



August 9, 2017

New England Revolution Training Report: August 9, 2017

All,

Please visit the MLS Soundbytes Page to **access interview footage and training b-roll** from Tuesday's post-training media availability previewing this Saturday's match at Gillette Stadium against Vancouver Whitecaps FC (CSN New England – 8:00 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Jay Heaps](#)
- [Forward Juan Agudelo](#)
- [Midfielder Scott Caldwell](#)
- [Midfielder Kelyn Rowe](#)

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.

[New England Revolution Head Coach Jay Heaps](#)

On the focus of this week's training sessions:

Coach Heaps: "Hitting on some key objectives and where we let ourselves down on the weekend. Areas and objectives that we think are going to benefit us against Vancouver."

On Lee Nguyen's form and his influence on the field:

Coach Heaps: "I think he's done a nice job of [finding space]. Offensively, he's seeing the game really well right now. We are being creative with his starting point, trying to maneuver him around the field so teams can't totally game plan against him. But at the same time, I think Lee [Nguyen] is really putting in a good performance in trying to be creative. Not being just a shoot-first guy – being a creative guy, and that's important."

On Kei Kamara scoring four goals in the team's last three games:

Coach Heaps: "I think, to be fair to Kei [Kamara], we've seen his work rate is there. He has put that [work in] in the past. He's being relentless on his runs. I think that's a key and the players are really trying to reward him when he makes those hard runs."

On how much time he anticipates Claude Dielna will need to assimilate:

Coach Heaps: "We'll see. I know he's fit in terms of what his medicals show and in terms of what we know he's doing off the field, but the reality is, he hasn't been in a game-like situation since probably June. We have to make sure we bring him along at the right speed."

On game planning for a Vancouver team that is tied for the second most away wins in MLS:

Coach Heaps: "Mindful of what they do. They defend really well in their blocks, they pressure at the right times, they know how to counter and get points on the board when the other team is overexposed. We

have to be a blend – we have to be aggressive offensively, but also mitigate anything they can do going the other way."

New England Revolution Forward Juan Agudelo

On the focus leading into Saturday's match against Vancouver:

Agudelo: "It's the same. Like you said, [the focus] is get back in the groove. I think it's very important to look at the negatives of the Chicago game, which there was a lot – we already went over it in film – and pick our heads up and understand that this is a crucial home game coming up."

On finding consistency week to week:

Agudelo: "I think it's frustrating how we're not able to find our game away from home, but we can't think of an away game or of trying to perform in an away game, because our next game is a home game. You've just got to keep doing what we do at home. After we hopefully get three points this weekend, we'll worry about the away game, but our main focus is Vancouver right now."

On the importance of getting a win on Saturday, the only home game in August:

Agudelo: "It's probably the biggest game of the season. You look at our away form and we need this home game to kind of boost us into getting three points away, finally."

On getting back into the mix with consistent minutes down the stretch:

Agudelo: "I feel good. I feel like for the amount of minutes I've been on the field, I've been productive, but I want to help the team get wins, which is most important. So hopefully, I can get reacquainted and consistently play 90 minutes to try to help the team make the playoffs. That's my main focus, everybody benefits from that."

On Kei Kamara's recent form:

Agudelo: "All the work he's been putting in in training transfers over to the games. I think he's been hustling and the anger that he gets from defending, I think he benefits from it going on the offensive side, getting on the end of things and staying with the play. It's definitely helping us. If we can put it all together, I think we'd be a very dangerous team."

New England Revolution Midfielder Scott Caldwell

On the focus leading into Saturday's match against Vancouver:

Caldwell: "We're going to have to definitely step up our defensive plays again. It's everyone on the field, it's not just one mistake. But just defensively as a team, we have to be stronger together, tighter, and work on that in training and get ready for Saturday."

On finding consistency week to week:

Caldwell: "It just shows that we have to improve our consistency still and it's coming down to a crucial stretch and we all know it's now or never. It's disappointing to see that, but we know what we're doing wrong and what we have to improve on the training field and eventually the game."

On Lee Nguyen's performance this season:

Caldwell: "He's been tremendous getting in dangerous spots and being able to pick guys out. Overall, we know we've got to try to find him the ball in those spots and just hope he continues to be as good as he has been."

On facing Vancouver Whitecaps FC on Saturday:

Caldwell: "Just having played LA who was also a good away team, we know we're going to have to play well defensively first and foremost and then create our goals from there. But they're a good, solid team everywhere on the field and we know we have to play well."

On the importance of getting a win on Saturday, the only home game in August:

Caldwell: "It's huge, showing how we've been away and at home, we really need to continue our home form and take that momentum with us on the road the rest of the month."

[New England Revolution Midfielder Kelyn Rowe](#)

On the focus leading into Saturday's match against Vancouver:

Rowe: "I think this one is about keeping our homestand going. It wasn't the best performance in Chicago, but we looked at the film today, we made sure we got on the field and corrected what was wrong. Looking forward to Vancouver and getting back home."

On finding consistency week to week:

Rowe: "I think it obviously wasn't our best performance [in Chicago] coming off a very good one, I think, against Philly at home. We've got to have a short memory. Athletes say it all the time. We have so many games in this league and these games coming up now are very important. If we can get nine points out of 12, I think that's pretty good for four games. And, yeah, they were hopefully three wins at home and one away. If we can just continue to get better and better, especially this homestand, we're going to be a good team."

On the importance of getting a win on Saturday, the only home game in August:

Rowe: "Going into a hard month, you want to win as much as you can going into it. I think that's what we're going to be doing. We're looking forward to getting back home and getting that win and getting the three points, and getting the confidence up a little bit as well. Hopefully, not just as a team, but a couple of guys individually get some confidence up and get them going forward. Once we have that, once we have some big guns really getting going, we're a very tough team to beat. I think getting forward, we have to win this game, and going forward, we have to keep our performances getting better and better."

On Lee Nguyen's work rate and awareness:

Rowe: "We've kind of been moving him around a little bit. We moved him to the right a little bit for some time, he's been up top, he's been at the number 10 spot. Credit to him, he's found good spots no matter where he is. If we got to keep finding him behind the line – that midfield line in between the midfield and the defense – he's very good at going towards that back line when they're on their heels. If we can find him with those balls, he's going to pick teams apart and that's when we're dangerous."

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