



DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING

Team Release

Race2 Report

2016/9/11 Rd-5 OKAYAMA International Circuit

Weather : Cloudy/Fine Temperature : 33°C 19 cars

Audience : 4, 000/10th (Sat.)、 6, 000/11th (Sun) 10, 000/total

Rd5 Okayama International Circuit Sunday Race2 was held by Knockout QF and 190km race.

Race2 Knockout QF started under cooler 25°C Fine weather.

In knock-out QF1, they both checked their plans of attack with used tires first. Then, in last 7min, they put new tires and tried to attack. Nojiri marked the best time at sector1 and finished in 2nd place. Vandoorne marked the best time at sector2 and finished in 3rd place. Both move on to QF2.

In the following QF2, both Nojiri and Vandoorne attacked with new tires.

However, the attack lap was interrupted by red flag because of a car spun.

Only 4min47sec remained. They flew out as soon as the track was cleared. Both Nojiri and Vandoorne marked their best time lap by lap but Nojiri made perfect attack at last minutes then took pole position. Vandoorne to be in 3rd place. (Team/Vandoorne got 3 down grid penalty because of the act of pit out safety check).

Track temp in Race2 were over 40°C. At the start of the race, Nojiri led the 1st corner from pole, Vandoorne jumped to fourth on the opening lap.

Top 3 cars including Nojiri and Vandoorne laps around 1min18sec but early stopper group were quicker than the front runners.

On lap19, Vandoorne pitted from P3, but he dropped down to P9. Also Nojiri pitted Lap21 from P1 but dropped down to P4 –all drivers in front of them who had pitted in the early stage.

On Lap31 one car spun off and the safety car was deployed.

Ishiura who was only driver had not pitted, headed to the pit. When he come back out onto the track, Ishiura and Nojiri passed SC line nearly same timing but Nojiri was got drive through penalty. Nojiri ended the race in 16th place. Vandoorne finished race2 in 7th place.



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#40: Tomoki Nojiri

QF: Position 1st (QF1 2nd QF2 1st) 1st among HONDA users

RACE2: Position 16th 7th among HONDA users

I used up everything I had. I felt confidence on the QF because my car setup was really competitive.

At the race2, start was good and I push really hard to keep my position but early stoppers were much quicker than me.

When Ishiura back to the track, I couldn't break my speed because speed difference were too big.

#41: Stoffel Vandoorne

QF: Position 3rd (QF1 3rd QF2 3rd) 2nd among HONDA users

RACE2: Position 7th 2nd among HONDA users

First victory of Super formula was great result on Saturday, but Sunday was difficult. Our pace was pretty good because Nojiri took pole position, 3rd myself. Unfortunately, some mistake we had, grid penalty was big handicap and not perfect strategy in the race.

Positive things was our good pace this weekend and I hope we can carry this forward to next SUGO.