



## **Qualifying Report**

**2023/8/19 Rd-7 MOBILITY RESORT MOTEGI**

Weather : Fine/Cloudy Temperature : 36°C 22cars

Super Formula Rd7 at Mobility Resort Motegi was held as 'Summer Vacation @ Motegi', following 'Summer Festival in Fuji Motorsports Forest' in July, and MFJ All JAPAN Road Race Series Rd4 was also held in this event.

After two slow Typhoons had passed, the state of air was still unstable with scorching heat, and a sudden change of the weather including 'guerrilla rainstorm' was predicted. The race would require not only quickness and strength, but luck. When QF1 started with 36°C air temperature and 54°C on the surface, Makino in Grp A went on-track right away with used tires for a check-run.

He returned on-track with new tires in the last 5 min.

He had a good feeling in the car balance and finished QF1 first.

Ohta in Grp B also attacked with new tires, after a check-run with used tires. Because of inadequate grip in Sec 1 and 2, he moved on to QF2 in 4th.

In the following QF2, the air temperature fell by 2°C and the surface temperature by 8°C because the clouds hid the sun.

In conditions which were largely different from QF1, both Makino and Ohta waited until 5 min remaining and went on-track.

Makino recorded the best time in Sec 1, however, could not shorten his time in Sec 3 and 4, and ended up in 9th.

On the other hand, Ohta finished QF in second, because the set-up which was changed for QF2 worked perfectly.



## DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

*Team Release*

#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 9th (QF1 GrpA 1st, QF2 9th)

The set-up, which had been developed for Motegi based on the one for the previous Fuji round, was good from Free Practice, and I marked the top time. In QF2, although I had a good feeling about my car, I couldn't deal with the surface change nor reach the top time.

Tomorrow, I will focus on starting first because strategies for Motegi vary, then, I will fight with the overall team strength to finish in the top group.

#6: Kakunoshin Ohta Position 2nd (QF1 GrpB 4th, QF2 2nd)

In the QF2 at Fuji, I couldn't match the condition change, in spite of finishing QF1 first. So today, with reflection and regret from it, I gave priority to adjusting myself to QF2.

In QF1, I felt that my performance didn't reach the peak, however, I could manage the set-up which corresponded to the condition change in QF2.

As a result of trusting my team and myself on attacking, I won the front-row start and I am pretty satisfied. I will make a good start to win the race tomorrow.