

**Fort Erie Selections: Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

*Happy Opening Day! Welcome back to the Border Oval for another season of racing. The first card of the meet consists of eight races, two of which are cup races for maidens. Good luck to today's connections and those wagering on the races! - Ashley Mailloux*

**Race 1:**

#3 Someday Girl  
#4 Get Out the Vote  
#2 Disgruntled Pelican

**Race 2:**

#5 Back to Reality  
#1 Forest Flash  
#4 Star Scholar

**Race 3:**

#2 Maritude  
#1 Strike a Note  
#4 Free Charging

**Race 4:**

#7 Where Is Essa  
#6 Heat Merchant  
#3 Paperback Hero

**Race 5:**

#4 Seekingtitleready  
#3 Captain Clutch  
#2 Nakedintheforest

**Race 6:**

#1 If You Insist  
#6 Kiddie Holiday  
#2 Cantucci

**Race 7:**

#3 Garofoli  
#5 Shakoo Makoo  
#1 Pine Knoll

**Race 8:**

#9 Sassagoula River  
#6 Astin Style  
#1 Spiritual Man

**Key Race of the Day – Race 8 – Sprint Into Summer Cup – 5 Furlongs**

The final race on opening day is the Sprint Into Summer Cup, a five furlong event for maidens on the dirt. In this field on nine, the outside runner, **#9 Sassagoula River**, will make his dirt debut in just his third career start. He showed speed on debut at Turfway Park before tiring to finish third and most recently, overcame a bit of trouble to finish third in a maiden claiming event at Woodbine. From a pedigree perspective, he should be just fine on the dirt and the outside draw gives jockey Steve Jadoo options. **#6 Astin Style** has dirt experience, and will return to the surface for the first time since June 2025. He showed a fair bit of speed on the dirt at Gulfstream Park while racing around one turn and ran well, especially considering they were against tougher than he'll face today. While his work tab isn't the sharpest, he will race off a shorter layoff than most in here and has been quite consistent. **#1 Spiritual Man** is another runner in the field with some recent form. In his pair of races at Mahoning Valley, he showed a bit of early foot when there was some moisture in the track and in his following start, they went quicker early, but he seemed quite content rating and making one move. Since then, he's raced once at Woodbine, where he finished second in a seven furlong event where the winner and third place finisher have already come back to win. The cutback in distance and inside draw make him a contender in this spot.