



July 24, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: July 24, 2019

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Wednesday's media availability previewing Saturday's home match against Orlando City SC (NBC Sports Boston – 7:00 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Sporting Director and Head Coach Bruce Arena](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)
- [Midfielder Wilfried Zaha](#)
- [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 Sporting Director and Head Coach Bruce Arena](#)

On what the team could have done better in Sunday's win:

Arena: "Just [be] a little better with our timing, our running off the ball, our passing. If we were better on a few more plays, I think we could've scored a couple more goals."

On Gustavo Bou getting acclimating to the team's attack:

Arena: "Like anything else, it takes some time. I think for a player being in the team for only a week or two, it's been very good. It really has been."

On if the key to recent success has been cleaning up the defensive end:

Arena: "That's part of it, yeah. It's a little bit of both [offense and defense]. Certainly this is a low-scoring sport. If you concede a lot of goals, you're in a lot of trouble. I've figured that out from all the years of coaching. It's not basketball, you know?"

On the key to earning consecutive shutouts:

Arena: "I think it's a collection of everyone. The players ahead of them [the goalkeepers] are working hard, the goalkeeper's making some quality saves. So it's a combination of everything, but we've worked a lot with our backline and our movement, our positioning, and they've done well. The entire group on the field, as a unit, has been playing pretty well."

On trying to keep possession in Cincinnati:

Arena: "Especially when you go on the road, if you can keep the ball a little bit more, and under those circumstances where there's a lot of heat and humidity, you can't be defending the whole time. I thought the first half in Cincinnati, we did a good job keeping the ball."

[New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury](#)

On getting into a rhythm with nine straight Saturday games coming up:

Bunbury: “Yeah, it’s definitely going to be good for guys to get into a rhythm, like you said – be able to prepare properly, have enough days in between games if guys need to get proper treatment, recovery, and just continue to stay sharp. I think it also helps guys that maybe aren’t playing as many minutes. I think overall, it’s going to be good for our mindset.”

On what the team is still looking to improve:

Bunbury: “I think we know what we can accomplish, and I know that all of us have higher expectations for ourselves. We definitely did miss two or three good opportunities in that game, so I think it’s a great mentality for all of us knowing that we were able to get a win on the road, but we know we can continue to improve. I think that game isn’t going to be good enough coming down the stretch, making it into the playoffs, and once you get into the playoffs. So having that mentality is huge for us right now.”

On how this training time will help Gustavo Bou get acclimated with the team:

Bunbury: “It’s really important. I know he’s already played two games and he’s made a huge impact, but just building that chemistry, it takes time. It’s hard to come to a new team, a foreign country, you don’t speak the language – it’s good that we have a lot of players that are bilingual here and that are Spanish-speaking. It helps. I think all the guys are just embracing him and he’s a happy guy – he loves to have a good time. I think with these days leading up to each of these games now kind of spaced out, we’re only going to get better.”

On what he learned from facing Orlando in the U.S. Open Cup:

Bunbury: “That they’re going to fight until the end. They have a lot of key players. They have a good group; they have a lot of key attacking pieces. But also, I think defensively we can exploit them. So, I think it’s going to be a good matchup, but we’re playing at home, we’re feeling good, and it’s all about getting three points.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez

On the hunger of the group to succeed:

Fagundez: “I think it’s crazy. Before I think if we won a game, we were all happy. Now, we win games, and I don’t think we’re satisfied, and that’s always good to see. We want to be better, we want to be a better team, but sometimes you have to play ugly games and still win them. I think this was a good win for us, but we all know that we need to be a little better in the games.”

On scoring six goals and keeping back-to-back shutouts in the last two games:

Fagundez: “I think it gives everybody confidence. Those two games were very important to us to get us back in the mix. That’s what we want to see. We want to keep competing every game and make sure that we’re in every game, and I think right now we’re doing that. There’s still a lot more games to come, so we just have to take it game by game, and make sure we’re doing well and getting points.”

On Gustavo Bou getting acclimated:

Fagundez: “I think our group here in the locker room is very easy. Everybody was welcomed good, so he came in and spoke Spanish, so everybody just brought him in really easy. He’s a good player and we all know that, so we just have to get him the ball and we have the tactics that we have, so it’s kind of easy to score goals. We just have to keep playing, keep working hard, and make sure that we’re having fun.”

On getting into a rhythm moving forward with nine consecutive Saturday matches:

Fagundez: “Like you said, I think the rhythm is the most important thing right now. We’re getting closer to the end, so if we just keep going, that’s exactly what we want. We want to be winning games when we get closer to the end, so when playoffs hit, we can keep going.”

On facing Orlando again after an Open Cup matchup last month:

Fagundez: “I think we’re a different team now than we were before, and they’re probably a different team, so it’s going to be a new game. We have to make sure that we’re playing our style of play and make sure we’re playing well, and when we have our chance, make sure we’re taking advantage of them. Last

game, we could have been better in the attack, but like I said, some games are going to be ugly, but you just have to make sure that you're getting points."

New England Revolution Midfielder Wilfried Zahibo

On the team's turnaround in recent months:

Zahibo: "I think we have a lot of confidence. When we win, the group works, we know the confidence is here, and it's more easy when the confidence is up."

On what kept the team's confidence going all season during the difficult early stretch:

Zahibo: "Just working. We know it's tough, but we are just here to keep working. The only key for win is work, work, work, and work. That's what we're doing and that's what we're going to keep doing."

On how Bruce Arena has helped his confidence and the team on the field:

Zahibo: "He helped me a lot. He gives me a lot of confidence, and I think this has helped me a lot to put me back in the 11. After I think I was doing the job in the pitch, [I hope] to keep playing."

On facing Orlando again after an Open Cup matchup last month:

Zahibo: "They're going to be completely different games. Right now, I think 12 games left, so it's like a final. It's going to be a different game. We're going to work very good this week [to] prepare for the game, and hopefully we'll get the three points."

New England Revolution Defender Brandon Bye

On staying hungry during the 10-game unbeaten run:

Bye: "It says a lot. I think everybody knows that we didn't play our best game [against Cincinnati], but we're going to look forward to Orlando on the weekend and hopefully play even better and strive to get better every day. That's what we do as pros."

On the confidence gained from back-to-back shutouts:

Bye: "It helps. It gives us confidence knowing that we can shut teams out and we can play well collectively for 90 minutes. We just keep moving forward and be happy with that result, but try to get the next one."

On riding a 10-game unbeaten run heading into a challenging stretch of the season:

Bye: "It gives us confidence. We know those teams are good, and for that reason, they are where they are in the table, so we're going to keep moving forward and keep striving to get better."

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