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December 16, 2025

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**Report: Timbers to sign Revolution free agent Brandon Bye**  
Boston Globe – By Jon Couture

Brandon Bye is signing with the Portland Timbers, according to The Athletic, ending the defender's eight-year tenure with the Revolution.

**Tom Bogert reported Friday** that Portland is finalizing a deal with the 30-year-old free agent, whose 214 appearances are the 12th-most in franchise history.

Major League Soccer free agency opened Wednesday, with Bye on the market following the conclusion of a three-year contract (plus a club option) signed after the Revolution's **Supporters' Shield season in 2021**.

Bye was third among Revolution defenders for minutes played in both 2021 and 2022, sharing the club record for assists by a backliner (7) in the latter. He tore the ACL in his right knee in August 2023, however, and missed nearly a year. Bye played the full 90 minutes in just five of 2024's final 12 matches, then came off the bench in 14 of his 26 MLS appearances in 2025, with Ilay Feingold taking over as Caleb Porter's preferred right back.

The Michigander, taken No. 8 by New England in the 2018 draft, departs with 10 goals and 18 assists in 192 MLS games. He said farewell to the region **via social media on Wednesday** as free agency opened.

"I am so grateful to have called this place my home for the last eight years. You have embraced me from day one," Bye wrote, in part. "I am eager to start this next chapter in my soccer career but New England, you will always hold a special place in my heart."

The Revolution are carrying 10 defenders, among them 2025 regulars Mamadou Fofana, Brayan Ceballos, Feingold, Peyton Miller, and Tanner Beason; veterans Will Sands, Keegan Hughes, and **Andrew Farrell** (who was the only longer-tenured Revolution player than Bye last season); Revolution Academy product Damario McIntosh; and Santiago Suarez, who spent last season on loan in the USL.

Also Friday, the Revolution announced Fofana has been called up by Mali for the Africa Cup of Nations later this month. He played the full 90 for the final four matches in the nation's failed World Cup qualification bid earlier this year.

## Here are the 'Boston Stadium' World Cup ticket prices in FIFA's latest random draw

Boston Globe – By Hayden Bird

The sign-up for the latest random draw for the [2026 FIFA World Cup](#) is underway, and Boston-area soccer fans can see how much ticket prices might be for a chance to attend the iconic tournament.

FIFA's "[Random Selection Draw](#)" began Thursday at 11 a.m. It will run until Jan. 13. Per the procedures outlined by FIFA, it doesn't matter when fans sign up during the time window.

"Timing of a fan's entry into the Random Selection Draw during the entry period will not impact the chances of success," noted a [FIFA overview of the process](#).

This is the first ticket draw since the [World Cup groups were revealed on Dec. 5](#) (and the [schedule was announced on Dec. 6](#)). Given that, FIFA is enabling fans to buy tickets for specific matchups. Because it does not matter when fans sign up during the duration of the selection draw, prices will not be determined by "dynamic pricing" as was the case in previous windows.

According to FIFA, ticket prices will remain the same throughout the Random Selection Draw.

Fans who sign up for the draw — and have already established a FIFA ID — will choose which tickets they want, and set up payment information. However, no money will be charged unless the entrant is actually picked in the draw. [Here are the full terms and conditions](#) for the draw, per FIFA.

Alongside the random draw, fans can also buy tickets from reseller websites.

After signups for this round close on Jan. 13, the "Draw Period" will run from Feb. 2-5. Then, "starting no earlier than Feb. 5," entrants will begin to be notified whether they were selected or not.

Here are the listed ticket prices for the seven games set to be held at "[Boston Stadium](#)," FIFA's official designation for Foxborough's Gillette Stadium.

### Haiti vs. Scotland, June 13 (9 p.m.)

- Category 1: \$500
- Category 2: \$400
- Category 3: \$180

### FIFA Playoff Winner 2 (

- Category 1: \$500
- Category 2: \$400
- Category 3: \$180

### Scotland vs. Morocco, June 19 (6 p.m.)

- Category 1: \$600
- Category 2: \$430
- Category 3: \$220

### England vs. Ghana, June 23 (4 p.m.)

- Category 1: \$600
- Category 2: \$430
- Category 3: \$220

### Norway vs. France, June 26 (3 p.m.)

- Category 1: \$700
- Category 2: \$500
- Category 3: \$265

### Round of 32 (matchup to be determined) June 29 (4:30 p.m.)

- Category 1: \$620
- Category 2: \$515
- Category 3: \$265

### Quarterfinal (matchup to be determined) July 9 (4 p.m.)

- Category 1: \$1,270
- Category 2: \$890
- Category 3: \$650

## Brimming with talent, Morocco will be a squad worth watching in World Cup match in Foxborough

Boston Globe – By Frank Dell'Apa

The Kingdom of Morocco will be looking to extend an impressive run on the international stage in next year's World Cup.

Since reaching the semifinals of the [2022 World Cup in Qatar](#), the Atlas Lions have won both the African Nations Championship and Under-20 World Cup, and finished third in the Paris Olympics. Now, they have advanced to the finals of the FIFA Arab Cup in Qatar, blanking the United Arab Emirates, 3-0, on Monday in Al-Rayyan, site of its loss to Croatia in the World Cup semifinals.

The Moroccans are using a "B" squad, composed of regionally based players, including 34-year-old

Abderrazak Hamdallah, a Saudi Pro League star who last scored for the national team in 2014, and right back Mohamed Moufid (WAC Casablanca), who is being shopped to MLS teams.

Next Sunday, Morocco kicks off the Africa Cup of Nations as host country, beginning with a match against Comoros. The team's top forwards will be on display, led by Youssef En-Nesyri and Brahim Diaz (Real Madrid), along with Olympic Games scoring leader Sofiane Rahimi (Al-Ain). In Group A, Morocco's strongest competition is expected to come from Mali, whose roster includes Revolution central defender **Mamadou Fofana**.

Morocco's young talent is skipping the Arab tournament and also AFCON. U-20 World Cup stars Othmane Maamma (Watford in England) and Yassir Zabiri (Famalicao) both converted for their club teams over the weekend. Zabiri, 20, has compiled a three-game scoring streak in Portugal's Super Liga.

The Atlas Lions open the World Cup against Brazil on June 13 in East Rutherford, N.J., then meet Scotland on June 19 in Foxborough and Haiti on June 24 in Atlanta.

### **Like father like son**

Alf-Inge Haaland and Goran Sorloth competed for Norway during the 1994 World Cup in the United States. When the Norwegians return next year, their sons, Erling Haaland and Alexander Sorloth, are expected to lead the attack.

Erling Haaland, 25, has an 11-game scoring streak for the national team, dating to November 2024. He continued a strong start to the Premier League season with two goals in Manchester City's 3-0 victory over Crystal Palace on Sunday, upping his total to 17 in 16 matches.

Alexander Sorloth had a score disallowed for offside in Atletico Madrid's 2-1 win over Valencia.

Meanwhile, Norway playmaker Martin Odegaard has returned to near full strength following a knee injury. Odegaard entered as a 57th-minute substitute for Eberechi Eze as EPL leader Arsenal capitalized on two own goals in a 2-1 win over Wolverhampton. Odegaard is being eased back, coming off the bench twice, then making three successive starts.

Another Norway performer to watch leading up to its opening World Cup match on June 16 in Foxborough: 20-year-old left winger Antonio Nusa, who has converted seven times in 20 international appearances. Nusa (ankle) missed RB Leipzig's 3-1 loss to Union Berlin in the German Bundesliga, and is expected to be out for another three weeks.

### **Tartan Army strong, but troubled times in Glasgow**

The Scotland national team, which opens the Foxborough venue against Haiti on June 13, has been revived despite the struggles of the country's traditional powers, Celtic FC and Rangers.

Wilfried Nancy, **2023 MLS Cup** champion with the Columbus Crew, took over from interim coach Martin O'Neill a week ago with Celtic in second place. It has since lost three straight: to Scottish Premiership-leading Hearts (2-1) in Nancy's home debut; to AS Roma (3-0) in the Europa League; and to St. Mirren (3-1) in the Scottish League Cup final on Sunday.

Next up for Celtic (10-3-2, 32 points), sitting in second but 6 points adrift of Hearts (11-1-5, 38 points), is a visit to Dundee United on Wednesday. Rangers (6-1-8, 26 points) are 6 points behind their bitter Glasgow archrivals.

### **New England ties all over NCAA final**

The NCAA final featured an New Hampshire coaching duel as the University of Washington (Jamie Clark) edged North Carolina State (Marc Hubbard), 3-2, in sudden death overtime in Cary, N.C., Monday night.

Clark played at Hanover (N.H.) High School, and with the San Jose Earthquakes, before starting his coaching career at Harvard in 2008 and has been at Washington for 14 seasons. His father, Bobby Clark, was a backup goalkeeper for Scotland in the 1978 World Cup before coaching at Dartmouth, where his starters on the 1990 NCAA quarterfinalist included a forward from Georgetown, Mass. — Bill Chisholm, the new Celtics' owner.

Hubbard joined the Wolfpack from UNH last year, along with transfers Austin Bush, Taig Healey, and Isaac Heffess.

The deciding goal was converted by defender Harrison "Harry" Bertos, who won the 2022 NEPSAC Class B championship with the Brooks School. Former Seacoast United players — midfielder Richie Aman, Bertos, and Healey — were involved in the dramatic finish. Healey equalized in the 86th minute, as North Carolina State rallied from a two-goal deficit. Then, Aman (Hanover High School) set up Bertos, a second-round MLS draft selection by San Diego FC last year, in the second minute

of overtime.

Bertos's soccer background extends to his father, Mike, who is tied for third with Michael Emenalo on the Boston University all-time scoring list (36 goals). Grandfather John Bertos was owner/general manager of the Boston Astros in the American Soccer League from 1967-75.

## **Patriots, Red Sox, Bruins, Celtics send condolences to those affected by Brown University shooting**

Providence Journal – By Bailey Allen

The **New England Patriots** and **Boston Red Sox** were among the local professional sports teams sending their condolences and well wishes after the **fatal shooting at Brown University**.

The Patriots, who are set to face off against the Buffalo Bills on Sunday, Dec. 14, posted a **statement to X** after news spread of the shooting on the Providence campus.

At least two people were killed and eight were injured at **Brown University** on Saturday, Dec. 13, according to Providence Mayor Brett Smiley.

"The New England Patriots are heartbroken by the horrific events at Brown University," the Patriots' statement reads. "We extend our deepest sympathies to those affected and their families, and we remain grateful to the first responders and law enforcement who acted swiftly to protect the students, faculty, staff and the community."

The Massachusetts football team plays at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, which is approximately **25 miles northeast** of downtown Providence.

"We stand with Brown University and our neighbors in Rhode Island during this difficult time," the statement continues.

The Red Sox also posted a **statement to X** on Saturday evening, with the caption, "Sending our love to Brown."

"Our Red Sox family is thinking of everyone at Brown University tonight," the statement reads. "This act of violence has shaken a cherished part of our New England community. We're with the students, the faculty, their loved ones, and all who are feeling the weight of tonight."

The Boston Bruins, along with the team's American Hockey League (AHL) minor league affiliate, the **Providence Bruins**, posted a statement to social media later in the evening.

"The Boston Bruins and Providence Bruins are extremely saddened to learn of the tragic events that took place this evening at Brown University," the statement reads. "We extend our heartfelt sympathies to those affected and their families and are keeping the Brown University community and the city of Providence in our thoughts during this difficult time."

The Providence Bruins play at the **Amica Mutual Pavilion** in downtown Providence.

The Boston Celtics also spoke out about the incident at Brown, calling it a "senseless act of violence" in an **X post**.

"The senseless act of violence that took place at Brown University has no place in our society. Our hearts are with all who have been impacted, and we stand united with the New England community against these attacks," the basketball team said.

The New England Revolution, the professional soccer club based out of Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, **praised the first responders** who aided the victims soon after the shooting.

"The New England Revolution are heartbroken by the horrific events at Brown University," the statement reads. "We extend our sympathies to those affected and their families. We are grateful to the law enforcement and first responders who acted courageously to protect the community."

The Worcester Red Sox, who formerly played in the Providence suburb of Pawtucket, concluded their lengthy social media statement with this: "Our hearts are with you, Providence."

Lindsay Gottlieb, the women's basketball coach at Southern California, played at Brown. She addressed the shooting shortly after her team lost to No. 1 UConn 79-51 on Saturday.

"It doesn't need to be this way," a teary-eyed Gottlieb said. "Sending thoughts and prayers to my teammates who have kids there. To the parents who have to worry about their children ... we're the only country that lives this way."

# Revolution Communications

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## About the New England Revolution

The New England Revolution, owned and operated by the Kraft family, began play in 1996 as one of the original founding clubs of Major League Soccer (MLS). Currently in the team's 30th season, the Revolution are five-time MLS Eastern Conference champions and claimed the 2021 Supporters' Shield after a record-setting campaign. The Revolution also won the 2008 North American SuperLiga and 2007 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup titles. The Revolution play their home matches at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass. The club and its acclaimed pro pathway, including Revolution II (MLS NEXT Pro) and the Revolution Academy, are headquartered at the Revolution Training Center, which opened ahead of the 2020 season.



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