



## NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION POSTGAME QUOTES

New England Revolution vs. Orlando City SC  
Saturday, September 2, 2017

### New England Revolution Head Coach Jay Heaps

#### ***On what went right tonight:***

**Heaps:** “Just the way we went about it. I thought we had a good week of training. I know I’ve said that before, but it really was. It was a good week after a disappointing performance on the road. I thought we came in and really had some good dialogue. The players stepped up tonight. This is a good win, an important win, and a must needed win.”

#### ***On the return of Chris Tierney and his captaincy tonight:***

**Heaps:** “With Chris [Tierney], I think that we’re trying to find the right matchups and where we think he’s going to be the most dangerous to help us be an offensive weapon for us sometimes when he’s playing and trying to find the right matchups for him. Tonight was, I thought, just a tailor made game for him coming in. In terms of captains, I think we’ve discussed this before. It’s just a matter of, for me, I like having a shared load. I like when we have more voices. We’re in a tough time right now. One voice isn’t enough in the locker room. And you have Lee [Nguyen] and Chris [Tierney] and Scotty [Caldwell] and [Xavier] Kouassi. You just have a couple different guys that can really pull the group together and that’s why I like moving that around a little bit, just to keep everyone having that ability to have that voice.”

#### ***On the message coming into the match tonight after a tough result against D.C. United last week:***

**Heaps:** “I thought we were good defensively in D.C. So we wanted to build on that, but offensively we just didn’t have any flow. We adjusted formations at different times, but I thought we got back to a really dynamic attack with putting Juan [Agudelo] in a little bit different position, next to Lee [Nguyen] in kind of that diamond midfield. It really opened the field up for Kei [Kamara] and Teal [Bunbury]. So, a lot of talk went into that this week, was really trying to find space and trying to create chances for each other. And I thought that’s what we did tonight. I thought we created a lot of chances. Even having the goal taken back, it was offside, but we felt like we were dangerous tonight.”

#### ***On how much the offense benefits from Lee Nguyen being back in the lineup:***

**Heaps:** “Yeah, I mean, he’s a key piece for us, all the time. It’s unfortunate when a player gets injured and you want players to step up, but obviously Lee’s a quality piece for us every time he steps on the field for us. Tonight, he gets four assists. I could tell this weekend, the way he trained this week, that he was going to have a big night.”

#### ***On all the moving parts and how Kei Kamara has benefited from the changes:***

**Heaps:** “Exactly. I think that’s the best way of saying it. I think sometimes when he’s alone up there they can have two guys around him. But tonight, we seemed to have him in a good position where he was free, or at least 1v1s. When he’s in a little bit of space, he can finish. I think that’s clear. Tonight, I didn’t realize was his first hat trick and I’m happy for him because he’s put in a really good shift the last couple of weeks, probably about a month and a half now. He’s been really solid. He and Teal [Bunbury] are really working well together and I’m happy that both of them were rewarded with goals tonight.”

#### ***On how the Video Review decision to reverse Lee Nguyen's goal at 43' changed the game:***

**Heaps:** “Obviously, I’m a fan of VAR [video assistant referee]. I’ve said it. I believe that I would rather lose on the right call than win on the wrong call. But it’s a gut punch. I didn’t realize when they actually take away a goal that was that long and we celebrated and we got back to position. Then it was a really quick, oh, goal didn’t count, and we’re on to the next play. So, there’s not a lot of time to digest that. Those are tough moments. It’s an added element of being able to deal with the ups and downs of a game and there



are a lot of them in every game. But this one, it's the first time it happened to us. Heck, I would've liked it to have been maybe when D.C. [United] scored last week. It gives you a charge when they take one off you defensively giving up a goal. I thought our guys rallied. I think getting in at halftime and having a moment to be able to talk about it and get ourselves ready. Say hey, look we're back in this. We had a really good talk at halftime. Guys were really engaged. So, when we came out second half, I had a good feeling that we were going to secure the game. I thought the substitution of [Xavier] Kouassi going into the game, obviously, he was in the mix to start, took a pretty good knock last week, but was ready to go. So, it was a tough call not starting him, but man, he brought so much to that game. For me, he went in, we changed formations and he closed out that game. What a difference maker when he goes in."

***On how Claude Dielna has impacted the team since arriving:***

**Heaps:** "Claude has been ultra-professional since he got here. Just ready to go, but he's locked in. It's one of the first times I've seen a player be able to come in and just understand the situation, understand how important every game in. And he doesn't want to get his feet wet. He wants to get right into the fire. Usually, guys want to take their time, get adjusted. He's like, get me in there and I can figure this out and I think he's done that really well. He's a guy that, we're talking film, very studious, wants to know about opposing teams. We show him tons of film. He digests it, takes it in and goes and helps us with our game plan. Someone that we just think is a really good communicator on that back line, but also a presence and a leader back there."

**New England Revolution Forward Kei Kamara**

***On scoring his first career hat trick:***

**Kamara:** "I'm 33. I think it just came at the right time. You know, lucky threes, you've got to be at that age before you get that. It's a relief as a striker. It was just one of those days, though. I just felt good from warm up. Not just me, I was scoring from the warm up, but the guys were [too]. Every ball was going in the back of the net and I was like, 'Wow it just feels like a special day today.' Seriously, when the game started, it may have been after the first, I just had that feeling that we've got to just keep pushing. It doesn't matter what happened – we've got to keep going."

***On what was going through his head as he neared the hat trick:***

**Kamara:** "Like I said, today started at warm up, but not just that, throughout the week. It's been tough for us getting results and knowing the fact that this is a place where we definitely get results and we have to make sure that that happens. Orlando is a good team, but we know if we play our game – which, again, is a dangerous, attacking style game – and if we do that, the more goals we score obviously we're going to score more than them and we can definitely get wins from that."

***On having Lee Nguyen back from injury:***

**Kamara:** "It's good. Lee [Nguyen] is, he's one of the play makers with this team, he gets stuff going and it was good. Obviously, the goal he scored tonight, VAR had to fight him on that so, unlucky. But again, it's everyone. You saw Nemo [Krisztian Nemeth] came on and what a great ball to Teal [Bunbury] and that just again shows over and over again what I've been saying, that this team has such a strong attacking threat. It's really hard to stop it."

***On if he prefers the starting lineup the team played with tonight:***

**Kamara:** "I can't say that's what's best for me personally, but it's good. It's good and it's bad because we're all attackers. We want to go forward and that could be really bad for the team when we have turnovers. That was one of the things that coach said earlier. We can't be attacking with so many numbers because when we start going forward, everyone wants to go forward because everyone wants to score. So, we have to have the balance to do that and to, again, we have to have to try and balance that so we can help the team when we do lose the ball, because if we just keep going forward it's going to be difficult."



***On getting some motivation from the home fans on the third goal:***

**Kamara:** “You just have a feeling it’s coming. You score that and you just have a feeling that it’s going to happen and it’s a great honor, seriously. I’m not going to lie, I’ve played this game for awhile and to really be in that moment today, to get a hat trick there, scores those goals, it’s really special. I’m honored for my teammates. I told Scotty [Caldwell] that, definitely, he started it off. It’s a special day, seriously. It’s a great team win, but I’m going to say it’s one of those days I’ll never forget for the rest of my life.”

***On his second goal celebration on the field board:***

**Kamara:** “I’ve been thinking about that for a while. I tried to do a nose grind. I didn’t know they didn’t put those things up pretty well. I used to work at the Home Depot Center. I used to make sure those things were really strong, so I guess they wasn’t that strong here. I wanted to just grind it – skateboard grind it – but it didn’t work out well.”

***On scoring the 100<sup>th</sup> combined regular season and playoff goal of his career:***

**Kamara:** “To be honest with you I didn’t come into the season having that focus in my mind until one or two tweets went out and saying that I was close to 100. I had to go online myself to look it up. It’s great and it’s a club where I’m really honored to be a part of it with somebody like Chris Wondolowski, because you know that’s a guy that played Division II like I did at Chico [California] State and we played against each other back then and it’s a great rivalry for the CCA conference in California. I’ve always just admired everything he’s been doing and I just wanted to be in the same club as him, but it doesn’t stop there. He’s at one hundred and thirty something, so I’ve got to play and catch up to him.”

**New England Revolution Midfielder Lee Nguyen**

***On the attacking group's performance:***

**Nguyen:** “It was a good day for the boys in blue, huh? Honestly, it was a team effort. Anytime we keep a clean sheet, it’s going to give us a chance, so credit to all the guys that put in the shift and got the clean sheet, and then the offensive guys did their part and then Kei [Kamara] got his hatty [hat trick]. I know he’s going to be celebrating. Yeah, it was a good shift by both ends.”

***On missing the team's last two games due to injury:***

**Nguyen:** “This was a good team effort, a good team win. And this is something we can take – you know, build our confidence moving forward. We got another leg against Orlando away, so this will build confidence going into that match as well.”

***On how anxious he was to get back out on the field after those last two matches:***

**Nguyen:** “Yeah, it’s tough because you always want to be out there to help your teammates. This is a crucial point in our season and we need maximum points in every game going forward now.”

***On preparing in training this week knowing he was likely to return to the starting lineup:***

**Nguyen:** “Just stay healthy and know that you got to look forward to making a strong push in this home game because every home game matters now. We got to get maximum points, but even more so, now going away from home, we got to capitalize on these victories.”

**New England Revolution Defender Chris Tierney**

***On the team's performance:***

**Tierney:** “A really good team performance spurred on a bunch of really good individual performances. So, it was a good night for us, a good response from two results that we were really disappointed in. We’ve been confident at home all along and I think that will continue.”



***On the team's mentality looking ahead to a busy month of September:***

**Tierney:** "We're already looking forward to next week. This win isn't really going to matter if we don't take care of business next week. This is the position we've put ourselves in. We're aware of where we're at. We know we need to win these games, especially against these in-conference teams that are right around us battling for that last playoff spot. We'll prepare the same way we did this week and hopefully have a similar result."

***On what it was like to have Lee Nguyen back in the mix.***

**Tierney:** "It was great to have Lee [Nguyen] back in mix. I think he was great tonight—four assists I think he had. You see when he's on his game, he makes everything really go for us, so it's great to have him."

***On if the team is taking steps in the right direction:***

**Tierney:** "I hope so. I think there's something about September weather in New England, we always respond well to it. We've made runs in the past and we're going to need to go on another one this year. We're not happy with the position we've put ourselves in, but if we get things rolling in the right direction and get performances from guys like we did tonight, we'll have a chance."

**New England Revolution Defender Claude Dielna**

***On how he and Benjamin Angoua were able to keep a clean sheet tonight:***

**Dielna:** "I'm very happy. I'm very happy for the team. We [were] working hard this week, so now we need to keep, and looking forward for the next game."

***On how he's adjusting to the team:***

**Dielna:** "When I come in, I want to do it well, so I come with confidence and working hard every day for the team and to make a good game."

***On what it was like for him to debut in front of the fans tonight:***

**Dielna:** "Yeah, it was a good experience. The fans were there tonight. They wanted to see a good game. I think we do it tonight, but we need to keep it, because it's just only one victory. We know every game will be important now, so we need to be focused on the next game."

**Orlando City SC Head Coach Jason Kreis**

***On tonight's loss to New England:***

**Kreis:** "I think we have to be extremely discouraged and disappointed. Another game where I feel like things are going okay, working in and around their penalty box, creating a few chances, and then we allowed a goal, and then we have some more chances and then we don't finish. I just feel building up the pressure against us and the anxiety and all those things. And then to allow the second goal and then the ejection, you pretty much know the night was dead. So, I don't think the game was a 4-0 game by any stretch of the imagination, but that's what happens when you're two-nil down and you suffer an ejection."

***On shifting the formation:***

**Kreis:** "I felt like they were getting a lot of attacking moments from wide play. I didn't think we were doing a good enough job covering the wide player and I don't think that we were doing a good enough job with the ball to withstand it. I switched that shape just to put players closer to their outside backs."

***On what is lost in translation between the training field and games:***

**Kreis:** "I think it's a little bit about when times get really tough. I think all of these messages are easy to say when you're sitting around a table and you're in a team meeting, but when the stress is really out there and the strain of having to perform in these matches is out there, when there's disappointing moments that are out there, how we respond those, I think, is where the truth lies."



***On moving forward with the rest of the season considering the playoff picture:***

**Kreis:** "We need to be focused on game-by-game right now. Thinking about what we are going to do in the postseason, et cetera, it's still two months away. So, we've got to continue to work and I think it's time that we all show how badly we want to be here next year."

**Orlando City SC Midfielder Kaká**

***On moving forward after the loss:***

**Kaká:** "It's hard to say something positive from this game. What I'm thinking right now is I think we have seven games left and at least we deserve to give for our supporters some respect, some joy, and we need to show them how we care and how bad we want to be part of this club. Of course tonight it's not the best day, it's a tough period for us as well, but at least we have seven games that's going to show who's going to deserve to be here and be part of this club for the future and who's not."

***On why the team couldn't pull out of the tailspin this season:***

**Kaká:** "It's very hard to say and pick some special situation or some point. But I think this is something the club needs to understand, the staff coach and of course all players we need to know what we can do better, where we can improve, where we can learn from every situation, and what is the difference between the Orlando City from the first games and what's the difference between the Orlando City from these games in the last period."

***On if Coach Jason [Kreis] still has the team's support:***

**Kaká:** "Yes, this is something I really can say that is positive because we are really together in this moment even if we are struggling. We are facing a very tough period but everybody is together, we are with Jason [Kreis], the coach staff, and everybody. It's easy when we are winning, you say that everybody is together, but of course in this period right now I can say that everybody is together."

**Orlando City SC Forward Giles Barnes**

***On moving forward after the loss:***

**Barnes:** "We have to wait for the dust to settle a little bit. Obviously, it's a huge disappointment. We've had a good week of training. We've been there or thereabouts in every single game for over the last month, but today it wasn't a great result at all. But we have to brush this under the carpet after we've assessed it and get ready to play the next game."

***On the importance of upcoming matches and their playoff implications:***

**Barnes:** "Of course, it's not mathematically over. It's not over until that final whistle goes at the end of the season and that's the mentality we've got to have. If you don't want to win, don't play. The coach has put so much faith in us to go out there and we've let him down. "

***On Kei Kamara's hat trick and the team's defensive lapses:***

**Barnes:** "I think the third goal was a mistake. Maybe judging off of the turf it was a bit different from what we've used to been playing. Kei's [Kamara] there to score goals and he did his job tonight – we didn't."

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