



April 30, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: April 30, 2019

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

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Midfielder DeJuan Jones](#)
- [Defender Andrew Farrell](#)
- [Goalkeeper Cody Cropper](#)

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 building off Saturday's four-goal performance at Kansas City:

Coach Friedel: "We've been creating a lot of chances, and sometimes you just need to take the one and it gives more confidence and the others will follow. It's a shame the way the game went with regards to the sendings off. It's a shame that we couldn't hold on for the three points. It's also a good thing that we did hold on for the point in the end being two men down for the last eight or nine minutes of the game. So there's a lot of good things to take from the game, and it was nice to see us hit the back of the net a few times and hopefully we can have that continue on Saturday."

On Juan Fernando Caicedo opening his account and settling in:

Coach Friedel: "It's not going to hurt. Hopefully, he comes in today full of confidence and is just ready and prepared to work even harder to continue to get more goals. He added a lot of help on the weekend with the way that he was holding the ball up and turning and running forward between the two center backs, so it was good to see. Hopefully, we'll see a lot more of that this weekend again."

On the fearlessness of young players such as Tajon Buchanan and DeJuan Jones:

Coach Friedel: "With the young players, and with Justin Rennicks, as well, and DeJuan [Jones], when you're learning the ropes at the professional level, you'll be in some games, out some games, and what's really important is that you learn all along the way. It wasn't too long ago we had Tajon in the office just telling him we really like what we see, and just bide your time, your chance will come. His chance came and I thought he did a really good job with executing what the whole team wanted to try to do against Sporting Kansas City, especially in the first half, playing against [Yohan] Croizet and [Andreu] Fontas on that side of the field."

On the Philadelphia Union:

Coach Friedel: "They were a thorn in our side last season, that's for sure. The games all went in their direction, but they were very even games. They could've gone either way. We've seen they're a big team, very good on set pieces. They have some pace going forward. They did something a little bit different in Vancouver – they played with two strikers. I'm not going to try to pronounce his name just yet [Kacper

Przybyłko], but they had a very big striker and then [David] Accam running off of him. It was a different look for them, no doubt, but they also have the likes of [Haris] Medunjanin and [Alejandro] Bedoya in the midfield, who are very good for them, Medunjanin especially with the left foot that he has. They can mix it up, they can play different styles – they can play direct, and they can also sit back, hit you on the counter, and they can also try to play possession. We'll watch them again on Wednesday.”

On the status of Michael Mancienne and Antonio Delamea:

Coach Friedel: “It’s a real, real shame. Michael [Mancienne] has plantar fasciitis and sometimes it just flares up to unbearable pain. He tried to get through two games, but I’m sure if you watch the game you can see him hobbling even a little bit against Montreal towards the end of the game. With Toni [Antonio Delamea], he had a little bit of a knee issue and he came through that, and then he was unlucky and suffered a mild concussion last week in training. Hopefully Toni comes through all the tests and he can be available for the weekend, and Michael will be day-to-day, and again, hopefully he can come through and be available for the weekend, as well.”

On missing Jalil Anibaba and Brandon Bye to red-card suspensions this Saturday:

Coach Friedel: “We’re really hoping Toni and Michael are going to be fit for the weekend. [Laughing] No, we’ve got other players that can fill in. Listen, that’s what a squad is for. Sometimes you have to and you will come together at the times that you probably least likely think that you will. If we have to bit-piece a back four, we will do, but one thing’s for sure – whoever is out on that field, they’re going to give 100 percent effort.”

New England Revolution Midfielder DeJuan Jones

On scoring his first career goal:

Jones: “I think getting the first goal is definitely the hardest one – just to open my account. Now that I’ve gotten the first one, I’m looking forward to getting more opportunities and scoring more goals this year.”

On staying prepared coming in and out of the lineup:

Jones: “I think it’s all about mentality – so just going into practice every day just looking to get better, help my teammates get better and just grow as a player each and every day. So, no matter what the circumstances are in terms of playing time, just trying to get better every day and help the team in any way I can.”

On the pace he and Tajon Buchanan provide on the wing:

Jones: “It was awesome to see both of us rookies from the SuperDraft out there together at the same time. Our speed, our pace, our ability to get crosses in and ability to finish – it was good to see both of us out there.”

On using Saturday’s game as a turning point for the attack:

Jones: “I think so. Like you said, the confidence of the group is high right now, so just continuing to work hard this week in practice and put more balls in the back of the net. I think that will translate to the weekend.”

New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell

On his takeaways from Saturday’s draw at Kansas City:

Farrell: “I think the guys up front did a good job creating a lot of chances. I think a lot of the younger guys performed really well and got that confidence going that we’ve been talking about, that we kind of need in this group after these past couple tough results. I think that was great getting the point away from home, even though we had a lead twice — and then going down two men — so it was a very hectic game. But taking that point away, at a tough place to play, is always good to build on.”

On how the team was able to open the floodgates offensively:

Farrell: “I think the movement up top was really good. Something we talked about was winning your 1-v-1 duels, whether it’s on offense or on defense, and I think those guys took their defenders on, created

chances, and early on in a game when someone's coming at you over, and over, and over again, it's annoying as a defender. I think our guys did a good job of doing that."

On taking on more of a leadership role when other defenders are out of the lineup:

Farrell: "Yeah, when you have so many injuries and suspensions, guys have to step up into different spots. You want to step up and own up to knowing that you can be able to help the team in whatever capability that is. This is my seventh season, so there's been times when I've had to step in and do certain things that aren't as comfortable as others, but I think we've got a team of guys who are willing to do that."

On why the team has been so competitive on the road this season:

Farrell: "I think adversity. I think we know we haven't started as well as we have, and we know that to be successful and to make it into the playoffs, you've got to win and get points on the road. We haven't been doing as great as we have been in the past at home, so we know we need to make up those points on the road."

On facing the Philadelphia Union on Saturday:

Farrell: "We'll watch the tape. They've got guys with pace, they've got guys who can finish, guys good in the air, guys in the midfield who can create opportunities for those guys up front. So it's going to be a tough task. It's a great team. They got a good result on the road and it's going to be a good matchup. It's always fun to play against Philly, especially at their place where they've got some good fans."

[New England Revolution Goalkeeper Cody Cropper](#)

On Saturday's draw at Kansas City:

Cropper: "I can't say I have ever been a part of a game like that. I've definitely seen a few like that, but definitely never been a part of one. It was kind of crazy and the guys had to grind it out on the field. I think we were fortunate to get out of there with a point. Obviously, disappointed that we weren't able to see it out and get the three points, but it was a well-earned, deserved point on the road."

On coming away with a point despite finishing the match with nine men:

Cropper: "I think just going out there with the belief that we could get it done. Obviously, we come in at the half, 3-1 up, and you know we go out there with the mentality that we're not going to lose this game. I think that with having the two men sent off, it's difficult, it's frustrating, it's hard, but the boys [who] stayed on the field and were out there, and were subbed on, worked hard and did the nitty-gritty in order for us to get the point."

On the performance vs. Kansas City sparking the team offensively:

Cropper: "Absolutely. I think there's a lot of confidence to take away from that game. Obviously, offensively we scored four goals. That's something that we haven't done this year. Defensively, we were winning the second balls and winning our individual battles and I think that, yeah, we conceded four goals, but there are a lot of positives being down two men and seeing that result out."

On new assistant coach Kevin Hitchcock joining the coaching staff:

Cropper: "I played with his son Tom Hitchcock at MK Dons. Obviously, Kevin is a legend for Chelsea. He was a goalkeeper. I know that he has a connection to Brad [Friedel]. I believe he was his coach at Blackburn, so I believe that he'll bring an English style, but I'm sure he'll be very modern with the distribution, just like Ruben [Garcia]. I'm sure that every goalkeeper coach has their own fundamental skills that they want to imply, and I think that there's going to be an English background to that with him obviously being from England and having played in England for so long."

On Ruben Garcia departing to become sporting director at SD Huesca:

Cropper: "He's definitely helped not just me, but a lot of us player-wise – obviously not just the goalkeepers. He has connections and relationships with a lot of the field players as well, so I think that he's come in and he's done a fantastic job. Obviously, he's supported the goalkeepers. He's worked with

the goalkeepers day-in-and-day-out, and we all have that relationship with him, and we [will] continue to watch how his progress goes overseas and wish him the best.”

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