



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION MEDIA RELEASE

New England Revolution Training Report: May 23, 2018

All,

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage and [training b-roll](#) from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Saturday's away match against Vancouver Whitecaps FC (NBC Sports Boston – 5:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [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.

[New England Revolution Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)

On preparing for a stretch of six games in 18 days:

Coach Friedel: “The most important game is the Vancouver game, without a doubt. We’re going to put a team out that we think will win the three points against Vancouver, but we’ll also be cognizant of the amount of minutes that the players play, and also with the travel that we have. That’s something that we’ll discuss, but the team that we put out against Vancouver will be a team that we expect to get three points.”

On the mental toll a busy stretch like this can have on players:

Coach Friedel: “I actually think it’s far more mental than it is physical. I was used to playing three games a week – it was a normal thing. Over here, a lot of the players aren’t. In saying that, we have a lot of very fit individuals, so I think it becomes a mental thing, especially at this stage of the season. I think when you get into the latter stages of the season, a three-game week can be a little bit more grueling, but at this stage, it shouldn’t be too bad.”

On the challenge of a long-distance trip for players new to MLS:

Coach Friedel: “We’re on charter, so the comfort of the travel is not going to be an issue. We’re obviously going to have favorable times that we’re flying, so I don’t think that will be any sort of problem whatsoever. Maybe the three-hour time change for a couple of them, but again, we kick off at a time – I think half past two in Vancouver, so half past five here, so that shouldn’t be any problem at all. It’s not like you’re kicking off at half past eight, which would be half past 11. Again, I don’t see that as any issue whatsoever and in no way can it be used as an excuse.”

On bringing three of the Revolution Academy teams on the trip to Vancouver:

Coach Friedel: “I think it’s a good opportunity for them to see how the first team conducts themselves when they travel. I think it’s good for them to see how we prepare for a very important game, also how we prepare for a very important week ahead. It is that, and we want three points against Vancouver, and Atlanta, and New York Red Bulls, so it’s a big week ahead.”

On the challenges presented by Vancouver Whitecaps FC:

Coach Friedel: “They score most of their goals on quick attacks and counterattacks. I think it’s something where around 12 or 16 goals [come] in that nature. They cross, on average, the second-most balls in the box of any team, especially on the left-hand side with [Marcel] de Jong. They put about an average of 23 crosses in your box a game. Very big side, strong side, but a very direct side, so that’s what we’re expecting to come up against, and we’ll hopefully develop a plan that’ll cause them a lot of problems.”

New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury

On takeaways from last weekend's match vs. Columbus:

Bunbury: “I think there were a lot of positives. I think implementing a new formation, there’s a lot of things that we can take in terms of the style there where we’re able to kind of switch our play depending on who we’re playing. A lot of key guys stepped in and stepped up. There’s a lot of movement and a lot of different moving parts, so I think we’re pleased with the majority of that game. It wasn’t the flashiest. It wasn’t a lot of crazy chances, but defensively I think we did a lot of things really well. I think we’ll try to implement those in the games coming up, and knowing that any team you play in this league you might have to switch formations, change up your style a little bit, I think that’s good that players are able to adapt like that.”

On finding a response against Vancouver this weekend:

Bunbury: “I think what we’ve been doing all season long is following a difficult result sticking together as a team, going out there and outworking the opponent, sticking together as a unit. I think those are going to be big keys for us. We know Vancouver’s a good team and we know we’re playing on the road, but we have a talented group of guys and as long as we stick together, we’re going to be able to get three points.”

On preparing to play three games in eight days, starting on Saturday:

Bunbury: “It’s really critical. You don’t really want to think about all these games you have, but it’s a part of the job. We knew these games were coming at some point, but that’s part of it. That’s why we have a tough preseason, that’s why we have tough training sessions – to be fit, to have good endurance. I think there’s not going to be any excuses from us, because that’s just part of the game. We have a lot of depth on this team, a lot of guys who are going to be stepping up, and that’s what we’ve got to look forward to.”

On challenges posed by Vancouver:

Bunbury: “They have key guys. They’re really good defensively, they can catch you on the counter, they have a lot of fast players, they’re good getting balls in the box, so we’re just going to have to keep our eye out for that. Ultimately, we could go there and we know what we can do. For us, it’s all about winning, so we train and we play to win.”

On facing former Revolution player Kei Kamara:

Bunbury: “Kei [Kamara] is a big-time player. He’s a big body, he’s got speed, and in the box he’s lethal. When they’re whipping balls into him, he could just about get any ball there is – on the ground, in the air – so we’re just going to have to keep our eye on him. We know that he’ll be able to change the game at any moment.”

New England Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner

On takeaways from last weekend's match vs. Columbus:

Turner: “We always say losing is an opportunity to learn and improve, so I think we looked back at the film and saw we did some good things. I don’t think we were quite threatening enough in the final third. Like I said on Saturday night right after the game, [the match came down to] just a lack of concentration on a set piece. We didn’t feel like we were outplayed by any means, we just didn’t do the things that a team needs to do to win or get a point even.”

On looking ahead to Saturday's match against Vancouver:

Turner: “We know Vancouver is a good team. They’re pretty good at home and we have a familiar face [forward Kei Kamara] over there who I’m sure will be in the news. They’re going to get a lot of service

from wide areas and luckily we've got some guys who can battle in the air. We know it's a task. It's a lot of travel and we're looking forward to it. We just always look forward to getting back out there after we drop points."

On preparing to play three games in eight days:

Turner: "It's massive. Everybody knows it. Especially as games start coming thick and fast, [it's a] good thing that we're deep and have guys that can play multiple roles. So, when we're going into the [U.S.] Open Cup and going into this game – into league games – we know everyone counts and you can come out above the water or you can sink."

On challenges posed by Vancouver:

Turner: "Like I said before, they have Kei [Kamara] up top. He's really good in the air and a couple of other little players who are really dangerous, so they're going to get a lot of service in the box. We're playing away from home so that's always a challenge, but I think we're up for it."

On matching up with Kamara:

Turner: "He's going to be a pest. He's big, so he's a big presence on the field, and that's about it. He's played at a really high level in his career and he showed me some of his secrets in training over the past couple years, so hopefully he doesn't get one by me."

On the mental strain of these multi-game weeks:

Turner: "That's probably the most difficult part, is mentally just telling yourself that you're not as tired as you think you are and getting results when you need to get results in difficult places. We know we play Atlanta and Red Bull, who are two teams on top of the east. We watched their clash over the weekend and they've got some really good players. We're really gutted to have lost a game going into this stretch. We would have liked to beat Toronto, beat Columbus, and maybe have a little more leeway, but now it just puts a lot more pressure on us to get points and get positive results out of these games, which I think we'll do."

-end-

MEDIA RESOURCES

[Media Website](#) | [2018 Schedule](#) | [Roster](#) | [Photos/Video](#)
[YouTube](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [SoundCloud](#) | [Broadcast](#)
Social: NERevolution | #NERevs

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
Kevin Noonan, Communications Supervisor	(508) 549-0512	KevinN@revolutionsoccer.net
Scott Altman, Communications Coordinator	(508) 549-0533	ScottA@revolutionsoccer.net

#NERevs

NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION | ONE PATRIOT PLACE | FOXBOROUGH, MASS. 02035