

## DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING Team Release

## Official Testing and Rookie Driver Tryouts Report 2022/12/7~8 SUZUKA

Rookie Driver Tryouts, which is held in December every year, at the end of the season, is very important for the 2023 season.

Especially because the new car SF23 will be adopted in 2023, DOCOMO TEAM DANDELION RACING has prepared the test programs considering the new package, in addition to reviewing this season.

The team put Otsu who drove Car#6 this season into Car#5, and invited Kakunoshin Ota, who became second in the Drivers' standings of 2022 Super Formula Light, for Car#6 in this official test.

In spite of the chill of early morning, the weather was stable with the temperature of near 15 degreeC during the day.

Otsu intensively worked on reviewing the set-ups for the 2022 season, and Ota tried hard to learn his first SF drive. Both of them drove around enthusiastically from the beginning of the test session, and proceeded the programs according to the schedule.

On Day2, they executed the test programs including starting practice, pit-stop simulation and long-run for a race, attack simulation for QF, and so on.

In the afternoon session, Ota finished in 4th with the fastest time among the rookies, and Otsu did in 5th even though he was blocked by a slow car during the attack.

The team provided some bold set-ups which could be tried only during the off-season as scheduled, and finished the last 2-day official test in 2022 with Otsu in 7th overall and Ota in 5th overall.



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#5: Hiroki Otsu Position 7th overall (4th among Honda users)

Since I drove Car#5 this time, I could perform a comparative test between Car#5 and Car#6, and learned a lot.

It was such a fruitful test that I could examine several issues remaining from this season, too. Also, it was meaningful to try and check the set-ups for the new SF23.

I can say that it was a good kick-off for the 2023 season.

#6: Kakunoshin Ota Position 5th overall (3rd among Honda users)

I felt honored to be given the opportunity to attend the Super Formula test, and at the same time, I felt the pressure.

On the first day, I focused on getting used to the car, and felt a reaction from the set-ups imaging the 2nd day.

On Day2, I tried a long-run and an attack with new tires.

I couldn't be the leader, however, I am glad I finished in the top group.

In every session, I understood the car more and I felt my personal development more. It was a very beneficial test!