



# NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION

## TRANSCRIPT

### TRANSCRIPT (7/12): Postgame at Austin FC

*Soundbytes from Head Coach Caleb Porter & GK Aljaž Ivračič*

#### Revolution Head Coach Caleb Porter

##### ***On the team's performance in Saturday's 0-0 draw:***

**Porter:** "Coming into the game, we had lost two in a row and yet we felt the play was good. I felt like it was another game where the play was good. We didn't go from playing well and losing to playing and winning, but we went from playing well and losing to playing well in a draw. It's not what we wanted. I thought there were chances there to take the three points, but in saying that, also [Austin FC] had chances as well. So, in the end, I continue to be encouraged. It's three games in a row where we play well and we get good chances to put ourselves in a position to win the game. I'm not frustrated at the finishing. I have belief that those goals will come.

"You have to credit their goalkeeper [Brad Stuver] as well. I thought our goalkeeper [Aljaž Ivračič] had a great game, and I thought their goalkeeper had a great game. Both teams had chances and, in the end, it's probably a fair result. It puts the breaks on a losing streak, we get a point. I loved our defensive mentality as well. It was important that we had a game like that where we defended well and dug in. Again, I thought we had chances to take the three points if it wasn't for their goalkeeper. Especially Luca [Langoni], I thought his chance in that first half where Stuver gets down and gets a nick on it. I know they didn't give us the corner, but clearly he got a piece of that so that's an excellent save. Tomás [Chancalay] as well, to start the second half. I have confidence that those will eventually be goals."

##### ***On the team's defensive mindset on the road:***

**Porter:** "I think it's a great performance defensively. We did drop our lines a little bit, and played a little bit less aggressive on the press. We were okay, at times, absorbing, being compact, and letting them have a bit of possession. We felt it would be a game where that could play into our hands and lead to transitions. I thought the individual performances across the board were very good. Obviously, we're missing Peyton [Miller] and Ilay [Feingold] who have been key players for us. Probably in the attack, we suffered a little bit without those two, but I thought Will [Sands] and Brandon [Bye] did a good job defensively and put a good shift in. Will hadn't played in quite a while, so it took him a little bit to get going. But then once he got going, I thought he had a solid performance. I thought Tanner [Beason] and Mamadou [Fofana] really bounced back. And Aljaž [Ivračič] as well, he needed that type of performance. I thought he had a really good game, and that's encouraging to see. It's three games in a row where we played really well, and three games in a row where we could have taken three points. But for us to go from two losses to a draw, it's a good step in the right direction."

##### ***On if the missing piece is finishing scoring chances and how close the team is to getting over the hump:***

**Porter:** "Again, we went from two games playing well, creating chances, and we didn't get the result – we lost those games. Then we have to come on the road, it's hot, a very good environment here [in Austin], and actually their team was in a good run of form. I think they had taken eight results from their last 10. So, it's not an easy game to come into. And on top of that, we have Peyton [Miller] and Ilay [Feingold] out, really key guys for us. It's our third game in a stretch with two of our longest road trips of the year, so I loved the mentality coming into the game. I loved how we defended tonight. What you want from your team is to be

in a position to win the game. I thought from a mentality standpoint and from an organizational standpoint, and even from a chance-creation standpoint, we accomplished what we wanted to.

"We just have to finish the play, and then the three points are there. It's the first game that Luca [Langoni] and Tomás [Chancalay] have played together, if you can believe that, because they've been injured and never had the opportunity to play together. So, it's a new chemistry again that we're creating. I thought Luca had a very good game. He's had three in a row now where he's lively, he's dynamic, and he's getting good chances. And he took to goal well, just the goalkeeper made a really good save. I like where we're at, I like how we're playing, and I loved, under the circumstances of all the things we're mentioning, how we came on the road in a very strong way, got the clean sheet, and put ourselves in a position to win the game. We just have to finish."

***On Aljaž Ivačič's performance tonight and availability updates for Ilay Feingold and Peyton Miller:***

**Porter:** "Aljaž [Ivačič] had a great game. It was important that he have that type of performance and we can build that. Defensively, I thought we were excellent. I thought Tanner [Beason], Mamadou [Fofana], and Brayan [Ceballos], those guys continue to be rock solid. Especially Tanner, for him to be able to bounce back, we showed faith in him. Obviously, he had a big mistake last game, but he bounced back with a good mentality. We had to switch gears a little bit with Peyton [Miller] going down with an ankle injury. We inserted Will [Sands] who hadn't played a ton, so we were missing a few spokes in the wheel in the attack. But in the end, if you can't win don't lose. I felt like that Leo [Campana] chance was going to be the win. I'm sure he'll want to have that one back, but I continue to have confidence in my players. We're creating chances and we're in good spots to score. I think in this game especially, it was more about their goalkeeper [Brad Stuver]. He's an excellent goalkeeper when he's on, and I thought he had a really good game. That's probably the difference between us taking the three points tonight, because I think in the chances we had I believe that the players took them pretty well."

**Revolution Goalkeeper Aljaž Ivačič**

***On if the defense can gain confidence from tonight's shutout performance on the road:***

**Ivačič:** "Yeah, I think we did a great job defensively tonight. I feel like we have to go back to strong defending, as we were when we were in the stretch of games when we were successful. So, that's a positive tonight. But as we all know, we need to score goals and take those chances that we had. But I think defensively we were very good tonight."

***On what the team can improve on to turn draws into wins:***

**Ivačič:** "It's definitely those chances that we need to score. The only thing that we can control are our thoughts. We need to believe, continue to work, and be hungry, and the results will come."

***On if the defense feels any added pressure when the team is struggling to score goals:***

**Ivačič:** "I don't think so. We are a team. We defend together. We attack together. I wish I could score goals, but I'm there to prevent them. I'm trying to help the team in my way. But as I said, we need to take those chances and score goals if we want to climb the table and get into the playoffs."

***On the backline's performance tonight and how it felt to record a shutout:***

**Ivačič:** "It feels very good. I think it was about time. Personally, in the last couple games, I have very high standards for myself and I feel like I didn't make saves or I didn't help the team the way I know I can. So, I'm very happy for tonight's performance. I have to give credit to my teammates in the back, the five, they were excellent tonight."