



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Race Report

2023/10/29 Rd-9 SUZUKA circuit

Weather: Fine Temperature: 20°C, 20cars

Audience: 17,500/28th (Sat.) 25,500/29th (Sun) TOTAL 43,000

The final race of the 2023 season was Super Formula Rd9 in the 7th event known as JAF Grand Prix.

Yesterday, there was a serious crash in Rd8, and it caused Otsu and Sasahara to withdraw from the Rd9. 20 cars were placed in the grid for a 31-lap race.

Ohta in the second grid of the front row charged out at full speed and jumped into First Corner first. Makino raised one position and finished L1 in 9th.

Ohta continued to record QF-like super laps, renewing his best time, and outdistanced the follower, Lawson in second.

On L10 when the pit-stop window was open, the team called Makino into the pits aiming for speeding up in clean air.

Watching Miyata in third making a pit-stop on L13, Lawson in second went into the pits on L14. Ohta responded to this movement and made a pit-stop on L15.

The team changed his tires quickly in 5 seconds' and sent him back on-track keeping his position in first.

Although Lawson came so close to Ohta's tail in the final stage of the race, Ohta controlled his pace calmly and reached the goal first.

Makino raised his position to 8th, however in the end, could not block the stay-out group whose tires were fresh, and finished the final race in 10th earning one point.



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#5: Tadasuke Makino 10th (6th in 2023 Drivers' Standings)

Since the test at Fuji, I had been in good shape through the 5th and the 6th events. However, here at Suzuka, I couldn't get the feeling and achievement as I expected.

I came into the event with a new car after the crash at Motegi, I was afraid that I couldn't cope with the slight change from the car difference.

The race pace was not good. It was a tough, frustrating final race for me.

I was getting faster race by race this season, though. Except for the race at Motegi where I crashed, I got points constantly from the middle stage of the season, and in this event, I got points in the two consecutive races.

Because of Ohta's victory, I am glad that my team became third in the teams' standings. Thank you so much for your support.

#6: Kakunoshin Ohta Position 1st (7th in 2023 Drivers' Standings)

I concentrated on starting first. I made a good start to be first, and since then, I dominated the race well, monitoring Lawson in second.

Under the severe conditions for tires on all drivers, Lawson's pace was good behind me in the latter half, so it was a mentally tough race for me.

The strategy was good, pit-work was outstandingly quick, and issues including speed on the out-lap and overtaking skill were cleared.

Everything had just gone well.

Since I couldn't attend the test because of injury before the season opener, I struggled in the first half. So, with this victory, I hope to repay my team's effort of preparing the best environment all the time, cooperating companies' support and fans' support, just a little.

Next season, I will be faster and stronger so that I can compete for victory from the season opener. Thank you very much.

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2023 Teams' Standings 3rd