



September 24, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: September 24, 2019

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Monday's media availability previewing Wednesday's away match against the Portland Timbers (NBC Sports Boston – 10:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Sporting Director and Head Coach Bruce Arena](#)
- [Forward Juan Agudelo](#)
- [Defender Michael Mancienne](#)

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 team's second-half adjustments against Real Salt Lake:

Arena: "I think we played a decent game. Give our opponent credit, they did a good job. They were organized, they had a real plan. They wanted to get a point, maybe steal three, but they accomplished a point. I think our team created enough opportunities, whether it was full chances or half chances to get a goal, but we fell short there, so that's the way it goes. We're still in the thick of things and look forward to closing out these next three games and getting the points we need to be in the playoffs."

On chartering to Portland this week:

Arena: "Certainly, it's very beneficial. It saves us many hours and it's obviously a lot more convenient. Scheduling a cross-country [game] midweek makes zero sense, but at least we've come up with somewhat of a partial solution to deal with it."

On the amount of roster rotation he anticipates this week in Portland:

Arena: "We'll rotate players. We haven't finalized anything yet, but we'll certainly make changes over the next couple of games."

On what he's seen from Portland Timbers:

Arena: "They have a bunch of good attacking players. They're a dangerous team. I know they've had difficulty putting the ball in the back of the net lately, but I have no doubts that they'll be very dangerous on Wednesday."

[Revolution Forward Juan Agudelo](#)

On the key to breaking down a team like Real Salt Lake:

Agudelo: "It's tough. I think we have to move the ball quicker and just be a little bit sharper. Spread them out, literally. Our wide guys have got to get chalk on their boots, like they say, and it'll open up space centrally. We definitely had our fair amount of chances that game."

On the mindset of the team going into the final three games:

Agudelo: “The mindset is four points any way we can. Understanding what it’s going to take, whether we’re up and defending the lead, or we’re down and we have to come back from a game. So, we’re pretty excited about this one on Wednesday, because we feel like it’s a game where we can pick up a point, and three points are also possible too, because it’s a team that leaves a lot of space.”

On chartering to Portland this week:

Agudelo: “Well, I think it’s come at a good time. This is a big, big game. I know we’ve been saying that for a couple of weeks now, but for us to have a midweek game and for us to just get on an easy flight today, put our legs up. We can ice on the plane, we can do a lot of things. No headaches, straight to the game. It’s going to be very beneficial, hopefully.”

Revolution Defender Michael Mancienne

On coming off of the bench as a defender to close a game out:

Mancienne: “I think it’s a normal experience for a defender, especially this late on in the season when teams are trying to get points and every point is vital. Sometimes, you need to shut the game down and every team will do it to close out a game.”

On the group’s mindset ahead of the contest in Portland:

Mancienne: “Treat the game like a final, make sure we give everything to try and get the three points. It’s massively important. If we take a point, as well, that’s obviously not the worst-case scenario. That’s actually good for us, because our next game is at home where we can try and get three points there, as well.”

On chartering to Portland this week:

Mancienne: “I don’t think anything can ease a six-hour journey, wherever it is. Obviously, it’s a massive help to the players. You’ve got a bit more legroom, you’re not sat up really straight for the whole flight and feel stiff after it, you can get up and move around a bit, and it’s more relaxed as well, so I think it’s very beneficial for the team.”

On Carles Gil’s vision:

Mancienne: He’s just always got a plan in his head. Before he’s got the ball, he knows what he wants to do with it. His low center of gravity helps him a lot. He’s hard to tackle. You can’t get close to him. Sometimes in training when you see him twisting and turning and you’re trying to tackle him, you just let him have the ball. Honestly, he’s a great player, his vision is immense, and he knows what he wants to do with it.”

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