



## DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

### Race Report

#### 2021/10/17 Rd-6 TWINRING MOTEGI

Weather: rain/Cloudy Temperature: 19°C, 19cars

Audience: 3,600/16<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 4,700/17<sup>th</sup> (Sun.) 8,300 total

Cold rain was falling on Rd6 race day at Twinring Motegi. According to the weather report, it would stop raining around 1 pm, so it was a difficult condition for the team and the drivers.

The rain stopped by the time of the start, however, the temperature was low and the surface was wet. Makino was going to start from the seventh grid and Fukuzumi was from the fourteenth grid.

Both Fukuzumi and Makino passed 1 and 2 Corner without getting involved in the confusion caused by the wet surface. By L10 when pit stops were allowed, Makino became 5th and Fukuzumi raised his position to 10th.

When the safety car came in because of a spun car on L10, the team called Makino into the pits for tire change. On the other hand, Fukuzumi judged that the surface was still too wet to wear dry tires and stayed on-track.

The race was restarted on L13. The top three cars with wet tires including Fukuzumi pushed to the fullest to widen margin from the cars with dry tires, however, the surface was drying rapidly. When the dry-tire group started to drive faster than the top three on L15, Fukuzumi finally made a pit-stop to change to dry tires. Unfortunately, it took time to change the right rear-tire and he lost much time.

After that, the safety car was sent in twice because of cars going off-track and a crush.

When the race was restarted with 9 laps remaining, Makino was in third and Fukuzumi was in 12th. They pushed hard for the podium and points. Makino, who had dropped to 4th once, recovered his position in the last two laps and finished in third. Fukuzumi could not reach the car ahead and ended up in 12th.



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#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 12th (5th among Honda users)

Although it was a difficult condition, I had a good feeling about my car under various situations and I was positive. As a result, the strategy I chose didn't work, and also there was trouble during a pit stop. I am disappointed that I finished the race without any points. I regret my tire choice in QF all the more because my car was in good shape. Since Makino was third place, points in the teams' standings became very close. At Suzuka, I want to stand on the podium along with Makino and contribute to the teams' championship title.

#6: Tadasuke Makino Position 3rd (2nd among Honda users)

At the start under the wet condition, I hardly managed to follow the group ahead, but as the surface got drier, I could quickened my pace. My team's decision when to change to dry tires was accurate, too. I am very glad that I climbed on the podium for the first time after my transfer, thanks to my team's great support. I found some issues as well as good points. I will examine them and prepare for the last race at Suzuka to end this season in a perfect way.