



September 21, 2019

POSTGAME QUOTES: New England Revolution 0 vs. Real Salt Lake 0

New England Revolution Head Coach Bruce Arena

On what made it difficult for the Revolution tonight:

Arena: "Well, I think, as we've seen in a number of games at home, our opponents do a good job of getting players behind the ball and keeping everything in front of them, as best they can. We need to be technically better. First half, we were technically poor. The second half, we were much better and certainly [Gustavo] Bou helped us there. Then, having said that, we had a couple chances that could be in the back of the net. So, after ninety minutes, you look at, you got to be disappointed not to get three points and knowing that we were real close to getting the three points. Give Salt Lake credit. When we saw their lineup, it was pretty obvious that's the way they were going to play. They did a good job in the second half, killing as much time as possible, delaying the game. The referee wasn't real sharp in that part of the game. And, give them credit. But we had two or three good chances in that second half to get a goal."

On whether or not the team was lacking a sense of urgency in the first half:

Arena: "No. That has nothing to do with it."

On the decision to bring on Gustavo Bou at halftime instead of having him in the starting eleven:

Arena: "Well, he didn't really train this week. So, I wanted to bring him back slowly here. We have a long week ahead of us, so I thought that was the best thing to do with him."

On whether or Coach Arena plans to start Gustavo Bou in the match at Portland Wednesday:

Arena: "Believe me. I'll worry about that maybe tomorrow. Not right now."

On Coach Arena's feelings about the final three matches:

Arena: "How do I feel? Well, we will step on the field Wednesday, then next Sunday, and then the following Sunday and try to get points. That's how I feel."

On how Coach Arena felt about Gustavo Bou's night and his movement after not training much all week:

Arena: "I thought he did well in the second half. No question about that. He's fine."

On Teal Bunbury's performance tonight:

Arena: "Solid. Could've been a little bit sharper, but he did a good job in the second half when he's playing as our striker and getting behind them a little bit. The passes were just off a little bit. I think their keeper did a good job cutting out a couple of those through balls. And overall, he did fine."

New England Revolution Forward Gustavo Bou

Quotes translated from Spanish through an interpreter

On tonight's game being frustrating:

Bou: "It was definitely a hard game today; it was one of those games. It's going to be like this for the remainder of the season. We definitely go home frustrated [tonight]. We did create some really good

chances in the first half, but I felt in the second half we clearly dominated most of the play. We were on the attacking front most of the time, but we didn't manage to score and it was a frustrating game for us today."

On battling an injury this week and playing 45 minutes tonight:

Bou: "It was a bit of an injury from [the] last game. I didn't train much during the week. We had agreed with the coaching staff to kind of ease up leading up to this game. We didn't want to risk it with so much to play for. But, I'm feeling well now; managed through the pain. I'm just trying to work hard this week and trying to be ready [to] do my best for the next game."

On not scoring in the last minutes of the game:

Bou: "Well, certainly over the last games I've been scoring goals and coming off a good streak. It was unfortunate in the last minute that we had that chance there and the ball didn't go in, but what we've got to do is to pick ourselves up and think about the next game. That's all we can do."

New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell

On earning a point in tonight's match:

Farrell: "I think obviously, [we're] frustrated with how we played in the first half. We were sloppy and obviously they were looking to counter, and I think some guys have some big games coming up on Wednesday. So, I think they didn't bring a lot of their guys, but nonetheless, I think we were just sloppy. We didn't move the ball fast enough; we lost the ball. They kind of hit us with the counter a couple of times. Matt [Turner] came up with the save on Kelyn [Rowe]. Not too much from them first half, not much from us in the first half. The second half, we were better. We moved the ball faster and we had some chances. Just obviously disappointed with not getting three; we needed these."

On their edge in the playoff race:

Farrell: "We know we can play our games and we get results; we'll be in the playoffs. It seems like we've been dropping points here and there, whether it's holding on against Orlando where we should have had that one, or here, we should have probably taken this team. Not saying they're a bad team, I just thought we had more of the ball in the second half, where we could have scored and created more chances. Obviously, we're still in there. We're disappointed with how we haven't taken care of business the past couple games."

On whether or not the speed of play was a factor in tonight's match:

Farrell: "Yeah, speed of play, but also we've got to not be so sloppy. Like I said, sloppy in the first half. Myself, a couple other guys had turnovers that just kind of added to their counter-attack and slowed our attack down. In the second half, you saw we were cleaner, flying down the field to find Carles [Gil], kind of having Gustavo [Bou] come in I think changed the game a lot and created chances. We just obviously weren't able to put the ball in the net. I think one goal would have probably done it in that game."

On Gustavo Bou's shot in the end:

Farrell: "Yeah, he's a great player, so obviously he created a lot. You can tell when he came in the game, he changed the game. Just keep going, I mean it's always tough to score, but I give him 10-out-of-10 every time; I want him at that position."

On his trust in Matt Turner:

Farrell: "It's important. I mean, he's been making a lot of saves keeping us in games. The one against Orlando last game kept it at 3-3. Just knowing that these games are tough because they kick on the counter, one chance and they can bury it and you lose 1-0. Having him being back there and being confident, and knowing he'll make the save when he needs to, feels good as a center back."

Real Salt Lake Interim Head Coach Freddy Juarez

On his pride for the team after the match:

Juarez: "Super proud, super proud. Backline was so good. [Andrew] Putna was great. Marcelo [Silva] was great. The whole backline; the whole team was. We asked them to keep the discipline. There's always

going to be some flurries that come on you late in the game; sometimes during the match. We handled them well. At times, maybe a little lucky. At times, our energy and our commitment kept them from taking clear, open shots. So, we're happy. That's what we came for. [We] get a point, try and sneak a win, and the guys stuck to the plan. We got something out of it."

On character and the tactical awareness of the team:

Juarez: "Character was first for me and then the tactical awareness to stick to the game plan. At times, we liked to open up in the second half and I thought the group stayed pretty comfortable. Yeah, there were moments where some attacks of theirs came to harm us, which is going to happen on the road, but, for the most part, we did a very good job of controlling when we didn't have the ball and then created some opportunities for ourselves. So, it was a very good overall match. Everybody that contributed, all eighteen that came. It's not an easy place to come all the way over, travel, all that type of stuff. Nobody was able to nap to that. I don't know if you guys heard the band all day going on, that type of stuff happened, and the guys pulled through."

On how the team reacted to the lineup changes:

Juarez: "Maturity, experience. Some of the younger guys now have thirty, forty games, fifty games. That speaks volumes. They've seen this and then other guys like Tate [Schmitt], I think he only has one other game which was the LAFC game, and he did a good job there, so I didn't hesitate to put him into this match. Just shows a lot of commitment from day one when we started preseason. We said everyone would be used at some point during the season, and for the most part, I think everyone has. So, [Justin] Portillo got his start today and did very well with it. He did that at Montreal, so we had told him we had confidence in him. Brooks [Lennon]; many people are probably complaining that we put him on the left side. We thought, tactically, we needed to leave Aaron [Herrera] on his best side, not change that up. We also tactically thought he could expose that type of field, not being in his defending habits, and he did. Brooks [Lennon] had a very good game. So, overall, [a] very good game from our guys."

On having the versatility of Brooks Lennon:

Juarez: "Brooks [Lennon], at times, he might devalue taking out. I think his response is maybe like 'you're putting me on the left side?' But, I know [Brooks [Lennon]]. He's a warrior, he runs, he tackles, he's super competitive. So, listen, you're just going to be on this side. Soccer's still the same. Maybe you're forced to not have yourself on your proper foot, but now the game, if you use it properly, you have it on your right foot where you see a lot of the field. He's an overall very, very good player. As long as you don't use the excuse, trying to find an excuse, and play the game, it doesn't change."

On the upcoming match against LA Galaxy:

Juarez: "Yeah, it's going to be a tough trip home. Early one, the guys that came, they put in the work. Hopefully, what we decided to do with leaving some guys back home—and they usually work out there—but they saw this, so it got some juices flowing, ready for the Galaxy game. Hopefully, the fans saw the commitment from the guys and they can show up to the stadium and really push us for that game."

Real Salt Lake Midfielder Kelyn Rowe

On career decisions he will be making after this season:

Rowe: "I'm not worried about next season, I think decisions will be made then. For now, it's I was brought to Salt Lake to make sure we make the playoffs. I was brought to Salt Lake to make sure we make it far in the playoffs, and that's my job. Whether it be a game like this, getting a point, a game like in Portland, trying to find a ways to get in, going into the end of the game against San Jose and finding ways to close out the game. Whatever it may be, I'm here to do that and when the season ends, I'll take a little vacation, clear my head and figure out what I want to do next year."

On coming back to New England:

Rowe: "It's an amazing feeling going back to a club that you've been with for seven years. They were above and beyond anything I ever expected. They treated me with the utmost respect, not only tonight but the past seven, eight years. I came back to a warm welcome and I can't thank them enough. Not just before the game and the video, but after the game when they allowed me to watch Matt [Turner]'s NEGU Crew as

well as the fans inviting me up and cheering my name. It's an incredible feeling and you don't get it everywhere in the world, and I was happy to get it here."

On interacting with and playing against old teammates:

Rowe: "Yeah, it's amazing. We were not only teammates and such, but we are also friends on and off the field. I go to know a lot of these players and their families off the field. So, it's good to come back and see. I know a couple guys got more kids now and it's incredible. You kind of see them grow up as people and I know it's only been a year, but we haven't seen each other or spoken as long as we would've liked, so it's good to see them and say hello and make sure everything's good."

On what it felt like going to the away locker room:

Rowe: "It's weird, man. It was definitely weird coming back and going in the opposite locker room. Walking in a different direction to the field and having to see these guys and say hello rather than just a quick hello, because you see them every day. It was an interesting one, but it was one that was kind of cool."

Real Salt Lake Forward Brooks Lennon

On his first start at left back with Real Salt Lake:

Lennon: "Yeah, I guess another position that I can play on the field – right back, left back, right winger, left winger. As I said earlier on this season, I pride myself on being a very versatile guy and Freddy [Juarez] came to me earlier on this week and said that I was going to be playing left back, and don't use it as an excuse. Get into that role and do your job, and that's what I think I did tonight. We kept a shutout and that's all you can ask for being in the backline."

On getting forward from that left back position:

Lennon: "I think as an attacking outside back, the team needs me as an outlet going forward. As long as I'm doing my defensive responsibilities correctly, I can go up top and support Corey [Baird] if he's playing on the left like he did tonight – overlap, cut in, shoot maybe, cross. So yeah, being able to support the attack in any way I can as an outside back just poses another threat that we have going forward."

On a having a guy like Corey Baird playing in front of you:

Lennon: "It makes it a lot easier. I thought Corey [Baird] worked really hard tonight. I thought everyone worked their tails off and Freddy [Juarez] said it in the locker room after the game, it took heart to come out of here with a point and going back to Salt Lake, let's see if we can get three points against Galaxy, but going back to your question, I thought Corey, he always works hard. He wears his heart on his sleeve, which I love. So, I'm happy that I was able to play behind him tonight."

On how the team has grown since losing to San Jose on the road:

Lennon: "I think the game against San Jose away, when we conceded so late, that was honestly just unlucky. That game we put in a heartfelt performance, we were all devastated at the end of the game, because every single player that started and the guys that came off the bench that game worked their tails off and did everything they could to get a point. We were unlucky not to get one there, but I think we had that mentality tonight from everybody, even the guys that came off the bench, and that's what we need going forward. If we're going to get into the playoffs and when we're hopefully in the playoffs, those are the type of performances we need from all 11 players. The work rate from the first minute to the 90th minute, no matter what."

On the quick turnaround to Wednesday against LA Galaxy:

Lennon: "It's important. As Freddy [Juarez] says, when you get a result, whether it's at home or away, you need to enjoy it. Soccer is a sport where there's a lot of ups and downs so sometimes when you get a result like we did tonight you need to enjoy it for twenty four hours and then you put it behind you and you move forward and we're not looking forward to Galaxy quite yet. We're going to enjoy this for a little bit but come Monday we need to regroup, put this one behind us and get focused to get three points against Galaxy."

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