



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION POSTGAME QUOTES

New England Revolution vs. Real Salt Lake
Saturday, May 13, 2017

New England Revolution Head Coach Jay Heaps

On the offensive production in the first half:

Coach Heaps: "It was a good first half offensively. I thought we did a really good job. We were a little bit exposed at times, so the half time talk was really about making sure that we still could be aggressive going forward. I wish we had put those two offside goals in, but we wanted to tighten things up and make sure that we weren't so exposed, while continuing to have that forward ability. But really excited about the way we started the game, the way we continued to keep going. We didn't just let one goal satisfy us. We wanted more."

On keeping a clean sheet and the defensive adjustments at the half:

Coach Heaps: "That was the most important concern. Obviously, we wanted to make sure that we did not give anything up and I thought in the second half, there wasn't much there. First half, they did some good things. They had some new players in there. I thought [Jose] Hernandez was good in there. I thought [Joao] Plata was dangerous and [Luis] Silva. So, they're really kind of playing like a false nine. They were just able to find the ball. We corrected that in the second half and I thought we were able to stop them from doing what they were doing so well in the first half."

On the key to balancing creating enough offense, while eliminating chances defensively:

Coach Heaps: "We always talk about an open game and we are good in an open game. Just like a heavyweight fight. You can see. We can go 3-3 with the Seattle [Sounders]. The problem is, we're putting a lot of stress on the back line when we do that, so the key is making sure that when we play our diamond. Obviously, the key to a diamond is for them to overload the middle and then get it wide. If we can balance it with our two shuttlers, if that's Scotty [Caldwell] and Diego [Fagundez], a little bit wider in the first half. In the second half, they tightened up and sat next to [Xavier] Kouassi a little bit more. That's what shuts it down. Now, you're layering your lines. You're not just having five guys attack and five guys defend. You're having good layers and that's when we're at our best."

On the return and the performance of Chris Tierney:

Coach Heaps: "I actually give him a lot of credit. He played really well our last home game, when he started against San Jose [Earthquakes]. Then he came in late against D.C. [United] and created some good serves, but he took an injury. So, he didn't travel with us to Seattle with a bit of a hamstring strain. I think in Columbus, we just wanted to be smart, make sure he was ready for the home games, where we have a little bit more of the ball and a little bit more areas where I think Chris is going to be dangerous. Tonight, it certainly showed. He was able to serve it. He was able to defend in the right areas. When Chris is playing well, we play well. I think that's really important for us."

On the return of Kei Kamara:

Coach Heaps: "It was really good. Obviously, being a parent myself, they're difficult times and the waiting game is no fun for anyone, especially if your wife really wants to have the baby. It was tough on us because we knew we were going into two tough places in Seattle and Columbus. Not having him with the group was tough, but having him here tonight, being able to play free and having the baby yesterday, you could see the relief a little when he came to training yesterday – even after being in the delivery room all night. I knew he was going to be ready for the chance tonight."



On the new field turf:

Coach Heaps: “I think it's still settling in, but yeah, it plays really well. It's new turf and we've had a couple new surfaces out there in my tenure. Right now, you're still feeling it out, but you can tell plays. It's good for good football. Not American football. Our football. It's going to roll nice. Now, it just needs to kind of even itself out. It always takes a couple weeks to a month to really play out its best. We're excited about it because I think last year's surface definitely, at the end there, had too much sand in it. The new surface this week was playing really well.”

On what the offense can take away from this performance:

Coach Heaps: “That was one thing I was really excited about. You know how when you talk about basketball, you talk about assists. The goals were okay, good finishes, but the plays to make the goal was what I was really excited about. I thought guys were really dynamic in the first pass and the second pass that opened up the goal. I still want to go back and look at it on film, but live, it felt like really good passing. I thought Lee's [Nguyen] to Kelyn [Rowe], that played Diego [Fagundez] for the goal. And even Scotty's [Caldwell] on the first one, making a good run across and Diego played a great ball. Kei [Kamara] played Lee perfectly. Good timed runs. And the other one was a great service. Everything, when you look about assists, you think about playmaking. You think about the ball that's delivered. That's good football, when that final ball is good, we can finish it.”

On what it does for the team when a guy like Scott Caldwell scores:

Coach Heaps: “Yeah, go back and watch the film when he scores and watch everyone get a little bit more excited when he scores. You can look at the entire bench. You can look at the field. We love him. I'm going to say it this way. I have a daughter and if she meets a guy like Scott [Caldwell], I'll be thrilled. That's probably too honest right now, but that's how I feel about Scotty. He's that kind of guy. He's as honest as they come as a person, but also on the field. He won't quit and that's what we love about him.”

New England Revolution Forward Kei Kamara

On being back on the field after missing the last two weeks:

Kamara: “It was good. It was good, definitely. I've missed it. I've missed the couple games on the road and I wanted to be back in there, be part of the team, and really help the team to what we want to do to win. Today, to be back in there, that was the mindset and I'm just happy we came out with a great win like that. And not just a win with one goal, but a win with that many goals. It really, you know, cheered the fans up.”

On what the last few days have been like sleep-wise for him:

Kamara: “I don't know if you can see my eyes right now, but who sleeps these days? No one does. They told me that after a couple or after one, then two, forget sleep, but hey, I'm a vampire. That's good.”

On how well the offense was operating:

Kamara: “The offense on this team is good. It's not one guy that can score goals. Obviously, it showed again tonight. A lot of guys can put balls in the back of the net, but it's again, we got to work together to help the guys behind us and keep going back behind us – behind us from the midfield to the defenders and all that. So, offense is never a problem, you know? But you can see, everybody can score goals, but we got to work defensively.”

On his celebration after his goal:

Kamara: “You didn't expect me to put the ball under my shirt? It's the international baby rock. You cannot not do it. You know, I think when the baby grows up, it'll be mad at you saying, you know? My dad played soccer and I don't think they had videos back then, but if they did, I hope he did one for me.”



On adjusting to his role on the team now versus earlier in the season:

Kamara: “It’s still coming along. It’s still coming along. Again, it’s all about everybody together. It’s not about one guy on this team, which is good, and there’s no pressure saying, ‘You must score, you must do this.’ Having players like Juan [Agudelo], being up top with him, or being up top with Lee [Nguyen], and again, just everybody around me. For me, I’m working in and outside of the locker room just really trying to establish myself because I’m really not just a player that just goes on the field and that’s what’s it all about. You know, I connect with the fans. I like if I’m feeling good and feeling at home and really making myself family on and off the field, then I’m at my best.”

On the timeline of the last few days:

Kamara: “It’s been fun, it’s been fun. Again, I don’t want it to be just about my last few days and me having the little one, but it’s been fun. I’m just happy to be back on the field, really, just to help the team and coming back on the field and having three points, again, that’s the best thing you could wish for.”

On what the offense can take away from the performance:

Kamara: “Continue again, we can score goals. That’s not a problem. We can connect, we can link with each other, we can score goals. But then again, we did well tonight not letting Salt Lake get anything on the board and it started with us up front. We were working together collectively and that helped the guys behind us.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Scott Caldwell

On what it was like to get on the end of a cross and score a goal:

Caldwell: “It felt good, especially early on in the game. You know, we wanted to get an early start, and we did that in the first half.”

On whether or not he thought it would be him putting the team ahead early in the match:

Caldwell: “No, actually, a couple guys had said—trying to get me to go forward a bit, score, get chances, so that helped I think. In the back of my mind, it pushed me forward a little bit more.”

On what it was like to get 3 points tonight:

Caldwell: “It’s huge, especially with so many games at home, to kind of get our confidence back at home and really ride it from there. We have another big one next week.”

On what he was seeing as far as the attacking chemistry in the first half:

Caldwell: “The guys up top were moving and making great runs and really connecting all their passes, and it was fun to watch as the half wore on. You know, the second half, I think we did a good job at times as well. A couple goals offside, but I think the fluidity and the movement of the guys up top was really good tonight.”

New England Revolution Defender Chris Tierney

On how they were able to create so many chances:

Tierney: “It was just mentality tonight. Team spirit. You know, it’s one of those games that we always talk about after the run we’ve had. I actually think we’ve been playing okay but haven’t been getting any results, so when you come home and play a Western Conference team who’s resting a bunch of players, there’s no other option besides to pound them – and that’s what we did.”

On what he can say about the team now a third of the way through the season:

Tierney: “We are improving, which is a good thing, but we have to continue to get better. Even in a 4-0 game today, I thought in the second half, none of us played as well as we would have liked. There’s a lot



to improve upon, but the good news is we got a lot of home games coming up. We got games against in-conference teams, so a lot of chances to move up the standings, which is what we want to do.”

On what kind of boost it gave the team that the early goal was from Scott Caldwell:

Tierney: “Yeah, definitely. I mean, I think it was, what? The fourth minute? But yeah, you see what the guys think of Scott [Caldwell]. You can kind of have that collective feeling. All of us were pumped for Scotty. He’s really a guy who’s the soul of this team and we all really appreciate what he does, as unheralded as he is sometimes. So, it was great to see him getting on the score sheet.”

On how important it was to keep a clean sheet through the second half:

Tierney: “I think at half time, what we talked about most was making sure we kept it at zero. We wanted to come out in the second half like the score was 0-0 and we were going to get a shutout no matter what. If we scored more goals, great, but our main priority was to make sure we didn’t concede any, so that was a success.”

Real Salt Lake Coach Mike Petke

On missing several players for today’s game:

Mike Petke: “I mean it’s obvious that we’re missing a lot of players. Everybody knows that. It’s not something that has to be pointed out. But having said that, I’ve said it all along: we’re a team comprised of 20-something professional players, you know? They’re all professional athletes. So in somebody’s absence, other people have to step up. I was very happy with the work rate tonight, a lot of good combination play centrally going forward but couldn’t find the last, you know, the last pass or the effort to get the lone goal. On the other side it seems that, you know, every time they came down they either scored or almost scored so that’s a problem.”

On what he learned about his own players tonight:

Mike Petke: “I learned they have quality, a lot of quality, perhaps the pace of the game at times was a little too fast for them and you could see that they’re young players. They’re young players that hopefully have a future. But right now, it was tough on them.”

On the team’s chances to score during the game:

Mike Petke: “Yeah, I mean listen, you said it perfectly right there. I thought that even from the first five minutes we were down in their penalty spot, the combination play was good, the transition was good, and then they get one opportunity and it goes in, and then they get another opportunity and it goes in, and it’s things that we’ve worked on all week. And this is not pointing fingers to my players. The point is, is that we knew, we prepared for what happened tonight and whether it’s they had more quality on the night, which they did, or we just let our guard down a little bit. But, we worked on these exact scenarios all week.”

On Savarino’s debut with Real Salt Lake tonight:

Mike Petke: “Well, I mean we wanted to get him in. I mean his last game he played was about seven days ago, so he’s in shape. So I thought it was important to get him in and I didn’t see an opportunity, no matter how the game was going that we wouldn’t get him in. If we were up, we would get him in because you know we’re winning and he’s going to bring quality. If we’re down, we really have nothing to lose. So it was important to get him in there and I thought he showed a bit of his quality, you know? And I think for any player coming over from a different country, it’s a big adjustment period and I thought this was a very positive step just in the 30 minutes he was in there.”

On putting tonight’s match behind them before a two-match week:

Mike Petke: “There was a conversation in the locker room, you know we bobbed around exactly that, is that you know we have to put this behind us. You know it’s painful, drown your sorrows tonight in a beer



or whatever you're going to do, and come tomorrow we have to look for Wednesday. That's it. Look for Wednesday and not hang our heads, you know? Don't throw the towel in, this is, we have a heck of a lot more of the season to go."

Real Salt Lake Defender Aaron Maund

On the answer to performing better:

Maund: "It's going to be us coming together and really putting it all out there on Wednesday. Taking it a game at a time. We've got to get back to the basics and do the little things right."

On the team's energy:

Maund: "Of course, I mean, we still have the energy. No one in this locker room quit tonight and I think that kind of goes to show the group we have because we could have. The energy is still there, the desire is still there, it's just us getting those little things right."

On how to regroup moving forward:

Maund: "We're going to have a short week of training obviously, but in this league, it's all about putting either a win or a loss behind you and moving on to the next one. This is no different and we're going to put it behind us and we're going to keep moving."

On playing shorthanded and against an in-form Revolution team:

Maund: "All credit to them. They played really well. Injuries aren't really an excuse anymore because we have plenty of capable guys in there, so hats off to the Revs. They came and played really well tonight."

On the Revolution playing well from the start:

Maund: "I think that score line was harsh. I thought that we had some good moments in there and we had some good run of play at times and we've just got to find a way to put it all together."

Real Salt Lake Defender Chris Wingert

On the Revolution scoring the first goal early in the game:

Wingert: "Try to stay positive and try to keep pushing. I thought the offense did some good things, they were combining, the guys up top, and we just weren't tight enough in the back. We weren't sharp enough in the back to start the game. We gave up a couple early ones and then we're chasing it again. It's not a recipe for success."

On falling behind by multiple goals early:

Wingert: "It's clearly not the game plan. It's not what we're trying to do, but unfortunately, it's been a recipe for disaster for the last few weeks, but there are no secrets, at least not that I know of. The only way to pull ourselves out of this hole is by working hard. We've got to take care of our bodies now, quick turnaround, no time to put our heads down and sulk. Another tough one Wednesday at home against New York. Hopefully, everybody that played tonight has got to do their best to take care of their body and get ready for a quick turnaround. We'll come back out and give it our all on Wednesday."

On the absence of the team's injured players:

Wingert: "It's not ideal, but as an individual, that stuff is out of our control and as a player you shouldn't be concerned with the lineup. You're not making the lineup, you just have to get yourself ready as best you possibly can when your number is called on and to be ready for that next game. It's not an easy job for this staff, but they'll do the juggling of the guys. We have confidence in all our guys. Again, as a player you can't get caught up in, 'Oh, we have all these injuries. Who's going to start. We have a quick turnaround.' That's all stuff that is out of our control. Right now, we just need to control what we can and that's as a player taking care of your body and getting ready for the next game and hopefully, we'll get



some guys healthy as we get into this stretch. I think we have six games in like three weeks, but it's a chance [for] us to pick up some really important points. We didn't do that tonight, which is a bummer, so yeah, be frustrated for an hour or two and then get back after it in terms of taking care of your body. Get home and we'll be getting ready for Wednesday."

On some of the players having their first appearances for the club tonight:

Wingert: "I think true character comes out of adversity and we're clearly going through a rough patch right now, so it's not ideal. I feel for those guys a little bit, you want to be a part of a winning team and have good spirits about you when you're getting your first game or two. It's a shame, but at the same time, it's exciting for them to get involved and we have a lot of really good young players in this organization, we've had for a few years now, and so it's exciting for them and good experience. Unfortunately, it didn't come out the desired result, but we're going to need them all the way through and I think they're learning that right away. We're going to need to count on each and every guy on the roster and make sure they're ready when called upon so we can turn this thing around."

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