



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION MEDIA RELEASE

New England Revolution Training Report: July 5, 2018

All,

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage and training b-roll from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Saturday's home match against Seattle Sounders FC (NBC Sports Boston – 7:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Juan Agudelo](#)
- [Midfielder Kelyn Rowe](#)
- [Defender Antonio Delamea](#)
- [Defender Andrew Farrell](#)

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 the team showing its character with a late game-winning goal against D.C. United:

Coach Friedel: "Even in the draws that we've had—the Chicago game, I thought we were the team that was taking the game to them. San Jose came at the end, again, we looked like the team that was most likely to win. Vancouver, we should've finished the game off comfortably, and we allowed two quick goals in succession. We have a really good character and something really good going on with this squad. We are finding ways to get results. The first half, as people know, wasn't the best performance after we scored our goal. In the second half, I thought we were again the better team creating the more chances, and it was really good to come out with the three points. Now, that game is finished and on to Seattle."

On attributing the team's play in the first half against D.C. to rust after a two-week break:

Coach Friedel: "I don't really buy into that. Some people do and I know we were playing sort of every third day for a while. I still think that the rest that we were able to give some of the players at the beginning of that break is essential going into the second half of the season. I still think having that time with your friends and family and away from the club for four or five days will bode well later in the season. The rust, I'm not sure how you can be a little bit rusty with all the games that we just played in the middle of the season. The way that we started in the first 20 minutes was our normal self. I think we just had a few mental lapses in the last 25 minutes of the first half. And then, the second half, watching it again, I was fairly pleased again. I'm always happy when the team shows character in the end of a game."

On how the first half of the season has set the team up for the rest of the season:

Coach Friedel: "I like the character that the team has, a lot. I think all the players, as always, have been applying themselves really, really well in training and they're trying to take that onto the games. I really like the fact that out of 17 games, we were in every single one of the games—with the exception of maybe Montreal away—to win the game come the 90-plus minute. I think that's really important, and that's something that's going to need to carry on to the end of the season. We hope to add a new face or two in the transfer window, but if we do, those players will be great additions to this squad, to an already really strong squad. My staff and I feel that we're in a pretty good position. We have to stay focused and

maintain a lot of hard work. I think we've shown a lot of resolve on the road. I don't mind whether we play home or away. I think we have a good enough team to win any game anywhere in this league. It's just up to us to prove it and show the consistency."

On hosting Seattle Sounders FC on Saturday:

Coach Friedel: "This Seattle team is going to be a little bit similar to D.C., where they have a lot of very, very good players. For one reason or another, they haven't had a lot of results go their way so far this season. But when they have a player like [Will] Bruin up front who will work very hard the way that he does. Clint Dempsey—I know, I used to play with him—exactly how good he can be. [Nicolas] Lodeiro is an outstanding player, [Victor] Rodriguez is a very good player, and [Osvaldo] Alonso is back fit. They have a lot of good players. I don't know if Roman Torres will be back from the World Cup. I'm sure he will. Chad Marshall in the back has been an outstanding defender in MLS over the years. Player-wise, they're very, very good, so we have to be at the top of our game. I feel if we are at the top of our game at home, then we'll be looking for the three points. But no three points are ever just handed to you. You have to work hard and earn every single point that you get."

On the small margin for error in the Eastern Conference:

Coach Friedel: "I think the Eastern Conference is going to be tight throughout. If you look at the game in hand we have, if we win that over Atlanta, we're only seven points out of first place. It's close all over the league. The consistency—I think we've shown a lot of consistency and resolve, and not allowing ourselves to lose games. I think that's really important. It's going to be no different to play the Seattle game. We're going to want to get back-to-back wins, and then we're going to want to carry that into the next game, but we have to stay focused just on the game that's in front of us. We have 17 games left and we'll have to perform in each and every one of them as they come up."

On preventing complacency from setting in:

Coach Friedel: "My staff and I won't allow complacency. If we feel that it's creeping in with individuals or collectively, we'll try to put an end to it. That's in any sport—complacency is a dangerous thing to have happen. When you have players that are complacent, no matter what the reason is, their drive and determination on the field and off the field to get better, sort of lessens. That's something we'll try to eradicate at all costs."

[New England Revolution Forward Juan Agudelo](#)

On trying to avoid complacency heading into the second half of the season:

Agudelo: "Yeah, just to understand that the second half of the season we can't let up. Teams that haven't been getting results this year are still going to give us problems if we don't put the work in, so it's a very important for us to understand that from the beginning we have to put the work in."

On last weekend's win against D.C. United:

Agudelo: "It was a huge win, especially because it was an Eastern Conference opponent. We can pick up some points with the Western conference here, but I think it was a big six points we won against D.C."

On the team's mindset heading into the second half of the season:

Agudelo: "Not too much has changed. We're trying to not change our mentality, trying to finish out the season the way we started the first half—and even better—so we'll see if we can achieve that."

On Teal Bunbury's form:

Agudelo: "It was work ethic. I think this kind of style fits him very well and he's able to get on the end of things with good quality players giving him good balls."

On facing Seattle Sounders FC on Saturday:

Agudelo: "They're a team that has a lot of quality, especially in the attacking half. A team that can keep possession and can give us problems, but I think we're fairly confident at home."

[New England Revolution Midfielder Kelyn Rowe](#)

On finding a late game-winning goal against D.C. United:

Rowe: "I think it was good that we were resilient enough to find a winner. I think we kind of outdid ourselves in the sense that we let them back in the game. That was from poor plays and unfortunately a tough PK call. I think it was very good for us to keep attacking because when I looked at the guys—when I look at Teal [Bunbury], when I looked at Diego [Fagundez], even when I looked at Claude [Dielna]—after that goal [from D.C. in the 73rd minute], it's like all right, we're going to find another one. We've got some time. Let's go do this."

On reaching the halfway mark of the season:

Rowe: "I think for us, if you look back at the games, you saw moments that were very good and you saw games that were very good. It's about taking those good [games], making them better, and finding the little things—the ties that we got—how can we find a way to get those to be wins? Especially on the road. I think we're very good at home and we struggle a little bit somewhat on the road to get that final push to get the win. I think we've done very much better than last year, but we still have a little bit going forward and we're smart enough that we know that this part of the season is a grind. I mean, it's hot out here. This part of the season is going to be a grind and we're up for it, and you're going to see that on Saturday."

On avoiding complacency:

Rowe: "If you watch these trainings, there's no complacency in here. You have to fight every week because you see the amount of changes that happen. We have a deep squad all the way throughout. You're not able to take a break. You're not able to take a game off. If you have a poor performance, you're going to find yourself on the bench. I think that's very good competition-wise throughout the week and very good for us on Saturday, because everyone is out there being their best."

On coping with the heat:

Rowe: "You fight through it. It's unfortunately New England weather, where you don't know if it's going to be raining and 90 degrees, or sunny and 90 degrees. It's going to be hot and you kind of just push through it and find a way to the ice bath that feels like a cold shower."

On playing a high press in extreme heat:

Rowe: "You always want to pick and choose when to press. If you're going alone, it's never a good time. But we try to have—like I said, we have a very deep squad, so you press until you can't, then someone else comes in and does your job for you. It's one of those that you fight through it. Like I said, we have worked hard enough and we can press for as long as we need. Yeah, there are times where we can sit back a little bit—you saw on Saturday, we sat back a little bit and just shrunk the field a little bit and caught them on the counter a couple times. We've worked hard enough where we know we can do it, and that's why we're going to be so successful come the end of the season."

[New England Revolution Defender Antonio Delamea](#)

On last weekend's win against D.C. United:

Delamea: "It was very important for us to get back on the winning track. In the break, we were doing really hard to get this good result for us. Like I said after the game, it wasn't one of our best performances, but we were still fighting out there for the result, and in the end, the football rewarded us this time and we are really happy."

On avoiding complacency entering the second half of the season:

Delamea: "We can't get complacent at this stage right now. We knew we had a lot of games at home, so we need to keep our road mentality – our winning road mentality. We just have to build on our last seven or eight games. I think we've been doing really good, and we just need to keep working hard and doing our job."

On facing Seattle Sounders FC on Saturday:

Delamea: “We know they have a really good team with really good individuals. We’ll have to step up our game from the last game, that’s for sure. Even if they don’t have good recent results, they can still surprise us here. We really have to give our best on the field, and do a much better job than we did last week.”

On shoring up mishaps from the D.C. United game:

Delamea: “We know where our bad things were. We watched a few clips from the game, so we kind of knew what we needed to improve, but I really don’t want to talk our tactics right now. This needs to stay inside the team, but I can promise to all the fans that we’re going to improve.”

[New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell](#)

On his takeaways from the win against D.C. United:

Farrell: “One of the takeaways is that any team can give you a fight in this league. Obviously, D.C. being low on the table, but they’ve still got great players and they made us pay for some of the mistakes we made. Obviously, it’s a positive that we can get a win when we don’t play at our best, so we’ve just got to keep moving on, especially against two great teams coming up, Seattle and L.A. But when we’re at home, we expect to get three points.”

On maximizing points at home with only seven home games remaining:

Farrell: “Yeah, it’s important. I think the last half of the season is a lot of away games, which are tough, but you expect to win those as well. But you want to get three points at home and coming up against two good teams—a Seattle team that plays midweek and then gets to plays us and we’re good at home—so we’re expecting to give them all that we can and hopefully get the three points.”

On the team’s form through the first half of the season:

Farrell: “I think just coming in with a new coaching staff and a lot of new faces on the team, I think we kind of talked about how we wanted to do well this year. Obviously, we’re midway through and we’re in a great spot, but we can’t be complacent and happy where we are. We want to be one of the top teams in the East, to have a home playoff game in front of our great fans, so we’ve got to keep putting the work in, getting three points, and making sure we’re taking care of business.”

On Teal Bunbury’s form:

Farrell: “He’s great. He’s got nine more goals than me this season, so that’s good. No, he’s incredible. Every year since he’s been in the league, he’s been a hard worker. Sometimes in this league you don’t get a chance, but he’s stuck with it every time and you can see how much it means to him every time he scores. You see him in training and he’s working hard, and it just feels good to have someone who works so hard to get rewarded with the great goals and great performances. He’s a vital guy to our team, on and off the field, a great leader for us, and I hope he scores 10 more.”

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