



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Qualifying Report

2021/8/28 Rd-5 TWINRING MOTEGI

Weather : Fine Temperature : 36℃ 19cars

Super Formula Rd5 is held in midsummer at Twin Ring Motegi for the first time in two months. The last race was at Sugo in June before the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. At this moment, DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING tops the teams' standings, and Fukuzumi is in third place in the drivers' standings. This will be the race which cannot be lost for winning the championship.

Continuing from the last race at SUGO, in both QF1 and QF2, the drivers will be separated into GrpA and GrpB, and the top seven drivers will move onto the next stage.

In QF1, Makino in GrpA did a check-run with used tires as soon as the course opened. He went on-track again with new tires in the last 5 min, however, rear balance was not good. He made it to QF2 in fifth.

Fukuzumi in GrpB waited until 5 min 30 sec left, and attacked in his second measuring lap. He also felt unbalanced in rear and finished in seventh to QF2.

In QF2, Makino in GrpA decided to attack in his first measuring lap with 2 min 40 sec remaining. He lost time locking the brake in Turn 5 and became 7th in GrpA. Fukuzumi in GrpB also attacked in his first measuring lap. He lost time because of a mistake in braking in Sec 1, and could not reach the 4th place by .018 sec. Neither of them could not move onto QF3.

#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 9th (QF1 GrpB 7th, QF2 GrpB 5th) 5th among Honda users

Since Free Practice in the morning, my car's balance had been good and I went into QF trusting my team's potential. When the surface temperature rose in QF, we had to adjust the car balance and I had a better feeling about the set-up for QF2. However, because of my own mistake too, I couldn't make it to QF3.

I couldn't have recorded the top time even if I had driven in QF3, though.

It's too bad that I ended in QF2, but it's going to be a tough race around this season at Motegi, so we will find a way to finish in the top group with my team's total capabilities.



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#6: Tadasuke Makino Position 14th (QF1 GrpA 5th, QF2 GrpA 7th) 7th among Honda users
I lost much time fully locking the brake, and so I couldn't make it to QF3.
However, even without that mistake, I can't imagine how far I could've gone.
We do have problems, which we must solve before Rd6 at Twin Ring Motegi again.
Anyway, tomorrow is another day. I will make a good start and survive the race.