



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING Team Release

Race Report

2022/8/21 Rd-8 MOBILITY RESORT MOTEGI

Weather: Cloudy/Fine Temperature: 31°C, 21cars

Audience: 2,800/20th (Sat.) 4,800/21th (Sun.) 7,600/20th (Total.)

The 6th event of 2022 Super Formula was held in 2-race format at Mobility Resort Motegi. Rd7 yesterday was in the rain, however, today, the usual summer came back to Motegi, with the air temperature 31 degree C and the surface temperature over 50 degree C.

Before the start, the both drivers of DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING repeatedly practiced starting for dry conditions and checked set-ups in the 8-min warm-up run.

Makino, who made a good start, was overtaken by two cars from Corner 1 to Corner 3.

Otsu took bad positioning in the confusion of the start and dropped two positions. No major changes were made until L10 when the pit-stop window opened.

The team called Makino into the pits on L11, and after remarkably quick pit-work, they sent him back on-track.

After the pit-stop, Makino caught up to the low-order group.

He overtook one by one and drove faster than the apparent leader.

He increased margin in second place among the tire-changed group.

Because Otsu drove at a good pace without any car ahead, the team waited for his pit-stop until L14, and changed his tires without any mistake.

On L30, Hirakawa, the apparent leader, made a pit-stop. He returned on-track in 4th, behind Nojiri, then overtook Nojiri taking advantage of new tires, and came close to Makino.

Makino tried very hard to keep his position, however, he could not fight against the fresh tires and was overtaken by Hirakawa with 3 laps remaining.

Makino finished in third.

Otsu fought for the 11th place for a while, and finished in 13th.



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#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 3rd (1st among Honda users)

I made a pit-stop early as we planned, however, I saw the low-order group ahead when I came out of the pits. I was afraid that our strategy failed, but my car was fast enough to overtake them and I could increase the margin.

As a result, our strategy was successful.

Still, I couldn't reach Sekiguchi, the winner, nor held Hirakawa after changing tires. I realized how important it was to finish QF in the higher rank.

I finished in third on the podium, but I need one more step for my first victory.

I will go into the last event of two races at Suzuka with my team.

#6: Hiroki Otsu Position 13th (7th among Honda users)

The set-up, which I had adjusted for the race during the 8-min Free Practice, was good.

However, I dropped my position in the confusion at the start, and it took so much time to try to recover it even though my pace was remarkable.

I ended up in 13th place.

We need to reexamine what we have drawn out from my car's potential and what we haven't yet before the Suzuka event to compete.