

**VERMIN RACING TEAM 2019 FORMULA TROUT FORMULA 3
CHAMPIONSHIP**



Round 1 Imola



Race 1

As the lights faded away and instant mistake from Jaap Wagenvoort surprised many as he launched his car into the pit wall with too much wheel spin from the off. Urmas Riis taking an early lead from Clank Hughes, as Jack Smith and Martijn Van T' Land battled it out behind them, reminiscent of the previous year's battle which saw their team mates Oscar Williams and Wagenvoort go wheel to wheel with amazing respect. Again the quality of driving between two top drivers was amazing to watch, with Van T' Land for 3rd winning the tussle in the early stages of the race. Jack would eventually make a pass stick on Van T' Land and take 3rd confidently pulling away as the Inforward began to struggle with grip.

Quietly Maxi Junger had moved through the field and was chasing down Arttu Nieminen for 4th on the final lap. As Jack was making a move for 2nd on Hughes on his final lap, the pair nearly collide at the slow chicane allowing Hughes to keep his place and Jack having to settle for 3rd. Maxi's efforts were stopped and he came home 5th.

Race 2

With the reverse grid in effect. Maxi starting 6th and Jack in 8th. Jack ended up getting caught up in a huge mid pack accident which dropped him towards the back end. Maxi would pressure the cars in front as he went throughout his race as one of the quickest in the pack climbing to 4th. Jack had to endure a game of catch up clawing his way into the top 10 by half race distance. A mistake would drop him to 12th and he fought to take back his top 10 position. Maxi however managed to get past Jannes Van Dijk for 3rd after he collapsed under Maxi's constant presence behind him. At the end of the race Jack had grabbed 10th with Maxi a brilliant 3rd.

Round 2 Donington Park

Race 1

With Riis taking pole, it was Jack who looked confident as all the cars piled into Turn 1, contact between Jack and Hughes send both skating off the track and down to the back with Clank and Jack now languishing in last and 2nd to last places. Maxi kept things nice and clean and was now in a comfortable 5th place ahead of Van T' Land after a couple of laps of racing, sadly there was little movement from there on and Maxi would bring the car back a solid 5th. Jack had decided to retire from the race early on due to the damage sustained from the first lap clash.

Race 2

Jack knew that he would have to work very hard in race 2, by lap 1 he had bullied himself up to 11th as Maxi slotted into 5th before making it 2nd. Jack was now sniffing the gearbox fluid from Wagenvoort's car as he harassed him for 6th place, trying to find a way past, he went for a move around the outside of him only for Wagenvoort to understeer into the side pod and plough them both into the gravel trap. The pair would battle just outside the top 10 and Jack would find a way through to snatch 11th away from Wagenvoort. Maxi who had been in 2nd the entire race, loses out to Hughes in the dying moments as Hughes tries the exact same move Jack did on Wagenvoort only for Hughes and Maxi to give each other the space to keep both cars in the race, albeit with Maxi now on the final step of the podium.

Round 3 Austria



Race 1

Jack secured a close fought pole in the dying seconds of qualifying. A relatively clean get away by all ensures there is no major incidents before turn 3, As Jack tries a move on Wagenvoort but has to settle in behind running 4th. Maxi pulls his car around to a decent 6th place but can not progress any further. Jack has to settle for 4th in race 1. Arttu Nieminen would easily win the race.

Race 2

Maxi inherited all the bad luck from race 1 off of Jack as he was stuck in 8th unable to progress. with Wagenvoort staying ahead in 3rd. As the front runners slowly pull a gap, Jack could only sit in waiting behind him. After a mistake up front, they became 2nd and 3rd respectively. Again Nieminen would cruise to his second win of the weekend.

Round 4 Zandvoort

Race 1

Jack looked absolutely dominant starting from pole and pulling away in race 1. Maxi managed to finish 10th which would put him in a good position for race 2 with the reverse grid. Slava Potapenko returning after a missing the 2 previous rounds brought his car home just outside the points in 11th. Jack taking the chequered flag.

Race 2

Maxi pulled out a nice lead from turn 1 down to turn 2 and would slowly start to build on that gap. Wagenvoort worked his way through the pack relishing his home race. Jack had mixed luck only able to finish 8th by the fall of the flag, but Maxi taking his first victory for Vermin Racing Team and of the season.

Round 5 – Spa

Race 1

With Jack not attending this round, along with quite a few regular front runners, it was an opportunity for some of the other drivers to gain good points. Wagenvoort did not finish in race 1. Maxi only managing 10th, Slava had an average race with very little action to finish 12th. Riis maximised his points with a strong win over the reduced grid. Paul Magzire coming in 2nd gaining good points over his nearest rival. With this win, it was Riis now looking the early favourite for the championship.

Race 2

Maxi on pole for race 2 as Alex Cochrane and Maxi battled for position, Cochrane closed the door on Maxi which threw both out of the running, allowing Riis to grab another win. Wagenvoort falling by the wayside and into a DNF. Slava clawed his car into 10th for a respectable finish on what was a really bad weekend for a number of title challengers.

Round 6 Algarve

Race 1

A returning Jack was on top form, grabbing another pole and gliding to an easy win, mastering this track with ease, again followed home by the ever consistent Wagenvoort in 2nd and Maxi hurling his car into 3rd after seeing off some early challenges. Slava again bringing home a point in 10th with another solid drive.

Race 2

Wagenvoort failed to start the second race with Jack proving again he could slice his way through the field as he would take 2nd behind Riis who was just able to finish ahead of the fast approaching Jack.

Maxi had more bad luck in the race not reaching the flag and retiring early on. Slava managed the situation and 9th Place. Controversy would shake things up as Magzire would be found to have deliberately retaliated on a competitor and took them out of the race. He would be banned for the remainder of the season and his results from both races disqualified.

Round 7 Laguna Seca

Race 1

With Jack unavailable to drive this round, Oscar returned to the championship, last years runner up would immediately shake the grid, absolutely dominating with a pole and easy victory. However it was overshadowed by an incident with Wagenvoort and Riis, when Riis punted the Inforward driver off into the gravel trap, beaching Wagenvoort's car. An unhappy scene for many of the drivers as the incident looked premeditated and left Wagenvoort and other drivers furious. Maxi would finish 7th only 2 places ahead of Slava who had his best finish of the season in 8th.

Race 2

Again controversy would strike in turn 1 as Riis completely dive bombed the pack taking out several cars into turn 1, narrowly missing Oscar and Maxi who would go into turn 2 leading a Vermin 1st and 2nd. With Slava having to avoid the chaos in turn 1, he would be classified 9th with

Oscar taking a double win on his return and Maxi an amazing 2nd.

The fall out of the Riis incidents would see many of the drivers rally towards a ban for the championship leader. Riis was removed from the season and all his points nullified, this suddenly opened the championship for a close battle between 3 drivers. Jack, Wagenvoort and Hughes.

Round 8 Okyama

Race 1

This time Nieminen looked very much in control of things, claiming pole and running away with race 1. Wagenvoort looking to recover from his abysmal weekend at Laguna took 2nd as Jack could only get 7th, Oscar finished 5th with Maxi being unclassified after a wild dive from Van Dijk pushed him off track along with Cochrane.

Race 2

At the front Salem punted Cochrane off, which allowed Jack to take the lead. Jack and Wagenvoort would battle hard for the victory in race 2. as the pair went wheel to wheel there was slight contact when Wagenvoort chose to stick his car on the outside of a corner just touching the rear of Jack's car, sending Wagenvoort off the track but able to recover to 6th with Jack cruising to another win. Oscar would again finish 5th and Maxi having to retire again due to damage

Round 9 Suzuka



Race 1

Jack took over in Japan with a fantastic pole, looking very much dialled into the track. He eased off into the distance as Oscar followed in 2nd place with Wagenvoort listing back in 4th unable to do anything about the Vermin drivers. Maxi would finish 6th being one of the best results for Vermin so far during the season. The result edging Jack into the lead of the championship.

Race 2

Again would see Jack and Oscar out in front, this time with Oscar leading the way. Maxi just missing out on the podium but also holding up Wagenvoort as they finish 4th and 5th. Oscar crossing the line with another easy victory with Jack close behind. With Hughes finishing 5th he now had the slimmest of chances at the title.

Round 10 Bathurst

Race 1

Going into the final round with Jack in the lead of the championship and Wagenvoort in with a shot. Jack struck the first blow grabbing pole. However in the race things unravelled and Jack would slip down to 4th with Wagenvoort outscoring him with a 3rd place. It was Oscar would take the win though taking valuable points away from Wagenvoort. With Maxi absent Slava took over 3rd driver duty but crashed out.

Race 2

With Jack under pressure as the points margin had narrowed. Cracks began to show as the usually cool and collected driver was making more and more mistakes, colliding with a wall and damaging his car heavily, desperately limping back to the pits, it looked like the championship was over. Pitting to repair the damage as Wagenvoort fought his way up to 2nd place needing 1st place to now clinch the title as Jack had now slipped to 7th place. Oscar had taken the lead early in the race and was able to cruise to an easy double victory and preventing Wagenvoort getting that vital position needed to win the title. As Jack limped over the line he was crowned Champion. After an excellent season. Wagenvoort's consistent performances netted him the runner up spot with Hughes in 3rd.