



February 26, 2019

New England Revolution Training Report: February 26, 2019

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Saturday's season opener at FC Dallas (NBC Sports Boston – 4:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)
- [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 Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)

On opening the 2019 season this Saturday at FC Dallas:

Coach Friedel: "We've been ready for a little while. As preseasons roll on, they do get a little bit stale and everyone gets to that point where they just want the matches to start. We're there, and we're ready."

On integrating offseason acquisitions into the team:

Coach Friedel: "Very good. I think the time in Spain, being the only people in the hotel helped a lot. A lot of team bonding that occurred during that time. That was essential."

On Juan Fernando Caicedo's injury status:

Coach Friedel: "He's day-to-day. Hopefully, he can be with us this weekend. We're expecting big things from him this season."

[New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury](#)

On wrapping up preseason:

Bunbury: "I think we're all ready for the real thing. I think the fans are ready. It's been a long preseason, but it's been a fun preseason. We've been able to kind of grow together as a unit from the start in Spain, finishing it off strong in Florida. We're looking forward to it. In the offseason, it's nice to kind of relax, and then once the preseason starts, it's good to get back together, but then everyone's excited to say, 'Okay, it's time for the real games to count.'"

On managing emotions in the regular season opener:

Bunbury: "It's all about staying composed and I think just leaning on your teammates, because there's a lot of emotion, there's a lot of excitement. You've been waiting, you've been training hard in preseason, so it's about taking a couple deep breaths and just going out there. For a lot of guys, they've played the game before and we've been playing games in preseason, so we'll be ready."

On how the team can improve its road form:

Bunbury: "I don't know the exact answer for that, but I think it's sticking together as a group. Knowing that when you go on the road, if you maybe go up a goal, maybe game management is something that's going to be key for us and [be] very important. Making sure that we know in certain moments when to press, when to drop back, when to manage the clock. All those little details, we're going to have to be tuned in for [them] this year."

On offseason acquisitions getting integrated into the team:

Bunbury: "I think they've been fitting in great. It shows just in training and even off the field. I think everyone gets along. There's a little bit of a language barrier, but everyone's trying to understand each other. You've got new rookies coming in that are working their tails off, asking a bunch of questions and I think that's what you want as a teammate and as a human being. You want someone to come into a job environment and try to learn and try to fit into that group. I think everyone's done that extremely well."

New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez

On his takeaways from preseason:

Fagundez: "I think everybody is ready to start. We know it's the beginning of the season, so we need to come out being sharp and [with] a spark on our team. I think after this preseason that we had, we still have to go out there and do our job. I think we've been waiting this long, working hard, and playing all these games for this one match. I think myself and everybody on this team, we just want to get out there and play."

On the team entering its second season under Head Coach Brad Friedel:

Fagundez: "I think he knows exactly what to expect from us, and we know exactly what to expect from him. We just have to go. Everybody needs to do what we have to do and make sure that we're going away and winning these games. It's important to start off the season right, so I think we're all going to go to Dallas and do everything we can to make sure that we come back with three points."

On the team's fitness entering the season:

Fagundez: "Everybody is doing well. I think everybody's fitness is getting there, or is there already. We need to get all the new players involved in exactly what we want to do and how we're going to do everything. Overall, it was definitely a good preseason, but now everybody is ready to step it up and everybody should know what to do. All the new faces and all the new players that are here already know exactly what we want from them and what to expect. We're just going to go out there and do what we love to do and make sure that we're winning games."

On DeJuan Jones earning his MLS contract:

Fagundez: "DeJuan Jones did well in preseason. You can tell, young kid, he wants to be out there and make sure that he was earning his contract. I think that's what he did. He went out there, very fast player, strong player, someone who is awesome in the locker room. He's funny and jokes around, but when it comes to learning new things, he knows how to take advice from people and tries his best to do it. So, we're looking forward to having him on our team. Now, it's the fun part for him. He just needs to go out there in training, work hard, and earn his spot on the team."

On facing FC Dallas:

Fagundez: "It's kind of hard to know exactly what they're going to bring, because we haven't really played them for a while. But we know they have good players and it's going to be a tough game, especially [because] they're at home and they're going to want to win their first game. We just have to go out there, make sure everybody is doing their job, work hard, and win our individual battles. If we do that, score some goals, we can definitely come back with three points."

New England Revolution Defender Brandon Bye

On his anticipation for the season opener:

Bye: "Very ready. I feel like everybody's pretty focused and ready to go. Excited for the weekend."

On wrapping up the preseason:

Bye: “We’ve been working throughout the preseason. It’s a long preseason, so we’ve been figuring each other out and whatnot, but I feel like we’re in a good spot, and we’re excited to get the games rolling.”

On Michael Mancienne having a full offseason with the team:

Bye: “He helps tremendously back there talking through things and being a leader back there, so that helps, and along with everybody else, I think we’re ready to go. We’re pretty solidified this year in knowing what we’re asked, and we’ll see. We’re ready to get going.”

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