



For a first podium ?

Considered as the best team in the world in one day races, the Belgian team has never triumphed in Plouay since the biggest race in Brittany is on the WorldTour calendar. It will count this time in its ranks a former winner, Elia Viviani, to try to finally win.

We must go back to the last century to find two Patrick Lefèvre's winners at Plouay with Franck Vandembroucke in 1996 and Michele Bartoli in 2000 in a team that was then Italian and was called Mapei. Since the beginning of the WorldTour in 2005, the **Deceuninck - Quick Step** team has suffered fourteen consecutive losses. Even worse, Patrick Lefèvre's riders have never even been on the podium ! It must be said that the breton race is much more difficult to control than a simple Belgian classic and the racing conditions are terribly difficult as Peter Sagan testified.

But for this 2019 edition, Deceuninck - Quick Step can believe it. It has a workforce capable of winning the Bretagne Classic - Ouest-France and a leader who has already raised the arms in Plouay, Elia Viviani having triumphed in 2017 while riding for the Sky team. The Italian, recent European Champion, will be one of the huge favorites of the day. He will count on a solid collective to make him win.

Elia Viviani and Bob Jungels as leaders

Deceuninck - Quick Step has presented its first rider list scheduled in Plouay under the direction of the sporting director **Tom Steels**.

111. Petr Vakoč (Cze, 27). The Czech will live his second Bretagne Classic, he will be a strong teammate to lead his leaders to victory.

112. Dries Devenyns (Bel, 36). The oldest of the team will live his eighth participation in Plouay, he will be there as a captain to help his leaders.

113. Mikkel Frolich Honoré (Den, 22). Still in progression, the young Danish rider will have his first experience on the Bretagne Classic. He already knows Brittany where he won a stage on the Trophy Center Morbihan 2015, he also illustrated on the Tour de Bretagne 2017.

114. Bob Jungels (Lux, 26). The Luxembourger will discover the Bretagne Classic. Former winner of Liège-Bastogne-Liège, he should love the breton classic and will be counted among the favorites. He was in the group arriving for the victory at the Lorient-Quimper stage of the Tour de France 2018 with a very comparable profile.

115. Davide Martinelli (Ita, 26). The faithful teammate of Elia Viviani will be there to protect her leader.

116. Florian Sénéchal (Fra, 26). Strong rider of the North not being afraid of the races disputed in difficult conditions, he will be one of the young french to follow. He will also be a strong teammate for his two leaders.

117. Elia Viviani (Ita, 30). Winner of the second edition of the Bretagne Classic in 2017, the recent European Champion will be among the superstars of the day. Sprinter of the world top level, he is also able to go on the attack to win and climb the breton hills. He has the perfect profile to repeat his previous victory.

The announced substitutes are **Alvaro Jose Hodeg Chagui (Col)** and **Michael Morkov (Den)**.

 www.bretagne-classique-ouest-france.bzh

