



Qualifying Report
2021/10/30 Rd-7 SUZUKA circuit
Weather : Fine Temperature : 21℃ 19cars

Super Formula Rd7 was held as '20th JAF Grand Prix Suzuka' at Suzuka Circuit. The 2021 Drivers' Champion had been determined already in Rd6 at Twin Ring Motegi. However, fierce competition for the runner-up in the drivers' standings and the Teams' Championship title was going to take place in this last race of the season.

In QF1, Makino in GrpA did a check-run with used tires, and then went on-track with new tires in the last 5 min. After warming the tires carefully, he started to attack in his second measuring lap. He finished in 4th.

Fukuzumi in GrpB took the same strategy as Makino and became 3rd in his second measuring lap. They both moved on to QF2.

In QF2, Makino in GrpA attacked with new tires without changing set-up. He became 2nd by 0.2 sec and made it to QF3.

Fukuzumi in GrpB adjusted set-up to the surface condition change, and attacked. He finished in 3rd to QF3.

In QF3, both Fukuzumi and Makino changed set-up according to their feelings so far. Fukuzumi recorded a good time in each sector and marked the fastest lap, however, the competitors exceeded him. Fukuzumi became 3rd and earned a precious point.

Makino finished QF in 4th.

#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 3rd (QF1 GrpB 3rd, QF2 GrpB 3rd, QF3 3rd) 3rd among Honda users
Nothing was wrong with my car from the beginning, and I could test a new set-up having a good feeling about it.

However, compared with the feeling when I took the pole position in Rd2, I should have needed a higher-level performance.

I will start from the second grid, where I can aim at a win, along with Makino.

I want to climb on the podium with him and help our team to win the Teams' Championship.



#6: Tadasuke Makino Position 4th (QF1 GrpA 4th, QF2 GrpA 2nd, QF3 4th)

4th among Honda users

I had a good feeling since QF1, and I shared data with Fukuzumi during QF.

I tried to adjust my driving and set-up to the surface condition, but couldn't do perfectly.

I should have taken a more aggressive strategy for a pole position.

Starting from the second grid together is not bad at all to win the Teams' Championship.

I will focus on the start first, and fight through 30 laps to end up on the podium along with Fukuzumi in the season ending race.