



October 10, 2018

New England Revolution Training Report: October 10, 2018

All,

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Saturday's home match against Orlando City SC (NBC Sports Boston – 7:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)
- [Defender Brandon Bye](#)
- [Defender Jalil Anibaba](#)

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 facing Orlando this weekend:

Coach Friedel: "We put ourselves in a big hole. You never stop fighting while there are still points on the board to play for, and the only way to keep ourselves in it is by beating Orlando and hopefully we can get that three points and it puts a little bit of pressure on the other teams. It's going to be a little bit of a mountain to climb now, but like I said, you can never stop fighting or stop playing until the points aren't there to get you in the playoffs anymore."

On shuffling around the backline:

Coach Friedel: "I think the main position across the backline that's been a little bit of a worry for us in the season has been at left back. It's plain to see by the shuffling of the lineup. We've tried many players there. I think Kelyn [Rowe] provides a lot of opportunities with the ball, but we all know it's not his natural position. I've said it when I first took the job – that's not the natural position we'd have wanted him to play in. But Kelyn [Rowe], no matter what position we ask him to play, puts in an honest effort and a really good shift. Along the backline in other positions, no problem. We don't want injuries with any players, but Andrew [Farrell] is injured right now. But Brandon's [Bye] gotten a lot of playing time, so I don't see there being a big issue there and at center back, with Michael [Mancienne], Jalil [Anibaba] and Toni [Antonio Delamea], there are no problems."

On creating chances against Orlando and reflecting on the teams' last matchup:

Coach Friedel: "That was one of the performances where we definitely should've come away with three points. We could've put the game to bed in the first half, and we ended up conceding a really silly goal and coming in at halftime, 2-1. The Orlando team, they're going to attempt to pass the ball. Recent games, they've gone a little bit more direct, but we're going to try to apply pressure to them. Again, it's up to us taking our chances when we get them. I think we will get chances against Orlando, and we have to put them away. That's something we were doing in the first half of the season and it's something we've stopped doing in the second half of the season."

New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez

On the challenge of facing Orlando this weekend:

Fagundez: "It's tough, especially in the situation we're in. Miracles need to happen. For us, I think we just need to focus on ourselves. We have a home game, so we just have to go out there and make sure that we're performing. We want to make our fans happy and I know it's not the greatest moment right now, but I think with a win we can definitely get this team together and keep making sure that we can end the season well. We just have to keep going out there and do our job."

On his overall mindset in recent matches:

Fagundez: "Sometimes you come off the bench and you try to provide a spark, but sometimes it's hard to get into a game, especially when the game's already going – a high-tempo game and you're going in there to start. But I try to do my best when I go in there and try to help out the team as much as possible. If I get a chance, I do as good as I can. But sometimes it's one of those things that it's hard to get into a game."

On the competition of fighting for minutes:

Fagundez: "I think the competition is great. Especially, you see it in training. Everybody's going after each other, we're competing, and the coach is going to put [out] the team that he thinks is going to win the game. For us, I think we just need to keep working hard, keep showing him that we want to be on the field, and at the end of the day, it's his decision."

On the overall approach against Orlando:

Fagundez: "Last time we played Orlando, I thought we had a lot of chances. I know, myself, I had a couple and I didn't finish them. But I think now that they're coming here [and we're] at home, we're a much better team when we play at home. We just have to go back at them and make sure that we punish them every chance we get so the game never turns their way or in favor of them. I think with the team that we have and the players that we have, we can definitely do that."

On the importance of getting three points in front of the fans at home:

Fagundez: "We definitely owe them the win on Saturday. It's one of those things that we just have to go out there and make sure everybody gives their best, and when we have our chances to score, make sure that we're scoring goals so then they're celebrating and we're happy. We have to fight for three games and see what happens after that. Anything can happen, so we just have to do our job first."

New England Revolution Defender Brandon Bye

On facing Orlando this weekend:

Bye: "We approach it like every other week. Looking for the three points, obviously. It's a big opportunity, it's home as well. Orlando is a good team, but we'll look to get three points."

On developing a relationship with players on the right side:

Bye: "It's good so far. Obviously, we try to communicate as much as possible, and we're good throughout the game and communicate – just work things out on the fly. We work in practice, and everything is good so far."

On dealing with different pieces shuffling around on the backline:

Bye: "It's tough when guys are in and out of the backline, but obviously it's our job to shore it up as much as possible. We go throughout every game and every team has good attackers. We try to neutralize those guys and go from there."

On attacking against Orlando this weekend:

Bye: "We'll look to get our attacking players going, keep the ball as much as possible, and then obviously look to score goals and be as dangerous as we can."

On getting three points at home:

Bye: “Going into a home game, we’ll be confident. Giving [the fans] a win at home, obviously, we only have two home games left. It will be a good one.”

New England Revolution Defender Jalil Anibaba

On preparing for Orlando this weekend:

Anibaba: “Yeah, we just keep fighting, keep trying to do everything that we can to get things right and try to do our part.”

On his mentality when switching between left back and center back:

Anibaba: “Obviously, making sure that things are sharp defensively first and foremost, but then when I could, try to be able to get forward a little bit – try to help the attack a little bit. It’s somewhere I’ve played before plenty of times, so however I can help the team is where my mind is.”

On shifting around different pieces of the team:

Anibaba: “As far as everyone’s willingness to do whatever they can to help the team, I haven’t seen any problems. It’s all about everybody doing whatever they can to help, and whatever we can to try to get results. That’s all it’s about, and that’s all we’re going to do until the end of the season.”

On set piece defending:

Anibaba: “Set pieces are just part of football. I think if you’re going into games too wary about giving up fouls or having to defend set pieces, then your mind is not in the right place. I think it’s just a matter of when set pieces come, we need to be sharp and defend them well, and try to play freely and win the game. That’s all we’re trying to do.”

On getting three points in front of the fans at home this weekend:

Anibaba: “I mean, that’s always great. We love playing here. We love putting our best foot forward in front of our home fans. It doesn’t really get better than that, so hopefully we can give them what they’ve been looking for.”

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