a check point for me, so I will make use of this experience and the result for the next race.

#6: Tadasuke Makino Position 5th (4th among Honda users)

The surface condition of inside of the track was not good, so I dropped my position at the start. However, I maintained my pace considering the abrasion of tires and race development. There were difficulties in strategy choice and I found points to look back on and issues to be dealt with. It was the first dry condition race after my comeback, and I also realized my physical strain. My performance in QF was good, and overall, I could think positively through the weekend and it brought me one step closer to my goal. Please look forward to my performance in the next race at Motegi!