



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Qualifying Report

2019/7/13 Rd-4 FUJI Speedway

Weather : Rain Temperature : 21°C 20cars

2019 season reaches the midway point at Fuji Speedway. Currently, DOKOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING tops the teams' standings having Yamamoto who leads in the drivers' standings by mounting the podium three times in a row (2nd-2nd-1st) and Fukuzumi who earned points in last two rounds. The competitors will play catch-up very hard and survival games will intensifies from now on.

The weather was unstable because of a stationary front and just before QF, raindrops began to fall. The surface condition changed from dry to wet. Soon after Knockout QF1 started, red flag interruption occurred because of a car gone off the track. When it restarted, checking the course condition and attack timing first, Yamamoto recorded 5th lap and Fukuzumi recorded fastest lap. In last 8 min, they went on-track with new tires. However, due to the slightly heavier rain, most of the drivers did not shorten their first attack time. Yamamoto became 10th position, and Fukuzumi stayed on the top. They both moved on to QF2.

In the following QF2, after adjusting set-up a little, both of the drivers went on-track as soon as the course was opened, and drove around to warm up and get themselves into good condition for attacking. However, Yamamoto could not maximize tire grip and ended up in 9th place. Fukuzumi had his tires locked while breaking in Corner 1 and finished QF in 12th place.

#1: Naoki Yamamoto Position 9th (QF1 10th, QF2 9th) 4th among Honda users

I drove in compliance with the condition either in free practice on Friday and In QF this morning, and I had a good feeling. However, the weather had changed so quickly that I couldn't adjust my car to it well. As a result, I didn't finish in the upper group and couldn't make it to QF3.

It will be rainy tomorrow, too. I will talk over the race strategy with team and do my best for the podium and also for the championship title.



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#5: Nirei Fukuzumi Position 12th (QF1 1st, QF2 12th) 6th among Honda users

At the beginning, I had a very good feeling, but tire condition did not match the rainfall change and I couldn't feel enough tire grip.

Changing set-up didn't work. I regret that I made a mistake in breaking. I will share data with Yamamoto and I will be competitive to bring home some points at least.