



April 2, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: April 2, 2019

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Saturday's away match against Columbus Crew SC (NBC Sports Boston – 7:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Juan Agudelo](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Defender Edgar Castillo](#)
- [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.

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

On the team getting a morale boost from the win against Minnesota:

Coach Friedel: "It certainly gives us a little bit of confidence going into the next game. No doubt, the players will look forward to training this week, and we're going to look forward to our trip to Columbus."

On increased competition in training after so many changes in Saturday's starting lineup:

Coach Friedel: "It's a funny one, really. We've never not had that, so I expect competition for places to rise even again. I stand by my comments that we have a very good squad and everyone is going to want to get on that field. So, we're really looking forward to this week in training. And then, as the week goes on, we'll get closer to the nuts and bolts of how we're going to play against Columbus."

On Cody Cropper making his first start in 18 months:

Coach Friedel: "Cody [Cropper] played well. I thought everyone put a great effort in. The most important thing was that we got the result for the club."

On Crew SC remaining in Columbus:

Coach Friedel: "I'm very, very happy that they were able to keep the team in Columbus. Not that I could be very vocal about it before because of my position here, but being an Ohio native and also being an ex-player from Columbus, I'm happy that the Crew is staying put."

On facing Columbus for the second time in less than a month:

Coach Friedel: "We got to see the little subtle nuances that Caleb [Porter] is trying to instill. He's getting the best out of [Federico] Higuain, he's getting the best out of [Gyasi] Zardes, and they have some good players. But now that we've seen them once, we'll make a couple of adjustments ourselves and hopefully we can get the three points."

[New England Revolution Forward Juan Agudelo](#)

On his work rate against Minnesota:

Agudelo: "I gave it all I could. I understood how big the game was and what was necessary from us players to do in order to come out with a win. I'm just really happy that we were able to get the three points."

On playing as a second striker alongside Teal Bunbury and in front of Carles Gil:

Agudelo: "I think it's actually really awesome that a player like him [Carles Gil], with his ability, is able to face forward and play some forward balls, which gives me and Teal [Bunbury] the ability to maybe go into the gaps and receive those balls. It just felt like in this way, the whole team had more options – playing forward, playing to the sides, keeping the ball. I just think there were a lot of triangles and options on the field."

On the attacking group starting to click:

Agudelo: "I think we just felt a little bit more comfortable once we got four, five, six passes connected. Other games, we weren't able to do that. Once we gained that belief, we started getting that belief closer and closer to the goal, and we were able to get some shots off, which we haven't done too much in the past games."

On facing Columbus Crew SC for the second time this season on Saturday:

Agudelo: "Personally, it's one of the teams that we want to beat the most out of anybody in the league, because they just always come out on top against us. We don't know why, but it's a good opportunity this weekend to change that, so looking forward to it."

New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury

On what Saturday's win vs. Minnesota does for the team's morale:

Bunbury: "I think it was huge for the morale. You could tell when we get into the locker room, guys are excited for training. Not that we usually aren't, but when you get three points and we haven't had that yet this year, it's huge for everybody's confidence, the morale. And not only us, but the fans as well. It's a big turning point for us. I know it's only five games into the season, but we got to look forward now and try to build off this momentum."

On playing alongside Juan Agudelo up top in a 4-4-2:

Bunbury: "I think it's super beneficial to have two guys up top. I enjoy playing with Juan [Agudelo]. There's a different dynamic in terms of who's checking to the ball. We can combine a lot more. And having Carles [Gil] kind of underneath us, he doesn't have free reign, but he kind of can get the ball in different areas and open up space for us as well. I enjoy playing with two strikers up top."

On Carles Gil's vision allowing him to make different runs in the attack:

Bunbury: "As forwards, you always want to make great runs. You always want to open up space for either yourself or your teammates. Having someone who's comfortable on the ball, can kind of pick you out wherever you are, it really is helpful. You have that in your mind going into a game that, the more runs I make, more often than not Carles or other players that play in there will be able to find us."

On facing Columbus for the second time in less than a month:

Bunbury: "We need to go out there and win. That's our mindset going there and getting three points. I know a lot of times we might want to get a point on the road, but for us, our mindset is going there to win and kind of really focusing on us and not really worrying too much about Columbus. We know what they're going to bring, we know that they're a talented group, and they have some key players, but focusing on our strengths is going to be crucial."

New England Revolution Defender Edgar Castillo

On the team picking up its first win of the season:

Castillo: “It feels good getting three points at home. You get your confidence up and move on to the next one, but like I said, it feels good having three points at home.”

On the team’s defensive performance vs. Minnesota:

Castillo: “We did good. We planned that game how it came out. The back four, we knew that [Darwin] Quintero and their other players are very good. We shut them down, so that was a good result for us.”

On playing behind DeJuan Jones on the left wing:

Castillo: “It was good. He’s a very good player. He goes forward. I have to stay a little bit back, so I had to defend a little bit more, but he played very well.”

[New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell](#)

On the team’s morale getting a boost from Saturday’s win vs. Minnesota:

Farrell: “I think it was big. Obviously, we had a tough week of practice leading up to the game, and we were very disappointed in how the results had been going in the early part of the season. But we know it’s a long season, and we have another big test coming up this weekend. It was very important to get those three points at home, especially because we have a couple more games at home coming up, so we need to get a good result away at Columbus and then keep going in the home form.”

On the team’s defensive resolve vs. Minnesota:

Farrell: “It was good. For the most part, they were attacking down the other side a little bit more – Edgar’s [Castillo] side – because Darwin [Quintero] was on that side. But I think the center backs did a great job with [Angelo] Rodriguez, who’s a handful, and for the most part Carles [Gil] and Scotty [Caldwell] did a great job in the midfield, and our forwards pressed well, and Cody [Cropper] made some big-time saves coming off his line, as well. I think everybody stepped up and did well defensively. Obviously, they got the PK, but for the most part, for one or two chances they had, it was a comfortable enough game for my first game being back.”

On playing behind Brandon Bye on the right wing:

Farrell: “It worked well. We had a really good week of practice combining on that right side. He sometimes pinches inside and I go wide, or we both go wide. Him knowing a little bit playing outside back, he knows kind of what I expect and want from the winger. Him also playing up front in college, I think he knows and he does really well going forward. It was a great partnership to have and I’m looking forward to, if we get our names called this next week, to do well again.”

On preventing Columbus’ service to Gyasi Zardes:

Farrell: “They have a really good team. They’ve got really good players around, and Gyasi’s [Zardes] been on form with USA and with Columbus. Denying him service is important, but just being tight to him is really, really important, because he’s been finishing everything. If we can do that, we’ll have a really good chance. Obviously, the first game we didn’t do well, but we’re looking forward to making up for that.”

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