

2023 Jacko500 *Racing*

February 2023



FWT PIQUET



Our first race of the year took place in February, we traveled down to West Palm Beach to compete in the Florida Winter Tour at Piquet Race Park. We had never raced there before so we went down early to get extra practice. We did 4 days of practice which went great, I was on the pace right away and was consistently top 5 if not fastest. The track has a great layout, really fun to drive but also bumpy making it very physical. That combined with the heat, made for long tiring days. Throughout practice we tested a lot of different kart setups and had everything dialed in for Friday.

FRIDAY

Friday was the first competitive sessions of the event. Morning practice set the grid for quali so we popped on new tires and set the 4th fastest time. In quali I made a small mistake on one of the corners but still finished with the 6th fastest lap. Quali set the starting order for 3 heat races.

In heat 1, I was starting on the outside row which was a huge disadvantage, on the start the inside row got a big jump and I lost several spots. I was able to fight back and finished the race in 8th (out of 22.)



**JACKO
500**

SATURDAY

Saturday we had 2 more heat races and a prefinal.

The first heat race started off great, I was able to make my way up to 3rd but by the middle of the race my engine started losing power and I fell way down the grid finishing in 15th. In between races, we thought we sorted out the engine but we were still down on power and in the race we were passed by 8 karts down the straight away and finished 14th.

For the Pre-Final we decided to switch to our practice engine. Based on the results of the Heat Races, we had to start the prefinal in 15th, it is a very tight track and on the opening lap I had a collision and ended up finishing in 21st.



SUNDAY

We worked late into the night on Saturday trying everything we could to get the Kart back to the pace we had on Friday but unfortunately luck was not on our side. During the race my axle shifted which made it like I was driving with the brakes on the whole time. Also, the valve stem on one of the tires leaked and we came in with a flat tire. I did all that I could but was lapping 4 seconds slower and finished 16th.

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TAKEAWAYS

We did not get the results we wanted but it was still a great experience. The team had a new Data Coach who formerly raced F2, I was able to learn a lot and had a great time at a new track.

UP NEXT

We are back to Florida for FWT Round 3 in Orlando March 17th-19th. I have driven this track before, it is an awesome layout and I am very excited to get back.

We have sent our engines to our engine builder who will make sure they are in fighting shape for the next round.

Our Go Pro also died at the last race, we have decided to upgrade to a Smarty Cam. This works with my onboard data computer which will help with coaching, plus my onboard videos will now have speed, track maps and more on them, I am pretty excited about it.

www.jacko500racing.com