



August 22, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: August 22, 2019

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

- [Sporting Director and Head Coach Bruce Arena](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Defender Andrew Farrell](#)
- [Goalkeeper Matt Turner](#)

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.

[Revolution Sporting Director and Head Coach Bruce Arena](#)

On the lessons learned from Saturday's draw at New York:

Arena: "Just for our team, I don't think we started the game well. I don't think we were really alert as to the things we wanted to do as a team, and we didn't compete. I think we turned around some of those things in the second half, yet I think we're fortunate to get out of there with a point. It's an important point, but I think we have to play a more complete game than we showed in New York."

On if he has seen a playoff race this tight this late in the season:

Arena: "I probably have, but I don't recall. This is fairly typical of Major League Soccer, that as you enter the last month and a half of a season, everyone's scrambling to get in the playoffs. There's a few at the top, a few at the bottom, and everyone else is battling each other. So this is, I think, a fairly typical Major League Soccer playoff race."

On how big Saturday's game against Chicago will be in the playoff race:

Arena: "Big. All the eight remaining games are now big. We can't be afraid to say that."

On how big of a piece Andrew Farrell is to the defensive group:

Arena: "Well, they all are. I think we went into that game short some center backs, bringing Michael [Mancienne] back. We had to take a little pressure off him physically, so we played the three center backs, made it a little bit easier for him in Seattle and New York to get back on the field. We cut down on some of his running, but it was still challenging. Getting Andrew [Farrell] back, and Toni [Antonio Delamea] will be back soon, DeJuan [Jones] is now back, so that helps us in the backline for sure."

On Gustavo Bou continuing to settle in with the team:

Arena: "Yeah, he's doing fine. He's the least of our worries to be honest with you."

[Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury](#)

On continuing to grind out road results:

Bunbury: “I think it’s good to obviously get results on the road. You know, a point out of each, but I think there are moments in those games where we weren’t playing our best, especially in the first half against the Red Bulls. I think we were fortunate to come out of there with a point, but this late in the season, we’ll take that. A lot of things are going to have to get corrected. We have eight games left. A lot of them are against Eastern Conference opponents that are right behind us, right on our tail, a couple that are ahead of us, so it’s going to be a tough stretch, but we’ve all got to be locked in right now.”

On how tight the playoff race is in the Eastern Conference:

Bunbury: “This time in the season it’s tough. Every game we’re going to play it like it’s a playoff game, play it like it’s a final. We’re going to get prepared. We all have to be locked in. There might be some injuries, the team might be missing guys and things like that, so the full roster is going to have to be ready. We’re going to have to come out in training and make sure we’re correcting the mistakes that we made in games and continuing to improve.”

On the importance of the next two home games:

Bunbury: “We love playing at home in front of our fans, and these are three-point games that we need to get, so we need to win both those games. Coming up first will be Chicago, and we’ll start preparing for them, and that’s going to be the most important game for us.”

On the Chicago Fire:

Bunbury: “They have a really good squad. They have key guys. [CJ] Sapong is a handful. [Nemanja] Nikolić up top, he can bang goals as well. Dax [McCarty] in the middle there – [Bastian] Schweinsteiger. They just have key players and I think they have this never-say-die attitude, so we’re going to continue to push and get ready for that.”

On getting Andrew Farrell back from suspension:

Bunbury: “It’s huge. There’s eight games left in the season so when there’s rotation, when there’s depth, when we have guys that can step up, it’s so important for us and hopefully guys can continue to stay healthy and continue to get better.”

Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell

On if it ever gets easier having to sit out a match due to suspension:

Farrell: “No, it’s tough. You want to always be available for selection and be able to help the guys and be able to play. That’s what I love to do. But obviously, it happens and I’m excited to be back in training and hopefully available for selection this weekend.”

On the team earning a point at Red Bull Arena:

Farrell: “It was good. I thought coming back after the first half wasn’t our best, and coming out and playing a little better and showing that we can play well on the road. Obviously, mistakes are going to be made that we can get better at, but each game we’re just trying to improve and improve, and get better each day.”

On the tight playoff race in the Eastern Conference:

Farrell: “It’s tight, but it’s been a while since we’ve had something to kind of chase and be a part of. I think that motivates the guys. We’re in there. We’re right in there. Obviously, a couple points here and there and we can get a little bit of gap and space. We play three teams that are below us, we play teams that are in front of us, so it’s an important stretch here. Next two home games are going to be important.”

On how big Saturday’s game against Chicago will be:

Farrell: “It’s big. Every game is going to be big, especially against Eastern Conference teams and the teams that are around you. If you get the momentum like we’ve seen that we can do, it carries a lot of weight going into the multiple games at home, so it’s important to get the first one off our foot.”

On dealing with Chicago’s attacking weapons like Nemanja Nikolić:

Farrell: "They're good. He [Nikolić] always seems to have a really good game against us. He's a great player. Previous Golden Boot winner, I'm pretty sure. They've got a lot of guys in the midfield that are really good, and guys up top. They're a team that obviously – I think their record doesn't tell the whole story. They've got a lot of guys who can hurt us, and we've just got to be prepared to deal with all those guys."

On Matt Turner's new multi-year contract:

Farrell: "It's good. He's put the work in since coming in undrafted and working his way from third choice to first choice, and working hard every day in the offseason. I think he deserves it. I think he shows that he earned it, and I think he's ready to back it up. Like the game he had – what was it, nine saves? Career high, great performance, got us a point on the road. He's a guy that even though he got the contract, he won't be complacent. I think he's going to try to keep working hard and earning more and more contracts. I think it's good that we have a guy like him on our team, and a guy behind me or whoever's playing back there that can save a game for us."

[Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner on his new contract:](#)

On signing a new multi-year contract with the Revolution:

Turner: "I'm really pleased to be here for long term. This is the only club that really gave me an opportunity out of college, and since then I've just been trying to repay the Kraft Group, repay my coaching staffs over the years, and just try to make the fans as proud as possible. Just being involved in the community up here is really special, so I'm really, really pleased and looking forward to the future."

On what it means to him:

Turner: "It's hard to really put into words, but definitely a lot. It's just sometimes, when I was a kid watching games, and I'd look at the screen and thought, 'I think I can do those things that are on the screen.' Just to be able to step out on the field is truly special. I can't even really put it into words. I just hope I grow every single game and try not to make the same mistakes twice and continue to build, and become the best goalkeeper that I can be for this club."

On his excitement about the club's future and the upcoming playoff push:

Turner: "Yeah, I'm definitely ecstatic to be a part of it. With the new training facility, a lot more buzz around the team recently, and I'm just really, really happy to be a part of it and to continue to be a part of it. I think these next couple weeks are going to be huge for us. We're not comfortably in sixth, but we're in a playoff spot, and we really need to continue to work hard as a team and get ready for these next two games in particular, which are huge for us."

[Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner](#)

On earning two tough results on the road at Seattle and New York:

Turner: "Both of them come from losing positions, but in saying that, we didn't play particularly well for 90 minutes in either game, so we know that we need to start putting together full match performances if we want to make the playoffs."

On the next two games at home:

Turner: "They're massive. Every single one, for lack of a better term, is a six-pointer, particular these next two. Chicago is two points behind us and Toronto is only a point behind us right now, so we know how important these games are to create some separation, because if results didn't quite go our way this past Saturday, we might have been in like ninth or tenth place. It's really, really tight and every minute of every game really matters."

On facing Chicago and Toronto in the next two matches:

Turner: "We just know that we have to take care of business at home if we want to make the playoffs, so we know that these games are huge. We lost to Toronto and Chicago already this year, so we've got to right the ship and keep ourselves building towards making the playoffs."

On Chicago's attacking weapons:

Turner: ““They’ve got some really dangerous pieces going forward. I know Nemanja Nikolić is heating up. He’s been scoring some goals again so he’s really dangerous in the box. We’re going to have to keep an eye on him. Obviously, [Bastian] Schweinsteiger runs the show in the back there and Aleksandar Katai is always dangerous, so we’ll catch a little break with Nico Gaitán being suspended for this one, but in saying that, they have so many dangerous pieces that it’s not any reason for us to get complacent or comfortable. We need to make sure that we take care of business and start the game better than we started the previous two.”

Note: Nicolas Gaitán’s one-game suspension for a red card has since been appealed and rescinded.

On having Andrew Farrell and DeJuan Jones available:

Turner: “Those are some guys that we’ve been building around for the majority of this little run we’ve been on. It’ll be nice to have Andrew [Farrell] back. He provides a lot of coverage for everyone on the back four, because he’s just super athletic and able to do that for us. DeJuan [Jones], we’re happy to get him back, too. He came on late in the Red Bull game and he’ll find the pace again. It’s great to have the options and create competition in training every day.”

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COMMUNICATIONS CONTACTS

Communications Staff		Media@revolutionsoccer.net
Kaitlin Gangl Alden, Communications Director	(508) 549-0496	KaitlinGA@revolutionsoccer.net
Adam Klionsky, Communications Manager	(508) 455-7551	AdamK@revolutionsoccer.net
Scott Altman, Communications Coordinator	(508) 549-0533	ScottA@revolutionsoccer.net
Nick Sobel, Communications Coordinator	(508) 404-0248	NicholasS@revolutionsoccer.net

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