



New England Revolution Training Report: August 8, 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 the Philadelphia Union (NBC Sports Boston – 7:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Juan Agudelo](#)
- [Midfielder Scott Caldwell](#)
- [Defender Brandon Bye](#)
- [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@revolutionssoccer.net.

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

On trading Krisztián Németh to Sporting Kansas City on Monday:

Coach Friedel: "I really think it's a move that suited all parties. Krisztián [Németh] has been a very good professional. He was a little bit unfortunate in preseason when he picked up an injury early doors, and Teal [Bunbury] really solidified the number nine spot, which is probably Krisztian's best position. I know he has played on the wing for Hungary, he played on the wing for us, and he played on the wing for Sporting Kansas City at times, but I think his best position is as a number nine. We want to thank him for his professionalism while he was here, and I really hope his move goes well for him to Sporting Kansas City."

On looking to make additional moves before the transfer window closes on Wednesday:

Coach Friedel: "We've been looking at players since last November. As I said, deals are always possibilities. If we can get one over the line, then great. If we can't, then great. We have a very good squad here, as I've said many, many times. Having the international spot – whether it be for now or whether it be in January going on into the next season – that's a good thing to have. Again, I'll reiterate, I think it's good mentally that Krisztián is at a place where hopefully he gets more playing time."

On being satisfied with the team's performance but not the final results:

Coach Friedel: "Going forward, we've been creating a lot of chances. Against Orlando, we had enough chances probably to score 10 to 12 goals. Not that you're going to score 10 to 12 every game, but we did. When we watched the video back, they had six chances, three were off free kicks. That was the reality of the game. People can talk, or you can talk about possession if you want, but I'd say probably 70-80 percent of their possession was in nonconsequential areas of the field. I thought we set up our trap very nicely and created a lot of opportunities. So very pleased in that regard. Again, it's just attention to detail stuff. The players have worked very hard from day one. As you see all the time in training, we're going to try to rectify the individual errors that have been happening, but I don't think you ever see one of our teams that go out and look like a team that should be losing the game, which is great. I think – I've said it many times – there's only one game this whole season, which is the Montreal away in the second half,

where we weren't in the game to win it. There were a lot of positives to take out of the Orlando game as well, and we're very much looking forward to the Philly game."

New England Revolution Forward Juan Agudelo

On key takeaways from Saturday's draw at Orlando City:

Agudelo: "The takeaways were that I think we're a good group that mentally knows what we're capable coming out with a tie in Orlando. We know we could have come out with three points. We know how much better we can be, and it's a good thing that we can take away that."

On the match against Philadelphia:

Agudelo: "I think it's probably the biggest game of the year so far. Especially because it's a home game and teams need to win at home in the MLS, so we've got to come up with three points."

On the challenges presented by Philadelphia:

Agudelo: "Last time we played them, they caused us problems. I think they've got good wide guys that can attack our defenders so we have to be aware of that."

On supporting the Special Olympics Massachusetts Unified team after Saturday's match:

Agudelo: "I've been here three years and I'm getting to know those guys pretty well. It's an awesome thing for the club to do, and I'm definitely going to stay after the game to watch them, so I'm going to cheer them on."

New England Revolution Midfielder Scott Caldwell

On correcting the team's mistakes over the last few games:

Caldwell: "The last few games, we've have had good performances, but haven't gotten the three points and that's what's most important. So, we definitely have to come to training, fix our mistakes, and make sure we hold leads when we have them and get the win."

On the importance of maximizing points against Philadelphia:

Caldwell: "It's vital. Any time you get a chance this part of the season playing a team right by you in the standings, and also with our limited home games, we have to take advantage of it and get the three points at home."

On supporting the Special Olympics Massachusetts Unified team after Saturday's match:

Caldwell: "Any time there's an opportunity like this for us or the fans to stick around and watch [the Special Olympics Unified team], I think everyone should take advantage of it. If you don't have anything going on, please stick around and watch the Unified team, and support them."

New England Revolution Defender Brandon Bye

On looking for a win against Philadelphia this weekend:

Bye: "Obviously, we want wins, and the last few games we haven't gotten those. We're looking forward to a big game on the weekend, looking to get three points. Just keep working in practice. We're putting things in on the daily and trying to figure things out, but we're just excited for the weekend for the opportunity."

On defending set pieces:

Bye: "We're putting some things in place now and we're just locking things down and making sure we're 100 percent on the right page, all of us, all guys on the field. We're figuring it out, but we'll be ready."

On keeping an eye on the standings at this point in the season:

Bye: "We definitely look at it. You can't not look at it. That's where we are in the season. We're looking at it, but just looking at it as an opportunity to go get the three points and lock in that playoff spot."

On the differences between playing left back and right back:

Bye: “There’s not too much. I’m getting used to [Cristian] Penilla on my side. He’s a heck of a player, so I’ve just got to keep working with him, get the communication right. But there’s no big deal – defending is defending and playing is playing, so just ready for it.”

New England Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner

On using the draw for motivation going forward:

Turner: “That’s what we’ve been saying a lot this year – it could’ve been more, but we’ll take the point. Slowly, we have been climbing up the standings a little bit, so that’s been good. It just so happens that every time we feel like we get those disappointing results, we don’t really get hurt around the league. Silver linings, I guess. We could’ve really distanced ourselves in the standings, but we didn’t. Now, we go into this Saturday and look at it like a first-round playoff game. It’s huge. Philly’s two points behind us in the standings, so we know what this game means to us, especially playing them twice in three weeks.”

On working on defending set pieces:

Turner: “It’s a mentality thing more than just a set piece thing, I’d say. Once you get into the habit, the good habits, they stick with you, because it feels good to clear set pieces and it feels good to not concede goals. We’re going to work hard on that and that’s been something over the past two games we’ve conceded three goals off of, so we’re going to work on it and continue to work on it all week and hopefully Saturday we can show the fans that’s something we’ve worked on.”

On the addition of Michael Mancienne adding competition:

Turner: “Guys that feel like they’re not doing their jobs need to start doing their jobs. Not only just the new signings, but everyone else on the team that’s fighting to get into the starting 11, myself included. I’ve got to do my job better and save the balls that go into the goal. Having a guy like Michael [Mancienne], though, he’s got a lot of experience over in England and he can maybe provide some value on those types of situations.”

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