

[Down](#)

Jordan Clarkson lead Gilas



History

MANILA, Philippines—The Philippines overcame a shaky start and then picked Saudi Arabia apart with methodical precision, 84-46, to get back on track in the Fiba World Cup Asian Qualifiers. Gilas rode the hot hand of Jordan Clarkson, treating 19,829 souls at Mall of Asia Arena in Pasay City to a scintillating performance that included thunderous dunks, long-distance triples and emphatic blocks. The *Filipino-American NBA star finished with 23 points, six rebounds, and six assists.* Local heroes abounded as well with Kai Sotto chipping 16 points and 13 rebounds, while cornerstone Dwight Ramos nine points as the Nationals improved to 3-3 in the tournament being used to pilot a squad for the World Cup here next year. “[This is] big,” Clarkson said at centercourt after the blowout. “Us as a team, just getting together the last couple of weeks and me coming in just five times getting ready quick and just getting ready for the World Cup next year.” “It feels great,” he said of the fans in attendance, which included Presidents Duterte and Marcos Jr. “I know Filipinos got my back and I got theirs as well. I appreciate everybody. We’re just getting started. (So), support us, support the coaching staff, and support everybody.” Musab Tariq Kadi, Khalid Abdel Gabar, and Mathna Almarwani led the way for Saudi Arabia with nine points each. Mohammed Almarwani tossed in eight more as the visitors dropped to 1-5. <

The Scores:

PHILIPPINES 84 — Clarkson 23, Sotto 16, Ramos 9, Aguilar 8, K. Ravena 8, Parks 6, Oftana 6, T. Ravena 4, Thompson 2, Malonzo 2, Newsome 0, Adams 0.
SAUDI ARABIA 46 — Abdel Gabar 9, Kadi 9, Ma. Almarwani 9, Mo. Almarwani 8, Almuwallad 4, Belal 3, Mohammed 2, Abo Jalas 2, Alsager 0, Albargawi 0.
 Quarters: 14-11, 37-28, 61-36, 84-46.

[Character List](#)

RELATED STORIES Jordan Clarkson-led Gilas falls to Lebanon in Fiba fourth window Jordan Clarkson rues missed shots late in Gilas' loss to Lebanon

Clarkson rues missed shots late in Gilas' loss to Lebanon

MANILA, Philippines — Jordan Clarkson lamented his misses down the stretch in Gilas Pilipinas' 85-81 loss to Lebanon but remained upbeat after his debut in the Fiba World Cup 2023 Asian Qualifiers on Friday. Despite his 27-point outing in his first national team stint in four years, the Utah Jazz guard just couldn't hit the crucial ones in the final two minutes of the game, including a potential go-ahead floater when the game was tied with 1:18 remaining. Clarkson held himself accountable for his missed opportunities. "We had a chance to win the game. I missed some shots towards the end of the game and I feel like I usually make as well, so just a tough one tonight," said the Filipino-American guard, who shot 6-of-17 from the field and only made two three-pointers out of nine attempts. On the other hand, Lebanon's Fiba Asia Cup MVP Wael Arakji put the game to bed with the game-clinching triple, 83-78, with 18 seconds to go. Arakji, who finished with 24 points, then hit the "Night, Night" celebration after his clutch basket. Despite the tough loss, the 2021 NBA Sixth Man of the Year opted to look at the positives, praising 7-foot-3 prodigy Kai Sotto and Dwight Ramos, who chipped in 18 points, 10 rebounds and six steals. "For us, this is bright. We're just getting this team together. We got some good young stars on the team. Dwight played really well tonight as well, Kai played well. I think it was all around really good effort," said Clarkson. Clarkson lauded Gilas' fight against the Asia Cup runner-up but cited the team's 21 turnovers that proved too costly. "I think we did a good job of competing. Coach (Chot Reyes) prepared us really well, trying to scout this team now. We had a great game plan coming in," he said. "Like he said, with all the turnovers, we're gonna miss shots, stuff like that. But you know it's hard to win when you have 20 plus turnovers in a game like this, especially with the home crowd behind them. With Gilas dropping to 2-3 in Group E, Clarkson is eager to bounce back when he plays in his first home game against Saudi Arabia on Monday at Mall of Asia Arena. "We just got to take it on the head and get back to the drawing board and you know we going back to Manila. We got Saudi Arabia, so I'll be prepared and be prepared for that. We'll try to get a win at home," he said.

<

Character





Character List

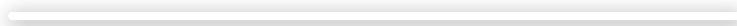
[Gilas Pilipinas Players](#)

[Article form Gilas Pilipinas](#)

Gilas Highlights



0:00 / 1:15



0:00 / 2:38

PHILIPPINES

- [Clarkson](#)
- [Sotto](#)
- [Ramos](#)
- [Aguilar](#)
- [K. Ravena](#)
- [Parks](#)
- [Oftana](#)
- [T. Ravena](#)
- [thompson](#)
- [Malonzo](#)
- [Newsome](#)
- [Adams](#)

[Top](#)