



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION MEDIA RELEASE

New England Revolution Training Report: August 15, 2018

All,

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage and training b-roll from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Sunday's away match against D.C. United (FS1 – 7:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)
- [Defender Jalil Anibaba](#)
- [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 instilling a winning mentality into the team:

Coach Friedel: “I think you have to first instill that losing isn't acceptable. I know it's a different one over here, because in all of American sports, you don't have relegation. You have that carrot when you're over in Europe – and that's a big one. You don't have a big bonus structure over here, so that's usually another big carrot. You have to try to find other ways sometimes to get that winning mentality. I do think we have a group of players that do have the character with the will not to lose and try to win games. It's just a matter of the attention to details on the match day. I do think we have that in the changing room. It's different – living many years overseas where the pressure or the repercussions of not winning are all there for everybody to see. Over here, we have to devise some other plans to make sure there are some repercussions for losing, which is a little bit different. We knew that coming in and we're working hard to try to rectify those situations.”

On Michael Mancienne joining the team this week and what he'll bring to the table:

Coach Friedel: “Michael [Mancienne] will provide leadership. He's been a captain at various clubs he's been at and he's played at the highest of levels, so he'll absolutely know what it means to win. He'll certainly know what it means to lose. So, yes, he'll add some help in that department. But like I said, we have players in the locker room, as well, who understand that. It's just about those little times in the games that we have to do a better job. We've been playing some really, really good soccer at a lot of times during the season, and a lot of times during this run. We've very rarely been the second-best team on the field, so we have to – the obvious – we have to defend set pieces better and cut out some individual mistakes.”

On the changes D.C. United has made since the teams' last meeting on June 30:

Coach Friedel: “They've added Wayne Rooney. They'll have, I assume, [Kofi] Opare fit. [Bill] Hamid will come in. They'll play the exact same way as they did when they were here. There's very, very little difference. They're a good passing team. We're a very good pressing team. We're going to create chances, no doubt, and I think it should be a goal of ours that we concede zero chances to them. That's

how we have to go into all the games, is be a lot more resolute defensively, because we will create chances. One of these games, someone's going to be on the tail end of us scoring the five or six which we've been creating enough chances to do so, so hopefully that's this weekend."

On Sunday's FS1 broadcast featuring the first all-female on-air team for a men's professional soccer match on a national sports network:

Coach Friedel: "That's very cool. I didn't realize that. I've worked with both Katie [Witham] and Danielle [Slaton] many, many times. Really, really nice people – the whole Fox family. I enjoyed my time there. It's always nice to be a part of history if you can be. I hope they have a tremendous broadcast, and like always, I hope we get the three points."

[New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury](#)

On putting together strong performances but not securing results:

Bunbury: "We've got to continue to stick together. These times are when true colors show. Great teams get through these by sticking by each other, not hearing outside noise, but kind of going to work, working hard, continuing to push each other, continuing to strive to be better, watching film and seeing where we're making the mistakes. I think through the run of play, we're doing a really good job, but it's the small details, which should be the easiest to correct. We still haven't, but that's what our mindset has to be."

On instilling a winning mentality:

Bunbury: "It's pretty tough, I think, because everyone has to have their own mindset. Obviously, you're in a team setting, and I think a lot of communication helps everybody get their mind right. Set pieces is something that we've been slacking on, so if we're communicating, if we're making sure guys are on their specific men — things like that — I think that helps, but it also comes down to reflecting on yourself, reflecting on your own game, and trying to make yourself better."

On facing a rejuvenated D.C. United team:

Bunbury: "Most definitely, especially after their spirited win the other night. They're playing at home and I feel like they've been getting good crowds. They have some good momentum going, so they're definitely going to be rejuvenated. They're definitely going to be a team that's going to be hungry and they're trying to push each and every game. We've got to go in there focused from the first whistle."

[New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)

On pushing forward through the current winless skid:

Fagundez: "We've said it from day one, we all have to stick together. I know after last game, we came in the locker room and we said that no one is going to walk through these doors and help us out. We have to make sure that we're all sticking together. It's the only way. But right now we just have to keep going, keep grinding. It's playoff mode right now, so everybody I know wants to win and wants to get there. Whatever it takes, we'll do."

On cleaning up issues with defending set pieces:

Fagundez: "We're going to work on them all week probably. We did today. We just have to get better. It's simple. [Coach Friedel] said it's the easy part of the game, and it's the truth, because when the ball stops we can prepare, know what we're doing, and put our marks up. At the end of the day, we haven't been good, so if we tighten that up, then we can definitely beat any team and win any game."

On facing D.C. United for the second time in six weeks:

Fagundez: "They added a couple of new players to the squad, so we know it's going to be a tough one. But at the end of the day, if we play our game, we know that we can win any game. We just have to make sure everybody is prepared, everybody is ready when it comes down to those set pieces and our chances, we need to finish them and make sure we're not letting them score on set pieces against us."

On sticking together through a tough stretch of the season:

Fagundez: “We stick together until the end. It doesn’t matter if we win or lose. When we win, we’re all happy. When we lose, we’re all mad. If we stay as a group and we don’t go at each other and we don’t argue and fight, you can tell this team definitely has some momentum to keep going. At the end of the day, we all need to be better – not just one player – everybody overall, including the staff and us, so we’re all united and we’re all together.”

[New England Revolution Defender Jalil Anibaba](#)

On moving forward from a tough run of results:

Anibaba: “It’s just look forward. That’s all we can do, that’s all we ever try to do is be honest with ourselves, like I’ve always said about our mistakes. Just push on and try to correct them in the games ahead.”

On instilling a winning mindset into the team:

Anibaba: “Some groups have it, some groups don’t. I think by and large our group has a very strong and very positive mentality. That’s one of the main reasons why I’m happy here. I like what everybody puts into every game. Each time games don’t go your way, it’s easy to kind of go into a shell or get super negative, but our group doesn’t tend to do that. We’re just trying to keep clawing and pushing forward.”

On the importance of reversing the current winless run:

Anibaba: “Huge, obviously. That’s what teams need at times when results may be few and far between. But like you said earlier, we’re playing good football. It’s just a matter of figuring out how to key in on the details, keep the pedal down all the way, full throttle. We need to close out games. It’s just a matter of continuing to do what we do well, but really, really paying close attention to the details.”

[New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell](#)

On moving forward from a winless run:

Farrell: “We’re coming down to the last couple games — well, not the last couple games, more like 11 games — but every game is just as important as this past one. We have to win a lot of these games, so we’re just working hard in practice, just trying to stay positive, keep everybody up, trying to get that confidence back that we had a couple months ago and just doing little things like that, focusing on the little details.”

On defending set pieces:

Farrell: “We’ve just got to be confident and know that you have to mark up, man up in the box, find your guy, and not let him score. We’ve watched the tape and five out of the six times we’re on our guys and we’re tight, and the one time where you zone out for a little bit, guys are good enough in this league to punish you for the one chance you get. We’ve just got to focus for 90 minutes and focus on every single play.”

On facing D.C. United for the second time since June 30:

Farrell: “They’ll be good. We watched the game against Orlando and they’ve got some good pieces. Adding Wayne Rooney has given them a boost and being at their home field is also another boost. They have a game tomorrow on Wednesday, so maybe they’ll be not as fresh as we will be. We’ve just got to come in and we’ve got to know we’ve got to get the three points. We’ve got to get another win away from home and get three points.”

On bonding together as a team entering the final stretch of the season:

Farrell: “I think it’s more just owning up. When you make mistakes, I think, on the field when someone’s telling you something, just don’t take it personally. We’re just trying to all win -- that’s what the business is about, it’s about winning. When we win, everybody looks good, so we’ve just got to keep that mentality going.”

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