



Qualifying Report 2023/6/17 Rd-5 Sportsland SUGO

Weather : Fine Temperature : 31°C 22cars

2023 Super Formula season reaches the midway point at Sportsland SUGO. The racing course through the forest is beautiful, however, the track is so narrow that dealing with traffic during QF is very important besides quickness itself. Also, since the narrow escape zone causes accidents often, when to make an attack considering the red flag interruption becomes the key, and strategy and communication between a driver and his team will be tested in this difficult course. The weather recovered after the rain yesterday and QF was held under the midsummer condition with 31°C of the air temperature and 55°C on the surface. Ohta in GrpA confirmed the tire warmth in a check-run, and went back on-track with less than 4 min remaining. He recorded the fifth fastest lap and made it to his first QF2 this season. Right after that, a car crashed at the outlet of Rainbow Corner, and in order to repair the track, QF for GrpB started 20 min behind time. Makino, who marked a remarkable time in second place during Free Practice, went on-track in the last 4 min. Although he shortened his time in the first sectors, he could not in the latter sectors, and he moved on to QF2 in 5th. For the following QF2, both drivers consulted their engineers. As a result, Makino adjusted the set-up, and Ohta decided to wear scrub tires only in front to attack. Makino recorded the fastest time in Sec 1, and shortened time in Sec 2, however, lost time in Sec 3. He finished QF2 in 7th. Even though Ohta finished attacking without any mistake, he became 9th.



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING *Team Release*

#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 7th (QF1 GrpB 5th, QF2 7th)

I came into this round with a positive state from the last race at Autopolis, and I was second in Free Practice as a result.

However, I didn't feel a certain reaction. In spite of giving all my strength with no mistake,

I was .5 sec behind the leader. We still have a lot of issues.

Last year, the race content at this circuit was pretty good, so, I will shift emotional gears to survive the race for a higher rank.

#6: Kakunoshin Ohta Position 9th (QF1 GrpA 5th, QF2 9th)

I am glad that I made it to QF2 for the first time this season.

I couldn't attend the test before the opener because of poor physical condition, so I couldn't complete my car slowly and carefully.

However, since I kept working with my team intensely, I gained self-confidence.

My pace in the race at Autopolis was good, so I will prepare with my team to finish in the top group.