



April 16, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: April 16, 2019

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Saturday's home match against the New York Red Bulls (NBC Sports Boston – 7:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Midfielder DeJuan Jones](#)
- [Defender Michael Mancienne](#)
- [Defender Brandon Bye](#)

To request additional footage and interviews, or to RSVP for an upcoming match or training session, please contact the Revolution communications staff at media@revolutionssoccer.net.

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

On Saturday's loss to Atlanta United FC:

Coach Friedel: "I thought the first half-hour, Atlanta wanted it more, to be honest with you. They were first to close us down, and they were first to all the second balls – which is something that we had gotten back to some of our best the previous two games – and they really set the tone for the game. It was tough to recover from that."

On getting players' confidence up ahead of Saturday's match vs. New York:

Coach Friedel: "I thought the Columbus performance as far as effort and defensively away from home, and the way that we even controlled portions of the ball with 10 men, and a little bit unlucky with how we conceded the goal, there were a lot of positives from the game to take out. So, I expected a little bit different from the Atlanta game. We knew Atlanta had their backs to the wall. Of course, they hadn't won all season. Give credit to them – they came out and they closed us down and we didn't respond, so now it's up to us as a staff to regroup the guys and get us going. We have two really important home games coming up that we have to get maximum points from."

On the importance of leaders in the locker room rallying the team:

Coach Friedel: "It's invaluable, to be honest with you. The more leaders that you can sign at a club, the better off things are. That's for sure. It's only seven games into the season – there's a lot of points on the table, and back-to-back wins changes a lot of things and a lot of people's mentalities. So, it's very important that the staff stays positive and very important that the players in there stay positive. You do need leaders to be able to do that."

On injury updates to Antonio Delamea and Edgar Castillo:

Coach Friedel: "Hopefully, this week some of the players will come out of it on the right side for us. We had to obviously make a lot of changes, and a lot of them were to the backline, so hopefully we can be a little bit more stable. We'll just see how the days roll by this week."

On New York Red Bulls' form:

Coach Friedel: "I thought they performed very well against Kansas City. When I was watching the game, they closed down Kansas City. They didn't allow them to play. I thought they were a little bit unfortunate to come away with only the one point in the game. I assume they're going to come here and have the same exact tactics. They're going to try to high press all over the field and get in the face, and it's important that we move the ball much quicker than we did against Atlanta when they were pressing us."

On the attack frequently getting into advanced positions but not finishing:

Coach Friedel: "It's up to us, again, as a staff to try to replicate things in training that may occur in the game. We are getting in advanced positions – you're absolutely right. We've been in advanced positions every single game and we have to start finding the back of the net."

[New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury](#)***On regrouping from Saturday's match vs. Atlanta:***

Bunbury: "I think, for us, it's about getting back to basics. We talk a lot in the locker room and on the training field, but it's just about sticking together and continuing to compete and trying to get better. I know a lot of people might hear that and think, 'Okay, we've been doing the same thing over and over.' But that's all we can control, is really going on the field and trying to take things in from coach and trying to stick together as a group and continue to just get better, improve, and work on things that we need to get better at."

On sticking together in the locker room:

Bunbury: "It's obviously difficult as players, because you want to win every game and you want to perform well, so when those things aren't happening, it's a little bit tougher in all honesty. But spirits are still up. We know we have a lot of games still to play, and we know that we can still get the best out of each other. I think making sure that we keep our spirits up and continue to work hard is going to make that easier."

On the effect a win on Saturday can have on the team:

Bunbury: "Winning makes everything better. If you can string some wins here and there, get some results, everything kind of changes. So we have to look forward to that, and we have to know that hey, we're going to be playing a Red Bulls team that just had a really good result against Kansas City, and they're going to come in here wanting to win, but we know we're playing at home and we can't be satisfied with how the past few games at home have gone. We have to go out there and get three points."

On facing a regional rival in New York on Saturday:

Bunbury: "I don't know if it's extra, but we definitely have a little bit of a rivalry and we know that it's always a difficult matchup. We know that they're a talented group. They have key players. Bradley Wright-Phillips is always going to be a menace and always going to be looking to poach and score goals. We have to be aware of that, but I think what we have to start focusing on is a lot about ourselves. These next few games, and especially the New York game, is focusing on what we can control and getting back to our style of play."

[New England Revolution Midfielder DeJuan Jones](#)***On looking ahead to training following Saturday's match vs. Atlanta:***

Jones: "We have a fresh week, so just learning from what we did this weekend – our mistakes, what we did well, and just building off that this week in training."

On sticking together as a team:

Jones: "Just coming together and staying one as a team. We're going to have to stay together if we want to get wins. Everyone's positive right now, so we'll have a good training and keep the momentum going."

On Major League Soccer's Green Goals initiative:

Jones: “I think it’s really important just for the environment and for the world as a whole, so if we can raise awareness for that, then that’s a big step for us.”

New England Revolution Defender Michael Mancienne

On missing Saturday’s match vs. Atlanta for a red-card suspension:

Mancienne: “Definitely frustrating for me. I want to play in every single game. Obviously, I want to help the team, especially to get out of the rut that we’re in. But I feel like spirits are still high. We know we’re a good team. Sometimes in football things don’t go your way, and I feel like the past couple of games that happened, especially I thought the goal was offside against us in [Columbus], but that’s how it goes. These things happen in football. Definitely frustrating for me [to sit out last Saturday].”

On keeping spirits high in the locker room:

Mancienne: “We’ve got great players in the changing room, and we know we can turn it around. We know things haven’t been going our way recently, but we’ve just got to stay positive. Things in football change all the time.”

On the importance of players returning from injuries:

Mancienne: “It’s massively important. Like I said, in football, anything can happen. Injuries happen all the time, but we still have great players to replace whoever’s starting. You’ve just got to keep the group working hard and everyone’s got to know and be ready to slot in if injuries do occur.”

On Bradley Wright-Phillips:

Mancienne: “I played against him a few times, to be fair. I remember when I was at Wolves I played against him. So I’ve crossed paths with him a few times. ... You’ve just got to remain switched on. Especially, people like that come alive in the box – foxes in the box, as we call them in England. But you’ve got to just stay alert, be on your toes and stay concentrated at all times, because if the ball drops down to him, you know he can finish it.”

New England Revolution Defender Brandon Bye

On the team’s mindset following Saturday’s match vs. Atlanta United FC:

Bye: “To regroup, for sure. Obviously, get a new mindset for the week, get ready for our next game, and try to get three points on Saturday.”

On finding confidence moving forward:

Bye: “Just being a group and being together. That’s what we need to be – a tight locker room, in that sense – and just get ready for the next opponent. Being together and being focused on what’s ahead, it’s what’s really important in times like this.”

On converting possession into scoring chances:

Bye: “Just being lethal in the final third. I feel like we’ve had some of those chances. I get in crossing positions a lot, and sometimes my delivery isn’t the best. Just being ready. It’s just the luck of a bounce or something like that to get confidence rolling and to get moving forward, but when that happens, I feel like we’ll be dangerous.”

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