



Qualifying Report

2022/5/21 Rd-4 AUTOPOLIS

Weather : Fine Temperature : 19°C 21cars

At Autopolis, which is the only international circuit in Kyushu and located at the highest altitude among the domestic circuits, the Super Formula round is usually held either in clear balmy weather or in heavy fog and rain, according to the start of the rainy season.

Last year, in stormy weather, the red flag came out one after another in QF, and the race ended halfway also due to the red flag condition.

This year, when QF of Rd4 started, it became a favorable day for a race with air temperature 19 degree C and surface temperature 30 degree C, after Free Practice under wet condition.

In QF1, Makino in Grp A went on-track with used tires to check the course as soon as it was open, and figured out that the first measuring lap would be best for attacking. He was the first to attack, wearing new tires, and successfully made it to QF2 in first place

Otsu in Grp B shared data with Makino, and went for an attack on his first measuring lap. However, the car balance changed significantly because of the rise of surface temperature, and ran off the track in the last corner.

He managed to stay on-track and moved on to QF2 in 4th.

The both drivers adjusted set-up for QF2 and went on-track to attack on the first measuring lap like QF1, in the last 3 min.

Makino shortened times in Sec1 and Sec2 and became first provisionally. However, since Nojiri and Miyata shortened their times in Sec3, he ended up in 3rd.

On the other hand, Otsu lost his balance in Sec2 and span halfly. He lost much time and finished QF in 10th.



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#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 3rd (QF1 Grp A 1st, QF2 3rd) 2nd among Honda users

I had a good feeling about my car from the beginning in the morning, but I went out of the track during the QF simulation in Free Practice.

So I had to participate in QF without a final confirmation.

The car was excellent in QF, and the strategy was so successful that I passed QF1 first. However, in QF2, I couldn't meet the set-up to the surface condition change. Especially in Sec3, I lost time a lot. Tomorrow, I will start from the third grid, where I have a good chance of jumping up to first. I will do my best for the first victory this season.

#6: Hiroki Otsu Position 10th (QF1 GrpB 4th, QF2 10th) 5th among Honda users

From Free Practice in the morning, I felt good response and I was confident before QF.

However, I pushed too hard, exceeding the limit of the car, and lost a lot of time.

The result was disappointing, but still, my car's potential is high.

Several things will happen in the race, so I will flexibly correspond to each of them and aim for finishing on the podium.