



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION POSTGAME QUOTES

New England Revolution 2 vs. Philadelphia 3
Saturday, August 11, 2018

New England Revolution Head Coach Brad Friedel

On if the set piece defending was “a little bit” of the team’s undoing:

Coach Friedel: “A little bit? It was the undoing and it wasn’t a little about it. I’ll have to watch the game again. I think they had four quality chances to score, if you call them quality, and they were all set pieces.”

On if he had spoken to Antonio Delamea about the hand ball that led to the penalty:

Coach Friedel: “I haven’t spoken to Toni [Antonio Delamea].”

On the mistakes made when defending the set pieces:

Coach Friedel: “Set piece marking is a mentality. We work. Anyone who comes to our trainings would know that we work on it all the time and when you get fans in the seats and you’re on TV and it’s a little bit of pressure on, you have to see who’s willing to head the ball away, who’s willing to block runners. It’s as simple as that. It’s the ugly side of the game. It’s the side of the game, that not one fan will remember unless you miss your assignment. Nobody will ever go home in the car, and say, ‘Hey, I thought so and so was really good at defending set pieces.’ It’s not what people look at it, but it is a part of the game that is very important and has been very important with us as of recent times, because we’ve been playing really, really well, and I’ll not stop saying that. If we weren’t playing well, I think you guys know me by now, I would say it. We created 26 opportunities tonight, we scored two. We’ve been scoring threes and twos in a lot of games and whether it be an individual error or a set piece, that’s where we’ve been conceding goals. We have to just get back on the training ground and work as hard as you can, try to get the confidence in the players and we move on to next week. It is as simple as that, but it is important that we keep trying to teach the art of defending a set piece, so to speak.”

On if the team assigns marks on set pieces during training in the week:

Coach Friedel: “Of course, yeah. Of course [we] do. I’ve played on a lot of teams where we’ve worked tirelessly on set pieces. I’ve coached certain teams where we had to, I felt, and coached certain teams where you didn’t have to. I played in one team that conceded one off of a set piece all season in the Premier League and the reason is because we had four or five guys in front, plus myself, that would deal with it. It didn’t matter if you were zone or man marking or whatever. At Chelsea [it was] John Terry. They had John Terry, so he would head the ball away. It didn’t matter if it was zone or man marking. It is a mentality to do so, but if you’re not a great header of the ball, we try to teach to block runners and things of that nature, good starting positions, all the above. Anyone who has come out and watched us, we leave no stone unturned and it’s just very, very disheartening to watch it unravel, because the boys work really hard and we’re usually the better team. We’ve created the better chances. That’s a part of the game that we’ve got to get better and we’ve got to get better at it very quickly, going on for the playoff push.”

On the halftime adjustments:

Coach Friedel: “I’ll be honest with you, the only difference from the first half to the second half was the fact that we got the break and we got the goal. I know you guys will probably sit there and say in the first half we were poor, because it was two-nil, and in the second half we were better, because we scored the goals and we came back. Actually, not the case. First half, we were fine. We conceded on two set pieces and we gave [Alejandro] Bedoya another chance. If we score one of our chances in the early going, then it looks like a great first half. And that’s a fact of this. All we did in the second half, was ask Cristian Penilla and Juan Agudelo to stay wider and then make harder movements inside and get our fullbacks



further forward and release either Cristian Penilla or Juan when pressing, because we had to chase the game a little bit. They were subtle changes, they weren't big changes. They weren't formational changes."

On if he plans to shake anything up and reach the team in different ways:

Coach Friedel: "We'll always try to reach the guys in different ways. We don't do the same exact things everyday anyways, that's for sure. We try to get the players as uncomfortable as they can be, to try to learn in situations, that's for sure. But I said earlier in the press conference, if we weren't creating chances, if the players weren't working hard, if we weren't doing a lot of good things, yeah, then we would probably make wholesale changes. But there's a lot of things in the games when we watch them that we do really well. The LA Galaxy game, if you watched it with no sound on and didn't know the final outcome, there's no way you would think that we lost the game. That game tonight, the same thing. The Minnesota game, the same thing. I mean, it really has only been one game this season where in the second half, by midway through, that we were out of it and that was Montreal away. Every other game, we could've or should've won. Even the Atlanta game here, it was one-one. They had the better chances, but we could've scored at the death. So, we're not far off being a very, very good team and we have to keep working, attention to details, and that's where we're at."

On why the team hasn't secured results despite performing well:

Coach Friedel: "Mentality. It is a mentality. I think one of the things we needed to do as an entire staff, is create a different culture that was at the club, which we've been doing from the moment that we've come in and we've made a lot of strides in doing so. And I think people, when they come watch us, they see an exciting team. They see a team on the front foot, a team that can create a lot of chances. Do we have to get better at our conceding of goals? Yeah, and at one stage, we were starting to move in the right direction. LA Galaxy game, three really poor goals out of nowhere. But, this group, I think a lot of the guys that have been here have been used to that over the years. Well, that's not something that we accept. So, you have to stop it. That's why I was harping that it's so important never to lose two games in a row. Losing becomes a habit and that's something that we have to get out of. Not one of – myself or the staff members – have ultimately been in losing teams. And we will find a way to win. There's no doubt about that, because that's how we are. And if it means personnel changes, it's personnel changes. If it means tactical changes, it'll be tactical changes. But we will find that formula, because we didn't get to where we are as coaches, either our playing career or coaching career, accepting losing."

On how disheartening was it to see the handball at the end of the match:

Coach Friedel: "Disheartening? I think it was foolish. There's no excuse for that at all. Mark your man, head the ball away. You're a central defender. I mean, Toni [Antonio Delamea] will know that I'll say that to him. It's very cut and dry. There's nothing ambiguous about it."

On the status of Claude Dielna:

Coach Friedel: "Another player who works hard to get a spot in the 18."

New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell

On the urgency in the last 15 minutes of the first half and the start of the second half:

Farrell: "I think when we watched the opportunities they had, they had three chances. I think two were off set pieces, one was kind of run of the play, but for the most part, I thought we were the better team. I think we were a little impatient in the final third. I think we had a lot of chances, myself included. On the right side, I had a couple chances to put some balls in, but we just weren't completing that pass within the transition of the game. I think that kind of cost us at the end of the first half. The second half, we came in and we talked, we laid it out. Obviously, we gave up two goals. We thought we were the better team. Everybody has their opinion, but I thought we had the most of the ball and we were playing better, and then we came out and we showed. We just had to press the midfield guys, win the ball and get chances,



and we had a lot of chances, so it's disappointing that we didn't finish all our chances, but obviously it was a good response within the first 15 minutes of the second half."

On whether or not they changed up the formation:

Farrell: "I think it was the same. I think we just wanted Luis [Caicedo] and Wil (Wilfried Zaha) to match up—Luis, Wil and Diego [Fagundez] to match up on their three midfielders, [Borek] Dockal and [Haris] Medunjanin and [Alejandro] Bedoya. I think they did a great job at the start of the first half when they didn't give them time to turn around to play easy balls over the top. That's what they want, just playing around behind our back line. They did a great job there and just kept pressing. The guys worked hard and that's how we got that momentum going in the second half."

On conceding two or more goals in six of the last seven games:

Farrell: "I think all the goals are either set pieces or from crosses. We keep on harping it, that it's just individual mistakes and it's things that we can correct. We don't have any bad players on this team. It's things that we can correct, things that we just -- Coach [Friedel] talks about it, the little details. In this profession, you have to be tuned in for 90 minutes. Everyone is good enough that [if] you turn off one play, and you're down 2-0. So even though I thought we were the better team in the first half, I guess we'll have to look at obviously what happened and fix that. Obviously, we have to look at ourselves in the mirror first. I think I could have done a lot better in the whole game and we've just got to keep working. It's frustrating. I know you guys are frustrated, but we're equally as frustrated. It's our livelihood, so we don't like losing, especially at home in front of our fans."

On the Brad Friedel's message for the team at halftime:

Farrell: "He's good, the club staff's good at that. They just showed us the tape, the goals, stupid mistakes— turning off, not getting up, not getting the lineup. It's just things that we should know, the things that we should know and we should do. Obviously, there are some games where you don't do it and you get away with it, and then there's games like this where you're down 2-0 and it's frustrating, because like I said, I thought we were the better team. I thought we had plenty of chances to win this game by a lot, even tying it up 2-2, we had a lot more chances. It's just very frustrating."

On the team's mentality winless in six games heading into two key away games:

Farrell: "It's tough. We haven't won a game in a while and especially the games that we've either dropped points like the Galaxy game, where it should have been three points, and the Orlando game, we should have won, and this game we could have won or could have gotten points. I think that's the most frustrating thing, is that it's games that we are better and we need to be better and we should be winning and we're not. We keep on doing the same mistakes. I guess we'll see this next week at practice how we're going to figure it out and keep getting better. We still got a lot of games left, but it's getting tight now so we got to keep doing better."

New England Revolution Midfielder Kelyn Rowe

On his late corner kick that led to a Teal Bunbury scoring chance:

Rowe: "Just our guys getting into the box. I know Teal [Bunbury] likes running near post and [I] tried to hit him."

On what coach Brad Friedel said to him after not making the squad weekend:

Rowe: "He didn't need to say anything. It's about being a professional on my end. Any minutes I get, I got to make sure that I play well and make an impact. Hopefully, today I did in his mind and we'll see come next week."

On motivation this week after earning minutes late in the game:



Rowe: "I think every week you go in knowing that you have to earn your minutes throughout the week. Maybe I had a bad week or two. Hopefully, these last 19 minutes meant that I did well and I earn them next week as well."

On the recent stretch weighing on the team mentally:

Rowe: "Does it weigh on us? Maybe a little bit, but I don't think all that much. We know we're a good team, we just [have] to be confident in that and believe in ourselves. We have very good players, we are a very good team, and you'll see that in spurts. We just got to put it together for a full 90 minutes. It's never going to be an easy run. We always have some very good competition but we got to find out way to get ourselves back in the winning way and once we do that I think we'll be fine."

On going through another summer slump:

Rowe: "Every game we lose or don't win is frustrating. It's one of those things—I've been here a long time—you're going to get over these slumps. It's all about finding a way to get through it. Once we start winning, we're going to find another win and another win and it's going to accumulate. We're not too worried. We just got to keep our heads up and be confident."

On not getting on the scoresheet as much this season:

Rowe: "In past years, I've said it before, I'll play everywhere that coach wants me to, where the team wants me to. As long as I make an impact in the game, I'm happy. Obviously, the goals and the assists will come. That's part of soccer. For me, it's about making an impact. As long as I take advantage of the minutes I get, I'm happy."

New England Revolution Defender Brandon Bye

On playing left back as opposed to right back:

Bye: "It feels fine really. It's just being out there as a defender. I felt comfortable out there, not too big of a difference. Jalil [Anibaba] helps me out inside, it feels fine."

On advice he receives from Jalil Anibaba:

Bye: "He's got a lot of experience back there, playing every position on the backline. He just walks me through what to do with the ball, just basic stuff, but at the end of the day he's just keeping me confident and keeping me going."

On continuing to allow more goals off set pieces:

Bye: "[It's] frustrating, absolutely. We focus on it [during] the week, but we just weren't good enough on the night to lock them down."

On maintaining focus in key situations

Bye: "Everybody's got to be on the same page at the same time. Then they've got to win the ball. Just being a part of the backline, the back four, it's just not good enough from all of us. At the end of the day the result shows."

Philadelphia Union Head Coach Jim Curtin

On his overall thoughts on the game:

Coach Curtin: "A long week that started with a good performance in Portland, but a disappointing result. You turn around and win an Open Cup Semifinal, and the guys showed a ton of grit and heart tonight after a poor start to the second half. Overall, I thought they stuck together in the hard moments. In these Eastern Conference games down the stretch, a lot of times it isn't so much about the beautiful soccer that's played, it's more about grit and heart. You saw that tonight from both teams, really. On restarts, getting a goal — deflections that maybe go your way and go in — and then penalty kicks. So again,



typical Eastern Conference fight, a six-point type game, happy to come out on the end of it. I thought our players made the badge proud tonight. I thought it's a big win for us and a little bit of momentum now with the two results, with Chicago obviously getting ourselves into a final and now a big win against our rival in New England."

On coming back to win after New England tied the game in the second half:

Coach Curtin: "To concede and then the end of the second half was frustrating for the guys. All the things we did great in the first half, which was closing the ball down, not getting beat one v. one, being brave, making blocks went out the window in the goal that they scored a minute into the second half. It's a tough environment to play. The crowd gets going, their team gets going, so it becomes a challenge and you set yourself back a little bit. Listen, we're young and we're growing and we're maybe sometimes naïve, but I think a win like this and a resolve to get the goal can be a turning point for a young group. I'm going to be hard on Auston [Trusty]. I think he needs to make a block there and bail Andre [Blake] out, and he kind of bails out a little bit and it deflects off him and goes in and that starts kind of the downward spiral. He's been excellent, he rebounded, had a short-term memory, and played a great rest of the game. Jack Elliott stepped up for us, Ray [Raymon] Gaddis was solid again. You could go through each guy and they showed a lot of heart and fight. Sometimes it isn't about pretty soccer — and there was pretty soccer on short bursts tonight from both teams — but at the end of the day it became about rolling your sleeves up and digging deep and getting a result."

On Jack Elliott slotting into the lineup:

Coach Curtin: "It's good. You need contributions from guys that maybe aren't most likely to score at certain times of the year to maybe carry you. Jack [Elliott] getting two goals for us tonight was big. Restarts was something we knew New England struggled with in recent weeks and we really focused on it at training. Guys executed and Jack [Elliott] did a good job being in the right spot. Fafa [Picault] hits a great shot off the post as well, but we created a little numbers advantage on the short corner. That led to some advantages for us and I think we did a good job scoring on restarts and Jack was a big part of that."

On Jack Elliott's height as a weapon on set pieces:

Coach Curtin: "For the first time, we had Corey [Burke] and C.J. [Sapong] out there as well, so now you think what that does to a team. When you're going through the match ups and who's going to mark who, you have to put your top two headers on Auston [Trusty] on Corey [Burke] on C.J. [Sapong], and now Jack [Elliott] maybe gets a fourth or fifth option marking and he's 6' 5. It's an advantage because just by sheer numbers and size that we have out there, I think it created problems out there today. And a little bit of the right place and the right time as well. He did a good job continuing his run and he gets on the end of one."

On the team's upcoming match against New York City FC:

Coach Curtin: "It's funny, you don't feel the fatigue when you win. At the same time now, the guys deserve a little bit of time to recover. They deserve a little bit of a break. We'll give them a day off or two and regroup. It will be nice to have a full week to prepare for a very good New York City team. Another conference game — a great team, one of the top teams in the Eastern Conference. There are no easy games in our league anymore. It's week to week. It's going to be a fight down to the finish for the Eastern Conference, but tonight goes a long way for us and I couldn't be prouder of the players."

Philadelphia Union Forward Fafa Picault

On his thoughts on the game:

Picault: "Really happy to get the win on the road. Went down to the wire. I think everybody poured out everything, emptied our tank. Really important to get the win here. We know we have to play them again in two weeks. Now, just time to rest up. We don't have a Wednesday game, so it's great. We got a chance to rest and get ready for next week at home."



On coming back to win after New England equalized:

Picault: "We knew it wasn't going to be the prettiest game, but it was just important get three points however we can. It came in a PK at the end to break the tie. We're just happy that we can get a great group effort to get the three points. Again, now just rest up. It's been a tiring week. Get ready for the next week at home."

On his mindset taking the game-winning penalty kick:

Picault: "Just get it in. It's an away penalty, so you know the crowd is trying to get in your head. Guys are screaming which way I'm going to shoot, so I just wanted to wait until the goalie made a move and I picked my side."

On preparing for next weekend's match:

Picault: "It's crucial that we rest. The most important thing is to regroup. We played two games on turf in one week, so I think the legs are a bit heavy. Mine were definitely heavy toward the end tonight. So, it's just doing all the small things to get ready for the next game and be able to do our job at 100 percent."

Philadelphia Union Defender Jack Elliot

On getting the win and scoring his first two goals of the season:

Elliot: "I didn't think of that when I was talking before the game. Honestly, I'm delighted to score two goals and to help us win, mainly. Obviously, if we didn't win it wouldn't mean anything. Luckily, we got that third goal and Fafa [Picault] finished off the penalty nicely and we finished out the game. I'm still a little disappointed we didn't get that clean sheet, but delighted to have scored two goals."

On his mindset during set pieces:

Elliot: "The main thing is to get on the end of them, but when they go into the second phase and they don't get served in straight away, it's just staying alive and trying to find the ball when it comes back out. I did that twice and the second one was far upon the ball, which I was taught to do at a young age. Just making sure I didn't throw it over the bar from a yard out."

On staying ready to answer the call:

Elliot: "I haven't played in a little while, but I knew if I got called upon I would be able to put in the minutes and be able to put in a shift and do well. This week started off a bit rough in Portland, but it just got better and better with a [U.S. Open Cup] semifinal win and then pushing above the red line into the playoffs."

On fighting back to get third goal after giving up the lead:

Elliot: "Everyone knows two-nil is the most dangerous scoreline in football and losing it all in the first minute of the half is obviously not how you want to start. Luckily, after they scored the second one, we settled down a bit more and started to play again. We managed to get the penalty and score and finish off the game and see it out."

On the mindset heading into the team's next game against New York City FC:

Elliot: "We want to win every home game. We want to win every game, and that's what the mindset is going to be next week against New York."

On fatigue not hitting as hard after a win:

Elliot: "Yeah, I think so. Luckily, we don't have to turn around again and play on Wednesday. We have a full week to recover, anyway. The adrenaline, the high of winning brings energy around the whole place."

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