



March 19, 2019

## **New England Revolution Training Report: March 19, 2019**

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Sunday's home match against FC Cincinnati (NBC Sports Boston – 4:00 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)
- [Defender Antonio Delamea](#)
- [Defender Andrew Farrell](#)

To request additional footage and interviews, or to RSVP for an upcoming match or training session, please contact the Revolution communications staff at [media@revolutionsoccer.net](mailto:media@revolutionsoccer.net).

### **[New England Revolution Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)**

#### ***On his takeaways from Sunday's match at Toronto:***

**Coach Friedel:** "Yeah, I thought away from home, I liked the plan that we had. I thought Teal [Bunbury] was causing [Chris] Mavinga a lot of problems. Could've gotten the ball to Diego [Fagundez] a little bit more than we did, but they didn't really cause us a lot of alarming issues. The goals, again, against us, were caused by ourselves not managing the game at the right times and one interesting offside, non-offside decision. Then, I was really proud of the players after conceding that goal in the manner that it was conceded, to come out in the second half, and then equally as disappointed with a real sloppy third goal. But again, I say it a lot, some positives to take out of the game, but going against a Cincinnati team that will sit back and look to counter – every now and again they'll look to press – but they'll make it difficult in the middle of the field. We have to be even more quick in the attack and that's something that we'll work on this week."

#### ***On how Cincinnati's international call-ups affect preparation for Sunday's game:***

**Coach Friedel:** "I think you see the identity of the team. I don't think that's going to change. Personnel will change, of course, but we'll see if Fanendo Adi is fit. It looked like he turned his ankle and came off at halftime. That might change a little bit of how direct they'll be because he's very, very good in the air and they have [Kekuta] Manneh running off him. But whoever they replace [him] with, [Allan] Cruz is going to try to go forward, no doubt. [Roland] Lamah will still be there, and he'll try to go forward when they counterattack, so I don't really see them changing the way they're going to play, whether they play a 4-5-1 or a 4-4-2, we'll just have to wait and see."

#### ***On how much time he anticipates Andrew Farrell will need to regain full fitness:***

**Coach Friedel:** "He was able to do a lot of fitness, so I think it's just some match fitness, if you like, and training with the players and being able to go into contact. I think the first few times he had to head a ball was a bit unnerving for him, but he'll be fine. We'll check him out this week, but I don't think there should be any really big issues, because he did get about three, three-and-a-half weeks of preseason under his belt before he had this injury."

***On Tajon Buchanan's injury:***

**Coach Friedel:** "We'll know more on Tajon's [Buchanan] timeline, but he does have a stress fracture in his leg, which is very disappointing for him and for us. But hopefully it's not too bad and hopefully it's in a non-weight-bearing area, so he won't be out too long."

**New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury**

***On being more aggressive going forward in the attack:***

**Bunbury:** "I think we showed a lot of aggressiveness [at Toronto FC]. I think we picked good moments to play balls in over the top. I think there were a lot of forward runs from the forwards, from the midfielders. Luis [Caicedo] was making good runs, Diego [Fagundez] was, and the ball was being played into great spots. I think that aggressiveness really payed off for us in that regard – in terms of moving forward in our season, trying to be not maybe as defensive-minded. We're happy with that progression, but now it's about getting results and getting points."

***On seeing resilience from the team when it's facing deficits:***

**Bunbury:** "I think it has shown that coming out in the second half of most of the games, we're showing that resiliency. But we're trying to make sure that we can do that from the beginning of the game, where it's not maybe we're down a goal or maybe tied. To step out on the field in the first 10, 15 minutes, just put teams away. Whether that's being more aggressive offensively like we're trying to do, creating more chances – we'll continue to work on that. That's something we have to strive for."

***On the team's tactical flexibility from week to week:***

**Bunbury:** "I think, week in and week out, we're able to adjust to different formations that we need to if we're playing with two forwards up top, if we're playing with a lone striker and someone kind of underneath, if we're playing with wide guys, if the outside backs are trying to get forward. There's a lot of tweaks that we've been doing in the first three games, and it's shown to me and I think to the rest of the guys that we're able to adjust depending on what the coach wants and depending on what the opposing team is going to bring."

***On Carles Gil:***

**Bunbury:** "He's extremely confident on the ball. He wants to show up in any area of the field. I think he's most lethal when he's getting the ball facing the goal that we're attacking and can find those seams and those gaps. And then he looks forward to guys making runs, whether it's a winger darting across, a forward making a slashing run. Him getting on the ball in the attacking third is going to be huge for us this year."

***On Sunday's match against FC Cincinnati:***

**Bunbury:** "Everybody is hungry for points. You could see it in the locker room. Everybody is disappointed of our results the past three games, but we have another opportunity here to be able to play at home and to win that game. There shouldn't be really any excuses. We're playing against a good Cincinnati team. This is going to be their first visit here, but we've got the fans behind us. I think everybody knows how important this game is going to be."

**New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez**

***On getting his first start of the season in Toronto on Sunday:***

**Fagundez:** "It felt good. It was one of those things that, everybody wants to get onto the field. For me, it was my first [start of the season]. I was very excited for it. I tried to do everything I can to help out the team. At the end of the day, still wasn't good enough for us to not bring home points. So, everybody is a little bummed about it."

***On the team's tactical versatility:***

**Fagundez:** "I think everybody needs to adjust to whatever system the coaching staff wants to bring. No matter what, we know we have to bring our hard work into it. No matter if we play a 4-4-2 or a 4-3-3 or a

4-5-1. It doesn't really matter what we do. Everybody should know what their job is. I think from day one, the coaches told us that we just have to make sure that we're giving it 100 percent and make sure that our work rate is there. I think everybody has been doing that. But now, we just have to click together and make sure that we're actually performing and winning games."

***On Carles Gil:***

**Fagundez:** "I think we need to get him the ball more. Of course, when he has the ball, we need to do a lot of movements so he can find us. I think, little by little, we're getting our chemistry together. I think probably in the next couple of games, you're going to see a big difference. We have to make sure that we're finishing every play that we get. Everybody is hungry for more, and I know that we can do it. Now, it's a matter of making sure that we're coming home for these two games that we have and make sure we get six points from that."

***On facing FC Cincinnati for the first time:***

**Fagundez:** "They have a little momentum, but we know what we can do at home and what style of play we have. With the team that we have, we can definitely win this game. I think, overall, we're at home and we can definitely show them who's going to be boss here. At the end of the day, whoever shows up is going to be the one that wins the game. For us, we definitely need to show up and perform and make sure that we only come out of here with three points."

***On the team looking for its first win:***

**Fagundez:** "We're really hungry for it. I think everybody knows that as soon as we get one win, we can keep it going. But at the end of the day, we need to perform in every game and make sure that we're competing. If we don't compete, then it's a different game. Everybody needs to step on the field and make sure that we're working hard this week in training. When Sunday comes, we need to step on the field and go for it."

**[New England Revolution Defender Antonio Delamea](#)**

***On balancing playing for a win on the road while not getting exposed defensively:***

**Delamea:** "I think the play before we got scored on, they played a deep ball and we kind of cleared the ball, so we were all focused to win the second ball in the midfield. It was obvious it was them that won the second ball. We were exposed at that point, but I just think we need to do a better thing at this recovery run, the anticipation. I think if we did this a little bit better, we could've prevented this. But look, it's only our third game. We need to learn from this. We need to do a lot better."

***On the importance of getting Andrew Farrell back on the field soon:***

**Delamea:** "It's very important. He's one of the main guys on this team, so he's very important on and off the field. I'm really happy for him to be back."

***On looking for a win this Sunday against Cincinnati:***

**Delamea:** "We are all hungry for wins. That's why we play. But times like this happen in soccer. We just now need to come out of this as a team to stick together, not to point fingers at each other. This is the only mentality that's going to push us forward. We really need that win on Sunday."

**[New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell](#)**

***On getting cleared from his eye injury:***

**Farrell:** "It's good, all clear – 100 percent. I feel great, happy to be back in full training with the team and being involved with the guys. Looking forward to this weekend."

***On how it felt to be back with the team in Toronto last weekend:***

**Farrell:** "I think it was important for me, just because I've been out of it. First, when the team was down in Florida, I missed the whole second half of preseason. And then, when they were out [at training], I was either riding the bike or I was doing running on my own. Just being incorporated with the team and getting

to know the guys even more – the newer guys – it was great this weekend. I'm looking forward to continuing to work towards full fitness for this weekend."

***On his reaction when he got cleared:***

**Farrell:** "It was crazy, because the doctor first said April 7 was the date. So, we were just going in for a check up to see how it was progressing. They said the eye was looking great. They couldn't see the rupture anymore and there was limited-to-no bleeding or blood spots left. They were, like, yeah we don't see why you wouldn't be able to join the group. That was obviously great news that Friday, and then came back, packed, and got ready to go to Toronto."

***On Brandon Bye's performance at right back in his absence:***

**Farrell:** "He did great. I think the guys did great. Obviously, the results haven't gone our way, but Brandon [Bye] is a great player. He's done well. Even last year and this year, he's done well when he had to play at left back, a position that's not his preferred position. But he's done great and he's a great player, so I'm excited for whatever happens this week or throughout the season, pushing each other each week to get the best out of each other."

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