



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Race Report

2023/4/8 Rd-1 FUJI Speedway

Weather: Fine Temperature: 18°C, 22cars

The 2023 opening event at Fuji Speedway adopted a 2-race format, Rd1 on Saturday and Rd2 on Sunday.

Rd1 was the first race with the new car SF23 and the new Yokohama tires using sustainable materials, and at the same time, it was a race without any test data for SF23's aerodynamics, tier duration, and so on.

The 41-lap season opener had started in the rules of no refueling and mandatory tire change.

Makino made an excellent start and overtook 4 cars to 8th. On the other hand, 4 cars including Ota stalled their engines at the start. In 1st Corner, an accident occurred involving 3 cars.

On L2, Makino tried to overtake Tsuboi in 7th just before 1st Corner, however, ran into him. Since the broken parts were scattered on the track, the safety car came in. Tsuboi ended up retiring from the race, and Makino had to return to the pits because of the damage to his car. He changed the front wing and returned on-track in 16th.

Ota restarted from the engine stall in 18th, one lap behind from the top group.

Makino, who was pushing hard for a higher rank, got a 5-sec-pitstop penalty for the collision into Tsuboi, and dropped his position.

On L35, when two cars sideswiped each other in 1st Corner and caused the second safety car situation, Makino made a pit-stop to change tires.

He returned on-track in 14th, however, it took time to retrieve the crashed cars and so the safety car stayed ahead until the end.

Makino finished in 14th, and Oth became 15th.



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING *Team Release*

#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 14th

I made a good start and raised my position. However, when I tried to overtake the car ahead, my driving line intersected its line and collided. I also got a penalty and lost a chance to compete for a victory.

Fortunately, I could stay in the race to collect long-run data and to find issues. We will examine today's result, and make it up in the race tomorrow.

#6: Kakunoshin Ota Position 15th

Since we couldn't adjust the set-up for the start system completely, I stalled the engine. I was 1 lap behind already at this point. So, I decided to change my focus positively onto learning this SF23 by finishing the 41-lap race, because I had never been able to test it at all.

Tomorrow, I will adjust my car and myself to go into QF and the race.