



June 30, 2017

## New England Revolution Training Report: June 30, 2017

All,

Please visit the [MLS Soundbytes Page](#) to access interview footage and training b-roll from Thursday's post-training media availability previewing this Sunday's nationally televised match (FS1) against the Philadelphia Union, including quotes and footage from:

- **Head Coach Jay Heaps**
- **Goalkeeper Cody Cropper**
- **Defender Andrew Farrell**

For additional footage or any specific interview requests, or if you would like to RSVP to an upcoming game or training session, please contact the Revolution communications staff at [media@revolutionssoccer.net](mailto:media@revolutionssoccer.net).

### **New England Revolution Head Coach Jay Heaps**

#### ***On how the team is shifting focus from the U.S. Open Cup to Philadelphia on Sunday:***

**Coach Heaps:** "Focus on Philly right now and make sure that we've got our guys recovered and ready for a big game on Sunday."

#### ***On preparing for Philadelphia in the midst of a busy stretch in the schedule:***

**Coach Heaps:** "I think guys just have to continue to be ready to play and when they get called upon, put in good performances."

#### ***On dealing with the absences of national team players such as Juan Agudelo and Kelyn Rowe:***

**Coach Heaps:** "It's never a like-for-like, so it's not an easy replacement for key guys. At the same time, it's a part of our sport, not like other sports where they do all the international stuff usually in the break. At the same time, you've just got to deal with it."

#### ***On the team's recent slow starts to games:***

**Coach Heaps:** "It's a couple of things, obviously. Mentality is a big piece of it, making sure that we understand what we're trying to do. Very disappointed in the last three starts to the game."

#### ***On the challenges Philadelphia presents:***

**Coach Heaps:** "First and foremost, they're a really good team. Margins in our league are so small. They've signed some new players, key players who are playing well for them. It's always a difficult team to play against."

### **New England Revolution Goalkeeper Cody Cropper**

***On using Wednesday's U.S. Open Cup win as a confidence boost heading into Sunday:***

**Cropper:** "It's really big for us to get that win last night. It's obviously going to help us hopefully get the ball rolling and get these last couple of games behind us, get our season back on track. Hopefully, we can get three points at Philly and take that into Red Bull [on July 5] and hopefully claim six points before the break."

***On pressing through injuries and international call ups:***

**Cropper:** "Really just dig in mentally. I think for us right now, it's the mental side of things and we really have to be strong. Obviously, a lot of bodies are taking a lot of minutes right now, and it's heavy on the legs for the field players. I think that I've said this in the past – the medical staff are really going to have to come in and really help out those guys – get those guys as close to 100 percent as they possibly can be so that we can go again on Sunday."

***On compensating for the loss of Kelyn Rowe and Juan Agudelo to the U.S. Men's National Team:***

**Cropper:** "I think that we continue to work for each other. Obviously, we rotate players in and we try and get that job done as best that we can. We obviously know that, as a collective group, that they bring something that certain players don't bring and that we're missing certain things. But at the same time, we have to be able to adapt as professionals. I think the group did a very good job of that [on Wednesday] night and we can only hope to continue to bring that into the Philadelphia game on Sunday."

***On making an effort to not concede early goals:***

**Cropper:** "I think just [have] the same mentality as we had [on Wednesday]. Obviously, we conceded an early goal [on Wednesday] and the group responded very well and we got those two goals back that won us the game. Hopefully, we can continue that mentality and just put the last two league games behind us and take that win from [Wednesday] and roll it into Sunday."

**New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell**

***On using Wednesday's U.S. Open Cup win as a confidence boost heading into Sunday:***

**Farrell:** "I think it's huge. We're low on numbers, but a lot of the guys that haven't been getting a lot of minutes stepped up again in another Open Cup game and showed that when we need to get a result, grind a result, we get it done. It was good and I think we need to carry that momentum into the weekend [and] into a tough environment in Philly."

***On coping with absences due to injuries and international call ups:***

**Farrell:** "Obviously, it's tough. I think we're going to get a couple of guys back from injury this week. It's always a good thing to get called up for the national team for us. I'm happy for those guys, but obviously it takes a hit on our roster, but I think we've got the guys and the depth to deal with it. Guys are going to have to play minutes. Guys that haven't played back to back games might have to step up and play more than they have all season. I'm looking forward to Philly and that game."

***On compensating for the loss of Kelyn Rowe and Juan Agudelo to the U.S. Men's National Team:***

**Farrell:** "It's tough. Those guys are big, big players for us. Getting called up to the national team [is great], but guys like Teal [Bunbury], guys like Femi [Hollinger-Janzen], guys like Brian [Wright] who have shown in Open Cup and in practice that they can do well stepped up [Wednesday] night and the game before in Open Cup. Those are guys who we're looking for to fill those roles and help us win the game."

***On not conceding early goals and getting points on the road:***

**Farrell:** "I think [it's] definitely a mentality thing. I think we've got to go out and know that we can play with the best teams and beat the best teams. We've got to start that from the first minute. I think it's getting back to the winning ways, you know? A couple of years ago when we made that run to MLS Cup, every game we'd go into and we knew we were going to win or we knew we had a chance. I think that's something we've got to get back to, just being confident in ourselves and carrying that from minute one to minute 90."

***On his expectations for Sunday's matchup against Philadelphia:***

**Farrell:** "They're a good team. They've got good players up top, some familiar players – we know their team pretty well. I'm excited for that challenge. I think we match up pretty well with them. I think it's going to be a good game. [Two] teams both looking to get into the playoffs, so should be a good matchup."

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### **MEDIA RESOURCES**

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