



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION

TRANSCRIPT

TRANSCRIPT (9/20): Postgame at Philadelphia Union

Soundbytes from Interim Head Coach Pablo Moreira & D Ilay Feingold

Revolution Interim Head Coach Pablo Moreira

On his assessment of today's match:

Moreira: "In terms of how the game went, I thought Philadelphia is a team that if you look at when they score their goals a large number of those happen in the first 15 minutes of each half. Initially, we wanted to negate what they usually bring at the beginning of the game and we wanted to be the aggressors. I felt like in the first 15 minutes, we did do that. So, I'm happy from that standpoint because I thought that we had control of that game, then they had a wave, then we got a wave, and then they had a wave. I thought it was very even in the first half.

"And then in the second half, we talked about a couple of adjustments that we wanted to make. When the second half first started, we saw those adjustments. We were able to get into spaces and occupy those spaces that we wanted to. But that final pass, or the final pass was right but then we didn't have enough numbers. That was kind of the tale of the initial second half. Obviously, the game changes with the red card. It's unfortunate, we don't want to be in that scenario. It's tough. Peyton [Miller] will learn from it. He's a very high-character individual and emotions got the best of him. He's a young player. While we don't accept those mistakes, we know that he'll learn from them. He feels for the team.

"With that said, to end the game I thought we had two late pushes. There's not much you can do in terms of being a man down. But I don't know if it necessarily looked that way for the last 10 minutes. I'm happy that the fight was there. I think we all know in the locker room that we didn't get enough chances on goal, I don't think we were dangerous enough. We were kind of that one pass away. We just have to get back to work and hopefully next week is a different story."

On the factors behind the defensive shape deployed for today's match:

Moreira: "From our standpoint, I think Ilay [Feingold] is a guy that can play a couple different positions. I think Brayan [Ceballos] is a guy that can play a couple different positions. We don't just look at Ilay as a wingback. He feels very comfortable there. In Israel, he played a lot of that role. So, he's very comfortable in that role. I thought having those three [Ilay Feingold, Brayan Ceballos, Tanner Beason in central defense] and then having Brandon [Bye], we went to him a lot in aerial duels. Ilay doesn't have the same attributes as Brandon in that. That's why we did that with a game like this, with Philly, where it's a lot of first and second balls. We thought with that move that we were going to be able to open something up. Ultimately, I think we could have executed a little better. But those are the decisions we made, and we move forward."

On what having 11 one-goal defeats this season says about the team:

Moreira: "For me, it says that while we're close there's obviously a missing ingredient. My job for the next three games is to find that. I know you asked that question earlier this week and we're in that situation again, but I just go back to MLS is a league of parity and the margins are slim. We're not finding ways to win games. That's our goal for the next three games, to find what those finite details are and execute on those."

On Luca Langoni's performance today and if finding a goal scorer at the No. 9 position can potentially solve what's missing from the team:

Moreira: "Yeah, absolutely. With the injuries that we have, we don't have your prototypical No. 9. We have to be creative. That's where creativity came in playing Bradon [Bye] and taking a look at Ilay [Feingold] in that right center back role. But in terms of what we were looking out of that [No. 9] position, we really wanted Luca [Langoni] to go on the left side of the center back, which then would give Carles the ability to occupy those spaces. If Luca was occupying that space, that center back couldn't release on Carles. I did think we were effective in that sense. In terms of Luca running in behind, getting chances on goal, I think they kept him quiet. But again, like you said, we don't have your prototypical No. 9, so we're trying to find ways to get Carles in spaces, drag their guys out, and then be able to get in behind with our speed. Unfortunately we did that, but it didn't execute in terms of chances and goals. The margins are close, even those plays, a couple bounces here or there. Ultimately, they didn't go our way. We accept that and we'll get back to the training pitch and correct it."

On Allan Oyirwoth's performance today:

Moreira: "I think Allan put in a shift. I thought today he felt really comfortable. Picking up a yellow card isn't always easy because now you almost feel like you can't be as physical and demanding getting into tackles. Especially in a game against Philly, sometimes that works against you. But I thought Allan was great. On the day, I thought he was active, he won balls. To be fair, I think every substitute that came in provided a lift and I'm very happy in that regard."

On rewarding Andrew Farrell with his first appearance of the season today and how he has impacted the team as a leader on and off the field:

Moreira: "With Andrew, that's exactly what we felt. We felt that Brandon [Bye] put in a shift. We knew that if we put Andrew in that he would inject life, and he did. He was part of getting that ball and playing it forward. That turned into a chance for Tomas [Chancalay], so that was massive. There's nothing token, Andrew has earned everything. If you watch him in training, his level hasn't gone down. His age has gone up, but we don't hold that against him (*laughs*). He's earned everything. You saw on the field, he rose to the level. He's just a great character guy. He's a huge locker room guy. You look at all the prestigious teams that New England has had in the recent past and Andrew's a part of it. You don't play on those top New England Revolution teams without gaining the respect of the locker room and he has that. That's not the reason we played him. We played him because he's a very good player and he can do exactly what he did. I'm very happy for him. I'm very happy for just rewarding a high-character individual guy like that. But, again, nothing was given to him. He earned every single bit of it."

Revolution Defender Ilay Feingold

On his takeaways from today's match at Philadelphia:

Feingold: "It's very disappointing in the end that we're not going to be a part of playoffs, which was always the main target this season. But again, we played against a very good team [Philadelphia] in a really tough stadium. We did our best, but I think it was not good enough, if you're considering the result also. We have three more games. We have to respect our club, our fans, our team, and to play our best level in order to [get] the best results as we can."

On playing against fellow Israeli and Philadelphia forward Tai Baribo:

Feingold: "I really like Tai [Baribo]. Of course, we have a really good connection because we're both Israeli players, and it's very nice to see him, he does very well in the league so far. I'm really happy for him and I wish him the best now in the playoffs. In the end, I did my best in order to stop him. Again, it probably was not good enough, because in the end we lost."

On Israel National Team teammate Dor Turgeman arriving in New England:

Feingold: "I'm very happy that Dor [Turgeman] joined us, finally. We've been waiting for [a long time]. I know him so well, we played a little bit on the [Israel] youth national teams and also on the [senior] national team. He has three [MLS] games [left this season]. I think it's really important that he came, he can get used to the league, to the team, to the new mentality. I'm sure that he will do very well for the team."

On the positives that the team can carry into next season:

Feingold: "Look, again, a loss is a loss, but our losses as you can see during the season, are very tight. We lost 1-0, 2-1, 3-2. I think we are a team that is really tough to play against. Even if the teams beat us, it's not like 3-0, 4-0. We are always in the game. Again, a loss is a loss as I said, but I think the positive thing is that we are a really tough team. But I think everyone needs to think about with themselves what they can do better and what did they do worse. And hopefully, next season will be much better."

On playing center back today:

Feingold: "I spoke with [Revolution Interim Head Coach] Pablo [Moreira] before the game. Being a third center back, it's something that I did in the past on the [Israeli] National Team and also in my former club in Israel. But again, for me, I think being versatile and playing in a different position is very good. At the end, I told Pablo [Moreira] that whenever he needs me in whatever position, I will play, and I will do my best in order to help the team to get the results. Unfortunately, today it didn't work. But again, we have three more games, and we need to respect ourselves, respect the fans, and to do our best to win those games."