



# DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

## Race Report

### 2022/7/17 Rd-6 FUJI SPEEDWAY

Weather: Fine/Cloudy Temperature: 29°C, 21cars

Audience: 8,200/16<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 13,900/17<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 22,100 total

Unlike the heavy rain in QF yesterday, it was sunny and hot like summer with 29 degree C air temperature and 40 degree C surface temperature when the drivers were waiting for a start on the grid.

Because of a car spun during the formation lap, the extra formation lap was added, thus, one lap was reduced from the 41-lap race.

At the start, Makino showed the excellent course taking and overtook two cars to 4th. On the other hand, Otsu chose outside of the track and was overtaken by one car to 6th.

Behind them, multiple crashes occurred because of confusion at starting.

Also, on L3, the wrecked car caused the safety car to come in.

The race was restarted on L10 and when the pit-stop window opened, the team called Otsu into the pits. They send him off to the track after the brilliant pit-work.

Makino made a pit-stop on L12. He succeeded in overcutting the cars which had already made pit-stops.

After returning on the track in second among the tire-changed group, he kept pushing hard to close on the stay-out group

Otsu had trouble with tire grip and could not quicken his pace for a while.

When the safety car came in because of the accident on L26, the stay-out group began to make pit-stops. Since Tsuboi slowed down and blocked Makino right behind him, Sasahara and Miyata who came out from the pits had preceded Makino.

Makino did everything he could for the higher rank in the last 10 laps, but in vain. He finished in 5th. Otsu managed to drive till the end and finished the race in 15th.



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

During the second SC situation, things went wrong unluckily, so I couldn't reach the podium.

I earned points constantly so far, and today, I made a good start, my pace was good, and I was fighting for the top three until then.

I am sure I have been making good progress, but I need one more step for a victory. There are four races in two events left. I will keep moving forward.

#6: Hiroki Otsu Position 15th (8th among Honda users)

I dropped one position at the start, so I tried to undercut by making an early pit-stop. However, I couldn't quicken my pace after the pit-stop. Because we couldn't match my car with the surface temperature change enough, my car slowed down more than my competitors', and it was all I could do to keep my position.

Although my performance in QF has been clearly improving, I did not make the best use of the good starting position in the last two races.

I should work on improving my own condition as well as my car's during a race. I will make a fresh start for the latter half of the season, and concentrate on preparation.