



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Race Report

2022/6/19 Rd-5 Sportland SUGO

Weather: Fine/Cloudy Temperature: 30°C, 21cars

Audience: 3,600/18th (Sat.) 5,100/19th (Sun) 8,700 total

It was a 'summer day' on which the air temperature was 30 degree C and the surface temperature was reaching 50 degree C at Sportland SUGO.

Although it showered suddenly just before the start and the surface temperature went down to near 40 degree C, the glaring sun dried the surface very fast before the 53-lap race began.

Otsu started from the third grid and Makino did from the ninth.

Focusing on starting, Otsu got off well, however, his positioning was not so good that he dropped one position in Second Corner.

On the other hand, Makino raised one position up to 8th.

On that opening lap, a car span in First Corner and the safety car deployed.

As soon as the race was restarted on L8, Matsushita who tried to overtake Makino span and crashed in First Corner. The safety car came in again, and the pit-stop window opened on L10 during the red flag situation.

DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING called Otsu into the pits to change tires. Makino had chosen a stay-out strategy.

When the race was restarted on L15, the stay-out group including Makino shortened nearly 1 sec per lap to increase the gap to the tire-changed group.

Otsu, who was in 4th among the tire-changed group, was forced to be patient on the Sugo track where it was hard to overtake, because he was blocked by the slow stay-out cars.

The race had no chance to contain 53 laps within the 70 min limit because of the two-time safety car situations. Makino made a pit-stop on L44. Making the most of new tires, he overtook his teammate on the final lap to become 4th.

Otsu finished the 70-min 49-lap race in 5th.



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#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 4th (3rd among Honda users)

When the safety car came in for the second time, I consulted my team and decided to choose a different strategy from Otsu's pit-in.

It turned out to be a lucky incident, however, I felt some things inferior to other stay-out members.

I finished QF1 first, and the set-up for a race is improving. Now, I just have to put things together for a victory. I am certainly making advances. I will prepare for the next race with my team.

#6: Hiroki Otsu Position 5th (4th among Honda users)

After the start, I had no place to go in First Corner and dropped one position.

I changed tires with the fewest laps to quicken my pace, but was interrupted by slow cars in the stay-out group and I couldn't keep my position.

I was frustrated that I couldn't make the best use of merit of starting from a good position. We will continue to work on how to fulfill our potential for the next race.