



## **Official Testing and Rookie Driver Tryouts Report 2023/12/6~7 SUZUKA**

One month after the final race of the 2023 season at Suzuka, in which DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING's rookie Ohta had won for the first time, each team began to prepare for the 2024 season with Rookie Driver Tryouts, the annual event of the season end.

In the 2024 season, the identical damper should be adopted to every car, so in this test, DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING planned to test set-ups for the new damper in addition to reviewing the races this season, with the team's regular drivers, Tadasuke Makino in car #5 and Kakunoshin Ohta in car #6.

It was a stable and rather warm weather for December.

Ohta looked back on the races to revalue his performances mainly, and on the other hand, Makino wore the new identical damper and drove enthusiastically from the beginning of the test session to execute the test programs as scheduled.

In the morning session of Day2, the northeast wind blew hard and the track condition was not stable. The drivers drove around to test the valuable programs on the basis of the results from yesterday.

During the QF attack simulation, Ohta, who was driving at the fastest pace of all, crashed in the last corner. Makino recorded the top time before the session was over.

In the afternoon session of Day2, the team finished restoring the car and sent Ohta on-track an hour late, and executed the test programs favorably. Makino finished the two-day official test at the end of 2023 season in 9th overall and Ohta was in 8th overall.



## DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

*Team Release*

#5: Tadasuke Makino Position 9th overall (Day1 9th, Day2 9th)

We didn't have any troubles all through the two-day test.

We came into the test with a variety of programs related to the new damper, and so far, I think we are learning its character properly.

We have confirmed the issues and their countermeasures from this season, so I can say that the test was fruitful and positive.

The next test and the 2024 season opener will be held at this Suzuka circuit.

We will prepare well to get off to a good season start.

#6: Kakunoshin Ohta Position 8th overall (Day1 4th, Day2 8th)

We tested several things regarding the remaining problems from this season, and it was a very productive good test.

I learned a lot about the new damper, however, I still need to figure out how it works in the other circuits and under hot conditions.

My performance was often at the top level during the test, and I came to have confidence for the next season. From this point, I think this test was meaningful.