



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Race Report

2022/10/30 Rd-10 SUZUKA circuit

Weather: Fine Temperature: 21°C, 21cars

Audience: 6,800/29th (Sat.) 10,000/30th (Sun) TOTAL 16,800

The 7th event of 2022 Super Formula, JAF Grand Prix, adopted a 2-race format, Rd9 on Saturday and Rd10 on Sunday.

Otsu, who had started from the third position, overtook one car at the start and went into 1 Corner in second. On the other hand, Makino dropped one position down.

Right after they passed, a car went off-track in 1 Corner, and the safety car came in to collect it.

The race was restarted on L3. Recording 1 min 41 seconds, which was his second best time, Otsu chased Nojiri ahead, however, could not narrow the gap to him. When the pit-stop window opened on L10 during this deadlock situation, the team called in Makino first, and then Otsu on L11.

Both drivers returned onto the track without any troubles.

Soon after their pit-stops, on L13, a crash occurred in Chicane.

The safety car came in for the second time, and the stay-out group came into the pits in unison.

Otsu pushed hard as close as the SC line to undercut Nojiri in the lead, but in vain. He stayed in second, and at this point, Makino was driving in 10th.

After the race was restarted on L18, Otsu went after the leader, keeping 1 min 40 seconds pace, however, could not narrow the gap again.

Makino, who was fighting the fierce battle in the middle group, raised one position up to the 9th on L20. He kept pushing and tried to overtake the car ahead in Chicane, however he failed.

Both drivers chased their preceding cars with all their might until the last lap. In the end, Otsu finished the final race in second on the podium, and Makino did in 9th.



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#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 9th (5th in 2022 Drivers' Standings)

In spite of topping in QF1, I couldn't shorten my time in QF2, and I had to start from the middle in both rounds. If we can't do well in QF2, it is hard to overtake competitors even though we drive at a good pace.

In the first place, my pace wasn't good today, so it was a frustrating race.

In this season, my speed increased race by race, however, I needed one more push.

There remained a lot of issues, which I have to face in order to step up for the next season. And I will!

#6: Hiroki Otsu Position 2nd (9th in 2022 Drivers' Standings)

Focusing on the start, I passed one car and became 2nd place.

I chased Nojiri then, but I was no match for him at first. I had a chance at the second safety car situation, however, I couldn't make use of it.

Although I couldn't win, I mounted on the podium for the first time this season.

I hope I have a little requited the team crews who supplied the best environment for me, co-operated companies and the fans who supported me all through the season.

I will do my best again to become faster and stronger next season.