



Two leaders to win

Founded in 1985, Lotto - Soudal is one of the oldest teams in the peloton. Already a laureate in Plouay in the past, she will be at the start of the Bretagne Classic - Ouest-France to try to win again. Its device will be simple: two great leaders who can win and five dedicated teammates.

With the Belgian formation **Lotto - Soudal**, we have one of the big favorites of the fourth edition of Bretagne Classic - Ouest - France. Counting in his ranks the 3rd of last year, Tim Wellens, and also Tiesj Benoot, she knows that with this Belgian duo she will have two of the big favorites of the day. These riders specializing in classics are expected to attack far from the finish line. Of course, the Belgian team will not wait for entry to the final circuit to boost the race. The war will be declared in the Montagnes Noires.

Present every year in Plouay since 1992, the Lotto team is probably the greatest expert of the race. She has already made six podiums. Her biggest day remains on August 23, 1994 when she triumphed with Andreï Tchmil, she also ranked 2nd in 1992 with Serge Baguet, 2nd in 1998 with Ludo Dierckxsens, 2nd in 2004 again with Serge Baguet, 3rd in 1996 with Andrey Tchmil and still 3rd in 2018 with Tim Wellens. In 27 participations, she placed 17 times her best rider in the first seven.

Tim Wellens and Tiesj Benoot as leaders

Lotto - Soudal has presented its first rider list scheduled in Plouay under the direction of the sporting director **Frederick Willems**.

21. Tiesj Benoot (Bel, 25). After being at the rendez-vous in 2015 and 2016 (22nd and 27th), the winner of Strade Bianche 2018 returns to Plouay with ambitions. With his teammate Tim Wellens, he is one of the men with the qualities to triumph. He will be one of the favorites for the victory.

22. Jasper De Buyst (Bel, 25). With already two Bretagne Classic contests, the Belgian will be a good team member experienced for its leaders.

23. Stan Dewulf (Bel, 21). A neo-professional apprentice of high level, the young Belgian will be in Plouay to continue to progress after a good debut in the WorldTour during spring.

24. Maxime Monfort (Bel, 36). Experienced teammate, the Belgian will be for the third time in Plouay with the unique objective to help Wellens or Benoot triumph.

25. Brent Van Moer (Bel, 21). Neo-professional, the young Belgian will be there to learn and discover what is a classic WorldTour.

26. Remy Mertz (Bel, 24). A good teammate, the young Belgian will play this role in a formation dedicated to his two leaders.

27. Tim Wellens (Bel, 28). 3rd in 2018, 6th in 2014, the Belgian is now perfectly familiar with Plouay and the Bretagne Classic. For his seventh participation, he will finally want to triumph. He will be considered as one of the biggest favorites of the day.

The announced substitutes are **Lawrence Naesen (Bel)** and **Rasmus Byriel Iversen (Den)**.

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