

### **Fort Erie Selections: Sunday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

*The seven race card today is filled with wide open races, especially the fifth and sixth races. Good luck to all the horses, their connections, and those joining us at the track! -Ashley Mailloux*

**Race 1: #3 Bella Loco** is still in search of the maiden victory, but she looks to be the one to beat today in the opener. She's been close in all three of her races this season, never finishing worse than fourth and she's faced some tough runners in her first two races this season. She'll drop down a level from her most recent and while she may be the best of the group, the distance is not ideal for her. She's found herself out of gas at the six furlong distance and now she'll stretch to the six and a half furlong distance. **#2 The Vision's Real** finds herself in a new barn after making her FE debut on the grass, where she ended up finishing fifth, beaten by just over three lengths. She has yet to try the dirt which is why I'll toss her into the exotics. With a short field and a few runners that appear to not care for the dirt, she may be able to get a piece. **#4 Just the Forest** has missed the board in all three of her races this season, two of which were over the main track. Her most recent is arguably her best this year, as she finished fourth. She doesn't have much of a late kick, but she is the only runner to show any sort of speed which means she could just go to the front and set the pace, making her capable of a minor share.

**Race 2: #6 Ethanator** has been facing much better throughout his career and seemed to shine late in 2017, breaking his maiden and then returning to the winner's circle in his next start. He's found the company too tough at Woodbine so his connections have shipped him down to FE along with his stablemate, **#5 Flashy Jock**. His second race of 2018 was by no means bad, as he finished fifth beaten by just over 5 lengths against better. He's shown early speed and while he may be trying the dirt for the first time, if he takes to it well he might just be saying goodbye to the rest of the field. **#5 Flashy Jock** broke his maiden in June 2017 but was sidelined after and has only start under his belt in 2018. He faced decent company in that most recent race, but never got going. He'll switch surfaces today in hopes of a change. He looks to offer more value than his stablemate and could move up while making only his second start since the 13 month layoff. **#2 Let's Play** is one of the few proven dirt runners in this field and he most recently was third against slightly better company fresh off the maiden victory. He's been running some nice speed figures and seems to like this dirt surface, posting a 1-1-6 record from 12 starts.

**Race 3: #3 Our Miss Maggie** has really excelled over this track and she has yet to miss the board at Fort Erie in three starts. Two starts ago she was absolutely impressive, winning by almost 10 lengths. In her most recent race, she initially found herself uncontested on the lead but was unable to hold for the win honors. She'll be the one to catch in here. **#1 I'm Warning You** drew clear in her dirt debut here on July 31<sup>st</sup>. When she turned for home, she surged to the front and looked to be much the best. She's in for a lower tag in here but did need to find a spot with this condition. This filly may give Our Miss Maggie a run for her money. While **#4 Floral Clock** didn't fire last time out, her one dirt race resulted in a third place finish in a race that Holdonweregoinhome finished second, her only loss this season. That filly appears to be one of the most talented dirt claiming fillies at the track. Another reason Floral Clock looks to be worthy of a shot against this group is the cutback in distance to five furlongs. Her two lifetime wins have been at this distance and while it was a different surface, she has found herself leg weary at longer distances on both the turf and dirt.

**Race 4:** The connections of **#4 Hidden Storm** were hoping to get this gelding on the grass last time out, but rain kicked the turf races onto the main and this son of Signature Red really didn't seem to care for the off track. The barn has been doing quite well this meet, winning at 26% from 19 runners and continues to pick up runners/clients which always a great sign. He looks to fit this level quite nicely and should move up off that most recent effort. **#6 Redliner** has tried in each of his starts and has yet to miss the board. He seems to soften in the lane and is unable to maintain his run, so the cutback to five furlongs could make him lethal. He'll be trying a new surface, but if his dirt form carries over, he will be trying to steal this one on the front end and just may have enough to do so. Trainer Nick Gonzalez has two runners in here and the most intriguing (in my opinion) looks to be **#1 Ami's Artie**. He flashed some early speed in his debut for Gonzalez but dropped back in the stretch when going two turns. The cutback in distance looks to be in his favor and his pedigree *absolutely screams* turf.

**Race 5:** First time starter **#3 D'wonderful** looked simply wonderful schooling in the paddock last Sunday. This NY-bred filly is a massive chestnut who caught my eye. She has some nice breezes under her belt, especially her move over this course on July 30<sup>th</sup>, covering 4 furlongs in :48.80. Everything that this barn puts forth always looks the part and their runners run their races each time out. **#2 Will o'The Wisp** put down a strong debut, almost taking this race on the front end but was caught in the final stages. The barn is quite strong off a month layoff, winning at 30% from 20 runners. One thing to make note of is that this filly is getting a medication change and will receive Lasix for the first time. **#1 Pic Princess Zizi** was quite strong in her dirt debut, closing in the stretch to just miss a trip to the winner's circle by less than a length. She came back following that start to finish third but didn't have a closing kick. She'll get a new rider today and will get a bit less distance.

**Race 6:** **#5 Subliminal** raced at this same level two starts ago (but on the turf) even when he was eligible for a non-winners of two races. He was on the lead in the stretch but was unable to sustain his bid and was passed by Canada Wise Don. Following that race, his connections sent him back to Woodbine and he picked up a win over the tapeta. Isabelle Wenc has been riding this five year old son of Street Sense quite nicely and this duo will team up again. The question for him will be the dirt, as he has yet to race over it, but he breezed nicely over the training track on August 5<sup>th</sup> and his pedigree suggests that he will have no problem taking to the surface. Also trying the dirt for the first time is **#2 Get'erdonebud** who will be making his debut for his new connections. He's had two solid races under his belt this season, finishing second in his 2018 debut when facing much better and then finishing fourth on the grass, beaten by three lengths. He seems to have been training over the dirt up at Woodbine in preparation for these races and has some very strong breezes. Coming into this race of a win on the grass, **#3 Little Deuce Coupe** does have some experience over the dirt and fits this level well. He raced nicely over the dirt two starts back and found himself able to close on a very muddy track. Do note that he broke his maiden over the dirt this winter at Tampa by a margin of over 11 lengths.

**Race 7:** The Sunday card wraps up in a tough grass race that looks to be wide open as far as the exotics are concerned. **#8 Forever Bold** proved to be much the best last time out when breaking her maiden over this turf course. She showed a bunch of early speed and was able to set nice even fractions for the 5 furlong distance. While it doesn't look as though she'll be on the front end by herself, the other speed horse has not showed a liking to the turf in her past. That runner, **#5 Night Gathers (IRE)** has fired in just about all of her dirt races at Fort Erie in 2018 but will switch surfaces today in hopes of picking up another win. She's faced strong runners this meet on the dirt such as I'm Warning You, Holdonweregoinhome, and Sentimental Lady and while she appears to give it her all each time, she's yet to hit the board in four turf starts. It's been some time since she's been on the grass so it's impossible to leave her out as far as the exotics are concerned. Longshot contender **#2 Early Ringaling** only has two starts under her belt in 2018 with the most recent being here at Fort Erie against this level. She seems to show up over the Fort Erie turf, as she has only missed the board once in three attempts. She'll certainly be a price and will have her work cut out for her, but she could improve off of her most recent and would be a nice addition to a trifecta or pentafecta wager.