



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION POSTGAME QUOTES

New England Revolution vs. New York Red Bulls

Wednesday, July 5, 2017

New England Revolution Head Coach Jay Heaps

On what he said to the players following the game:

Coach Heaps: “[We] got to be better in bigger moments. I mean, we gave up a goal right at the end of the game. We gave up a goal on a silly challenge for a penalty kick and gave up a goal two minutes after we scored. So, just moments of the game and it comes right down to being in the moment and being able to know how to make plays in the big moments.”

On the penalty kick call and whether he feels it was a turning point:

Coach Heaps: “Yeah. I do. I don’t think it was the wrong PK call. I think it was a silly challenge.”

On the energy level of the second half and attempting to contain the Red Bulls:

Coach Heaps: “I thought we had some. Scott Caldwell almost had a chance. I thought Teal [Bunbury] had a couple chances and I thought we had more clear-cut chances other than what they had going with the goal. If we had been a little bit better, I thought we’d be talking about a different result right now, but we weren’t. The moments that we need to be good, we weren’t. And the moments they needed to be good, they were.”

On Diego Fagundez and his importance to the team going forward:

Coach Heaps: “He’s critical. He’s been awesome for us. Basically, [he] single handedly created the goal in the first half and I thought he played really well. But I think we got to get more guys playing with that kind of passion and energy right now.”

On the long break forthcoming and how to get the team going in the right direction:

Coach Heaps: “Hopefully, it’s a lot of self-reflection and a look in the mirror because it’s a couple days off here and then back into it for an Open Cup game against the same team and some big games coming up at home and we don’t have many more. We have zero margin for error so we got to be locked in and loaded and get back into it.”

On whether or not the Revolution expect to be active in the upcoming transfer window:

Coach Heaps: “The transfer window? Yeah. We’ve scoured and we’ve got to fill in and continue to try and find the right players that are going to fit for us and spend a lot of time doing it.”

On finding options off the bench late in the game with a few pieces not available:

Coach Heaps: “No excuses. I think that we knew they’d be gone. I think it really hurts as well, with [Xavier] Kouassi not being in there. From a personality stand point, he brings so much to our group. So, that one hurts us right now. Then, [not] seeing Je-Vaughn [Watson] tonight was a big miss as well. So, some big players, but we had enough for the game where we probably have to be better. Not ‘we should’ve’, ‘could’ve’, ‘would’ve’. We have to be better. If we want to perform and try to be competitive in this league, we need to do better in those big moments that I spoke of.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez

On processing the second half and the way the game slipped away:

Fagundez: “I don’t even know. It’s still in my head right now and the way we were playing in the first half and suddenly something changed in the second half. It wasn’t the same team that stepped on in the first



half. So, we have to do better and we keep saying we need to do better, but we're not showing it on the field yet and I think that's where we're struggling right now, including myself. I think I need to find more of the ball when I can, but right now this is when big teams step it up, so it's a quick turnaround now and we all have to think of what to do to get better."

On the positives of the team performance and his performance:

Fagundez: "We scored goals at home, but we got unlucky with a PK, another PK they call against us. Nothing we can do about that, but we just have to keep trying to keep going and try to score. We're at home, we need to win, and this is not what we want."

On digging a hole last season and avoiding doing the same during crunch time this season:

Fagundez: "We never want to be in that down go on the rollercoaster, where we're all going down. That's one thing we said before the game: we're not losing two in a row. We fought, we did everything we could, and it just wasn't enough. It's like a punch in the mouth when someone scores in the 90th minute to win the game for them."

On what changed in the second half:

Fagundez: "I think we were playing differently and when you got a team that you keep pouncing on their box and trying to get chances, we need to bury one of those, and we couldn't bury it, the third one. If we buried the third one, the game would've opened up and it would've been a different game. Right now, we just have to keep thinking of what to do to get better and hopefully next Thursday when we play them again, we need to punch them in the mouth again."

New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury

On how it felt to get into the game and have some positive moments:

Bunbury: "It feels good. Obviously, you train to want to have opportunities in playing games to contribute, whatever that might be. Just frustrating with the loss. I feel like we put up a good fight. New York's a good team, but I felt like we played well, but we've got to start feeling a little bit more pressure. We've got to work harder in training. We've got to be a little bit more competitive. We have to be a little bit more aggressive, and just – it comes down to winning."

On how the game unraveled in the second half:

Bunbury: "You could pick a bunch of things throughout the game, but it's something we've got to try to continue to stick together. We can't put our heads down. It's frustrating now, but we've got to keep looking forward. We have a little time, a little break now, and then we have an Open Cup game [next Thursday], so we look forward to that match."

On what the team's thoughts will be over the next few days as they prepare for the U.S. Open Cup:

Bunbury: "I think everyone's kind of got to look in the mirror, figure out what they want for themselves, for the team. Everyone's competitive on this team, that's the thing. In training, I see it every day. I think we just have to bring that out in the games, and it comes down to just wanting it, wanting to win, whatever it takes to win. It doesn't need to be the most beautiful soccer, but you've just got to find wins."

On capitalizing on big moments and scoring opportunities in games:

Bunbury: "I think we just continue to train together and just be alert. Be aware. Just be competitive. Have that heart, have that desire. I know it might be cliché to say, but that's what you need – especially in this league. And when you get in these tough situations when you're not stringing together some wins, you just need to stick together as a team."



On if New York's tactical changes in the second half caught the team off guard:

Bunbury: “No, I don't think it threw us off. Like I said, they're a good team. I think that, obviously, they were putting a little bit of pressure on us, but I feel like we dealt with it well. We have to be able to deal with that. We're at home and we have to do a better job. Simple as that.”

On the team's back being up against the wall after its recent run of results:

Bunbury: “It's midway through the season. We've been in positions like this before, so we have to continue to stay positive. We can't give up now, so we'll just continue to work hard.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Lee Nguyen

On not getting a result in tonight's match:

Nguyen: “It stings. It's like a dagger to the heart. We're pushing, we're pushing, and that's one of the things — you risk a lot to go forward, you're going to leave spots in the back, and they punished us for that.”

On his role as captain and trying to motivate the team:

Nguyen: “Yeah, we got to galvanize the team. Myself, we got to pick everybody up. This is a spot — we've been here before. Obviously, this hurts because that was a big push right there. We could have tried to get back in a playoff hunt. We're making it a lot tougher for ourselves right now, but this is no situation we haven't been in before, '14, last year. We know how important these last — especially this home stretch of games [are]. This next home game, if we can get a win that puts us back to where we need to be in terms of mentality, knowing that we can still make that push.”

On going into a four-day break before next week's U.S. Open Cup match:

Nguyen: “Yeah, obviously we would have loved this win going into the break, but this one's going to be stuck in our heads for a little bit longer than we want. So, hopefully after this break, we're going to be more hungry to get back after it because we got to get this taste out of mouth. It's not a place where we want to be right now.”

On dropping points at home:

Nguyen: “This is the second loss at home. We're not used to this, so it hurts, but at the same time we know we haven't been getting results away. We have zero wins away, so that's where we got to make up the points more than ever. We got, what, 16 games left? That's enough games to make it up. Like I said, we've been here before. We know what it takes. It's going to take stringing a couple of wins together and going on a streak.”

On the turning point in tonight's match:

Nguyen: “That PK hurt us, really. For the most part, we were comfortable. We were 2-1 into the half and then going into the second half we were comfortable. Even after that PK, I thought we were fine. They had us in the back for a little bit – that play going into that PK. That one kind of took the sails out. This is a game that we must win, so we were going after it. Like I said, when we push many guys up, we're going to leave spots open in the back.”

On Diego Fagundez's recent run of form:

Nguyen: “He's doing well and that's what we need from him. We need it from everyone. He's putting in a great individual performance and he's going to need to continue to do that if we're going to have a chance going forward.”



New York Red Bulls Head Coach Jesse Marsch

On fighting back in the second half:

Coach Marsch: "It's been an incredibly tough place [to play]. I mean, I could go back to my playing career and talk about how this has been a tough place to play. So, it's a big accomplishment for us. It's a credit to New England, because even with their quick turnaround, we know that it's a team full of fighters, it's a team that competes at the highest level here. They've got so many crafty, clever players that are difficult to deal with. I mean, the game could have gone either way at the end, it was in the balance for sure and we were able to make a play at the end of the game and hang on. So, you know we're real happy with the performance, but we know that New England is a good team and then listen, we have to turn around and play them again in the Open Cup on Thursday, so we have to find a way to be ready for that match as well."

On the team's morale heading into the playoff push:

Coach Marsch: "I try to emphasize sticking to who we are in the process that we create, knowing that if the results come, that the table starts to take care of itself. Now of course, we're all human, so even last night when we're all watching games, a lot of big wins for teams in the East. But I think what is key for us is to not worry about the table and just focus on what we're doing."

On Gonzalo Veron's game-winning goal:

Coach Marsch: "It says a lot that we put him in that game at the end, because we still feel like he's a guy that can make plays. He's an important guy. For him personally, I know he cares about this team so much. For him to make a big play, I think he's in a good way. A proud moment for him, a big moment for our team and obviously, a huge goal."

On claiming the franchise record for regular season wins:

Coach Marsch: "More than anything, I want to take the opportunity to thank the club. The belief that people in this club have had for me and the support I've had, you know, has been incredible. Never as a player or a coach [have I] been anywhere where I've been supported so much. It starts with the leadership of [Red Bull GmbH Global Head of Soccer] Oliver Mintzlaff, with our connections to Europe, but also [General Manager] Marc de Grandpre, [Sporting Director] Denis Hamlett, all the way down. The leadership team in the front office, all the people in this club have just set me up for success and set us up for success by the support that they've given me. I'm very thankful to be the head coach of the New York Red Bulls."

On the play of Diego Fagundez:

Coach Marsch: "He's dangerous and we knew that. They missed him in Philadelphia. He wrong-foots guys all the time. He's clever and sharp with the way he moves. He's always given us trouble and has a good way of unbalancing us. We'll look at some video, we'll keep thinking – one of the reasons why we even changed was to try and take care of the wings a little bit more and support things so that guys like him weren't just running free and slipping by guys. Between him and Lee Nguyen, they are very difficult to deal with."

On the conversation at halftime:

Coach Marsch: "At halftime, we just talked about what kind of game it was going to be. We spoke about it before the game, because we know New England – they're fighters. We looked at how many goals they score in the first half versus the second. They get a lot of leads. So, we said we needed to be up for it, needed to be up for a fast start. We weren't. We flat out weren't. Then, we changed the formation and we got hold of things a little bit, but it wasn't until the second half that you saw our team play with more confidence, more grit. In some ways, a draw would have been a fair result, but to make the final play at the end is obviously very big for our group right now. Yeah, feels like a big moment, just because coming to New England is never easy."



New York Red Bulls Midfielder Sacha Kljestan

On if the team adjusted to a different formation in the second half:

Kljestan: “I think so. I think we found ourselves able to be better defensively. I think it allowed us to push out to their outside backs a little more, push out to their wingers. Try to create a little more difficulty for them on the ball. In the end, New England pushed us really hard and for them to come out and be as good as they were after playing a game only a few days ago, a big credit to them. I think, in the end, we were just a little bit more fit. In the end, we were lucky we didn't play a game on the weekend so we got a goal in the end and nicked it away.”

On Gonzalo Veron scoring the winning goal after a season of ups and downs:

Kljestan: “If you look at just his statistics based on minutes played, they're pretty good. He scored some big goals for us now – last year in LA he scored a big one for us. We all know he's a good player. He needs to find his way to adapt to the way that we play and I always hope he finds more chances to play because we know he's very talented. He's finding his way.”

On this away win giving the team a leg up on the rest of the season:

Kljestan: “I hope so. We've seen the standings and we're still down there and we have a lot of ground to make up. We got a lot of games against Eastern teams coming up, so these games are always going to be important to the playoff race. I still think New England will be in the thick of it challenging for a playoff spot. I think they're a pretty good team. Always tough for us to play here so big for us to get a win here because it's been a while since we've got a win here.”

New York Red Bulls Goalkeeper Luis Robles

On being able to overcome a deficit to win:

Robles: “I think after we look at the second half and you see just the mentality that we brought to the second half, we have to question ourselves, 'why can't we do that for 90 minutes?' especially on the road. But with that being said the last two road games, we've gotten six points which is huge step in the right direction and even though we started a bit flat, for us to come back, especially in a tough place like New England and get the three points is a huge mental boost for our team.”

On Gonzalo Verón scoring the game-winning goal:

Robles: “I think that's why the emotions were so high, because we know he's been battling the ups and downs of making that transition. Look, we believe in the guy. We know that he's capable of changing the game, what he was able to do tonight and for us at least of what we see in practice, he should be able to do that each and every game he comes into. And then of course just for us to come to New England, who for the last few years who have been very heated, they're a good team, they're well coached, and I have a lot of respect for those guys, but the respect sort of ends when the whistle starts, and I felt we gave them too much respect in the first half, but to come out with the response that we did in the second half was huge.”

On if the win means more due to the current Eastern Conference standings:

Robles: “I try not to look at the standings, but on the way to the stadium today, someone showed me the East and I was thinking 'Wow, we need to get a result tonight.' So for us to get three points and to keep them at bay like you said with the six points, it was massive and we know going to the second half that every single game is going to be a dog fight and that's why we need to be able to do this for 90 minutes.”

On if switching formations during the game helped in the victory:

Robles: “I think two things helped us, switching to five in the back, and then putting Felipe on Lee [Nguyen], Lee's a very talented player, he's one of the most creative midfielders in this league, but to



have someone man mark him, I don't care who you are, it makes your life a little more difficult. And then of course we were limiting their service, they have some big boys that can get on the end of crosses and by even making them think twice about getting the cross in helped mitigate their danger."

On containing Diego Fagundez:

Robles: "Diego is an important player for this team and he's had a great season, so we knew especially with him not playing on the weekend, that he was going to come with a lot of energy and he showed it in the first half. But, in the second half we were able to help neutralize some of his ability and even with that being said, it wasn't just him that was dangerous. Lee Nguyen of course is dangerous, Kei Kamara is a handful, and then Teal [Bunbury] was killing us on the weak side, but the guys really stepped it up, especially in the second half and we were able to find ways to neutralize not only Diego, but the other guys as well."

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