



April 22, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: April 22, 2019

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Monday's media availability previewing this Wednesday's home match against the Montreal Impact (NBC Sports Boston – 7:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Juan Agudelo](#)
- [Forward Brian Wright](#)
- [Midfielder Scott Caldwell](#)
- [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@revolutionssoccer.net.

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

On the importance of opening a three-match week with a win:

Coach Friedel: "Very important. The game was hard. Maybe not pleasing on the eye, but it was hard. It was raining, it was windy. New York Red Bull, pretty much every service was a long service and we had to fight for the second balls and then fight for the second ball again. It is draining, but I was very happy with the effort the players put in and really, really good that we got the three points."

On the keys to keeping a clean sheet vs. New York:

Coach Friedel: "More concentration. I think we were a little bit more reserved with the amount of players that we were sending forward. We were making sure that we were in positions to be able to stop quick attacks. I think, for the most part, we didn't lose the ball in too many dangerous areas. Their best chance, the one in the first half, came off a throw-in where we went to sleep a little bit. But I was pretty pleased with the concentration overall of where we were in position when we did have the ball."

On still looking for the attack to hit its stride:

Coach Friedel: "We had a lot of chances again – we had enough chances to score three or four goals on the day. We've just got to keep working, keep giving the players lots of confidence in training, and I'm sure the ball's going to start finding the back of the net soon because we're getting into a lot of really good positions."

On recalling Brian Wright from his loan to Birmingham Legion FC:

Coach Friedel: "Lack of goals, for one. And two, we have eight games in 29 days, so we have a lot of fixtures coming up and we need a lot of bodies. Brian [Wright] has a tremendous strike on him. We'll see if he can work his way into the team. We didn't send him away on loan – nor did we send Zach [Herivaux] away on loan – because we didn't like him, but we wanted him to start getting games. He got a couple games, but now we have this stretch, and let's see how he fights for competition for places."

On balancing squad rotation in a busy stretch:

Coach Friedel: “It all depends on where you’re at in the league table and things of that nature. Right now, we’re looking no further than Wednesday, then we’ll reassess again on Thursday. If we get the three points on Wednesday, we put ourselves right back up in touch with the group, and if we have the luxury to be able to then look towards the next game in a positive light, then hopefully we can climb up the table even further.”

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

Coach Friedel: “After they conceded seven [goals vs. Kansas City on March 30], they got things together defensively, that’s for sure. They’ve been a very resilient group – they went three games on the bounce with clean sheets. They’ve tried to get themselves into positions to counter. They’ve done quite a bit of it without [Ignacio] Piatti, who’s an outstanding player. We’re going to have to be at the top of our game with moving the ball very quickly. I’m sure they’re going to try to set up a very good defensive plan to then be able to attack us, and we’re going to have to be at the top of our game to beat them.”

New England Revolution Forward Juan Agudelo

On the importance of winning Saturday's match vs. New York:

Agudelo: “I already feel it today coming in – the energy is high. It was an important game for us to win. Going into this fast stretch of games, we needed that. More importantly, I think it’s awesome that we have another home game coming up really soon, and we’re just really excited to do the same thing that we did on Saturday, which was get three points and move up the table.”

On approaching a busy stretch of the season and opportunity to climb the table:

Agudelo: “As a group, it’s awesome to see our logo move up the table. We check it every time the weekend’s over, we check what’s our standing. For us to move up just shows how hard the boys have been working and how important it is to do what we did. I think the most important thing was getting a shutout, one, and scoring a goal.”

On keeping a clean sheet vs. New York:

Agudelo: “It’s huge for the morale. I could see how much it meant for all the defenders, Cody [Cropper], how much it meant to everybody defensively, including the midfield. I think it was a team defensive effort that we put on this past Saturday, and we need to do that every single game. That’s what we get paid for. Hopefully, we can do that again this Wednesday.”

On playing in a deeper spot in right midfield on Saturday:

Agudelo: “I think my strength and my height was good for that specific game, picking up second balls. We understood the team that we were playing against, that’s what they relied on, and if we were able to break that down, we’d get our chances, and we did. I felt a little bit more comfortable than I thought I would.”

On the attacking group's performance over the weekend:

Agudelo: “I feel like even so after he scored, a bunch of us just had the confidence of, ‘Hey, take a shot, see what happens.’ For the next 15 minutes of that game – if the game was a bit longer, I think we would have got another one really quick. So, hopefully we can transfer that right over to the next game, and I think we will.”

On Wednesday's match vs. Montreal:

Agudelo: “It’s really important, especially with how tight things are in the standings in the East, and understanding that it’s an opponent that we may be close to towards the end of the season come playoff time. It’s a pretty big game and we need to take advantage that we are home in a midweek game against Montreal.”

New England Revolution Forward Brian Wright

On getting recalled from his loan to Birmingham:

Wright: “We’d just come back from playing St. Louis. We had a day off and I was at home, and I got a text message from Jason [Gove], actually, and then I got a call from Remi [Roy] and Jay [Heaps]. Found out on Monday of last week, and then just had to hop on a flight direct and came to training the next day.”

On his transition to playing with Birmingham:

Wright: “Easy transition for me going down there, obviously knowing Jay and Tommy, being a part of me getting drafted a few years back, and seeing guys like Daigo and Femi down there, so it was easy. And Zach went down with me. So the transition’s been smooth, the time down there’s been good, and just happy to be able to get some minutes regularly, and then hopefully come back here and show what I’ve learned.”

On the importance of getting meaningful minutes:

Wright: “It’s crucial that you get those minutes regularly, so come game time you’re not in a funk or anything – you’re smooth out there, timing and everything is down.”

On the message from the coaching staff upon his return:

Wright: “Nothing’s changed – just keep working hard every day, doing what I do. Just trying to be a handful and wait for my opportunity when they call on me, and just hope that I do well.”

On getting the win vs. New York leading into a busy week:

Wright: “Especially being at home, coach talked about it right before the game, just one game at a time. We have that stretch of games, so like I just said, take one game at a time, and a lot of points up for grabs. Just slowly do what we can, be effective, and hopefully we take the momentum into Montreal and so on.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Scott Caldwell

On the importance of Saturday’s win against New York:

Caldwell: “It’s very important. We have a lot of games coming up, so to get the win at home – and the clear focus of the game was getting the shutout, and we were able to do that – I think that’s great for the confidence moving forward.”

On the impact of Cristian Penilla and Juan Fernando Caicedo off the bench on Saturday:

Caldwell: “Every game, you need the subs, guys coming off the bench, to bring something different, bring a change to the game in one way or another. They did that. They were fantastic and created a goal.”

On preparing for two games in a four-day span this week:

Caldwell: “Everyone’s got to be ready to play. If your name’s called upon, you have to be ready. We’ll do a lot of recovery throughout the week and just prep for the games.”

On hosting a Montreal side on Wednesday that has been successful on the road this year:

Caldwell: “Every team in this league is a quality opponent. They’ve done well this year, so we’re just looking forward to playing on Wednesday night, getting another win at home.”

New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell

On Saturday’s win vs. New York:

Farrell: “It’s huge. Obviously, it was an ugly game and something that we talked about right before the game was keeping the clean sheet – we’d be able to stay in the game. So, doing that and getting three points was huge for our confidence going through into this tough stretch of games. We’ve got another game coming up on Wednesday and hopefully keep a clean sheet then.”

On Cristian Penilla and Juan Fernando Caicedo making an impact off the bench:

Farrell: “I know coming on, playing 60 minutes and having [Cristian] Penilla come on and go against you would be very tough. I’m happy that we have quality on the bench and on the field that we can bring guys in like that, and they can change the game. I think it’s good that we have players that can come in and

make a change. No matter what the lineup is, whoever is playing or starting or coming off the bench, everybody can change the game and alter the game like that. It's important that we keep doing that because we've got a lot of games coming up."

On playing eight games over the next 29 days:

Farrell: "It's huge. When you win a game and you have another game coming up, the confidence is going. If you lose that game, it's a good opportunity to get back on the field and do well. But we just can't think about the last game – we've just got to focus on our next opponent, which is Montreal. Just keep going, keep churning out these results."

On preparing for a quick turnaround with a match on Wednesday:

Farrell: "I think today will be a little bit of recovery for some guys, a little bit more intense stuff for some guys, and see what coach wants to do with the lineup on Wednesday. But I think everybody's ready and everybody wants to play, so it'll be interesting to see who he calls for that."

On hosting Montreal on Wednesday:

Farrell: "They're a really good team. They just had a tough result against Philly, but a team that's really, really good, a team that has a lot of quality up top. [Maxi] Urruti's a player that's always been dangerous in this league and looking forward to going against him and the guys that they have."

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