

## Background

Mark's passion for racing was instilled in him from birth. He is the grandson of a sprint car driver & the son of auto-crossing parents. Racing was always at the forefront of his life, where it was all too common to see 3 TV's in the living room on a Sunday catching all the Formula 1, Imsa, Indycar and NASCAR action as he was growing up.

Mark's goal was to get into racing, and the first rung in that ladder is kart racing. Following the steps of his previous generations, his break finally came at 12 years of age when his grandfather then purchased an early 1980's Yamaha Chassis equipped with a Yamaha KT100S engine. At that moment, MARK EATON RACING took shape. Although finances were still tight, the fledgling team consisting of his father, Bob, and his grandfather, Jerome, all had the mechanical ability and knowledge to make the team a success. Bob was a machinist by trade, so he made all the tooling to rebuild the engines and manufacture any broken or missing parts for the chassis themselves. Jerome took care of rebuilding the engines and clutches, and Mark took care of the chassis and related parts. After a year of trial and error, and Mark getting used to the speed of racing on abandoned roads, the team felt they were ready to race. Racing on outdated equipment and scrap tires that National teams discarded, the team had immediate success. The first six races they entered, they won, and then went on to claim the Central Florida Kart Club Novice Championship that year (1990). The following season the team moved to Yamaha Light, winning the majority of races they entered and claiming the Championship again for the second straight year... all on used tires!

After a three year hiatus from racing due to financial and health problems in his family, Mark joined Robinson Motor Sports in the summer of 1994. Since joining RMS, Mark has had great success with team owner Mick Robinson. Here Mark was able to gain invaluable experience as a mechanic, driver coach & driver himself in a variety of cars. He has raced in a variety of cars in several different sanctioning bodies: Formula SCCA, Toyota WSR, Formula Mazda, Improved Touring Mazda RX-7 and Spec Racer Ford in SCCA. He also raced in the Grand American Rolex series in a Marcos Mantis, and the Grand- Am cup series in a Mazda RX-8 with the now defunct Southpaw Racing.

In the process of honing his driving skills in all these cars, Mark also learned how to interpret and analyze Data Acquisition. With this experience he has coached many drivers within the Robinson camp, taking several under his wing with his knowledge and experience and turned them from green rookies to multi-race winners. Also with this invaluable experience he is able to do research and development for the team when new cars are acquired and need to be sorted and set-up.

Currently Mark competes as a team driver in the SRF class for Robinson Motor Sports in the South East division of the SCCA. He also serves as team manager and driver coach for Robinson Motor Sports, and serves as the Data Technician for Play Therapy Racing in the Grand American Cup series.