



August 16, 2017

## New England Revolution Training Report: August 16, 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 Sunday's match at Yankee Stadium against New York City FC (CSN New England – 6:00 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Jay Heaps](#)
- [Forward Teal Bunbury](#)
- [Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)
- [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 grinding out a 1-0 win against Vancouver last Saturday:***

**Coach Heaps:** "When we talked about it and went back and looked at it – and even it felt – it felt like a game where we weren't at our best. Vancouver was defending really well, so it was going to take one special play to maybe change the game and we did that, and then we had to make sure we defended well for 90 minutes, and I think we did that. There were a couple of breakdowns here and there, but nothing that really was free-to-goal. We made some good plays."

#### ***On Saturday's performance translating to away games:***

**Coach Heaps:** "Make no mistake, Vancouver is a really good road team, because they have the fire power when they need it, but they also have very smart players in [Matias] Laba and [Tony] Tchani and the players that we faced in [Tim] Parker and [Kendall] Waston. They defend really well, they break plays up. I thought, yeah, we have to learn to do that a little bit on the road, to take some air out of the other team and not let the other team get such a head of steam."

#### ***On whether Claude Dielna could be available to start at New York City FC on Sunday:***

**Coach Heaps:** "I think it's potentially too soon to call. With Claude [Dielna], he's putting together some really good fitness and training sessions. We want to see where he is come Thursday [or] Friday. I think we'll have more to say. He's definitely in contention. It's just a matter of how many minutes and whether you start him or bring him off the bench. I believe he's pushing himself to be in contention [to start]."

#### ***On Krisztián Németh's fitness:***

**Coach Heaps:** "Same thing. He just got here yesterday and it's important that not only do we assess him in what he's going to bring, but where he is physically and not to put too much on him too soon. He's got a little bit of a ways to go to be 90-minutes fit, but we think we can get good minutes out of him relatively quickly."

***On being able to play forwards who are not at full fitness:***

**Coach Heaps:** "You don't like making subs to your center backs. In particular, those are the positions you like to see go 90 minutes, and there's also a different level of fitness that each position needs. I think we'll blend that as we get there, but we really feel that both players are moving along in the right direction and we'll have more assessments on Thursday [or] Friday."

***On Sunday's matchup with David Villa and New York City FC:***

**Coach Heaps:** "That's the thing, if you focus too much on [David] Villa, he's going to draw you away and someone else can beat you. It's going to have to be a complete performance. Forwards defending, midfield defending, and defenders have to make really good decisions on when to be really touch-tight on David Villa, when he drifts wide and where you need to be with him. When you talk about class, you talk about Villa and [Sebastian] Giovinco, and they can beat you in a lot of different ways. So, if you say, 'Hey, we're going to stop this,' they find a way to beat you somewhere else. You have to be adaptive and a little bit progressive in how you defend in the sense that you can't be predictable every time."

**[New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury](#)**

***On grinding out a 1-0 result against Vancouver last Saturday:***

**Bunbury:** "It's nice, because obviously it's a shutout and it's a win; we didn't play our best game, but we were able to still work for each other and get three points. That's crucial coming down to this last third of the season and fighting to get into the playoffs. We need to be able to battle, to grind out games. Even if they're not the prettiest of games, we need to be able to get wins like that."

***On Saturday's performance translating to away games:***

**Bunbury:** "We need to bring that on the road. It's something, obviously, we're doing really well at home, but that's something we really need to get better at on the road, is being able to work for each other, be kind of – not nasty, but be very aggressive on the road. At times, we're going to be able to play, but it's about battling."

***On bringing energy to the team in training and game situations:***

**Bunbury:** "I think it's huge for me, because that's something I can control. I can control my temperament, I could be aggressive, I could be energetic and try to uplift the guys, so that's something I try to do and try to stay positive with that."

***On having confidence entering Sunday's match given the team's success at Yankee Stadium:***

**Bunbury:** "It does. All of those things help out, but now we have to go and execute. We know how they play. We know they have some special players on their team, but we also know that we can go in there and take advantage and hopefully get three points, because we need them."

***On having almost 600 traveling supporters at Sunday's match:***

**Bunbury:** "I actually didn't know that, so yeah, that's going to be awesome. Whenever we can have our fans on away trips, it gives us that added bonus and energy and we love it."

**[New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez](#)**

***On earning a 1-0 win against Vancouver last Saturday:***

**Fagundez:** "I think it's always nice to win 1-0. There are not a lot of games that you do win 1-0, so when you do, we knew it was going to take a hard goal and Teal [Bunbury] came in there and of course, got it done for us, which is awesome. Then we ran our defense all the way till the end and we got a shutout."

***On Saturday's grind-it-out performance translating to away games:***

**Fagundez:** "That's basically what we have to do. When we go on the road we need to do everything we can to make sure we go up a goal and then everybody needs to defend 90 minutes. I think last Saturday, we definitely did well doing that. So, we just have to keep going and when we have our chance to finish goals, finish them, and then make sure that we finish every game possible."

***On what Teal Bunbury brings to the team:***

**Fagundez:** "Teal's energy is always there no matter if you're in the locker room or on the field or in the game. So, it's always nice to have him out there and when he's out there, he works hard to make sure he's in the box or defending or doing everything. In practice, he likes to goof around and stuff, but he makes sure that when it's business time, his energy is always up there. I don't know what he's drinking before practice, but I think we all need to do that."

***On how Krisztián Németh is fitting in with the team:***

**Fagundez:** "I think good. Especially our team, I think we welcome new players very well. We just bring them right in and goof around with them a little bit and laugh. We ask questions and when we're on the training field, it's soccer. There's a soccer ball, so we're all playing the same game, we all love to do the same things, so that's kind of easy. We just have to make sure that we keep bringing him in, keep talking to him, make sure that he's welcome, and make sure that he's ready."

***On having almost 600 traveling supporters at Sunday's match:***

**Fagundez:** "New York-Boston is always a rivalry, so it's always going to be a nice to go out there. Every time we're up there, you can see our fans, you can hear them. We're really looking forward to playing in front of them again. We have to make sure that we're doing our job and we do everything we can to get three points."

**[New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell](#)**

***On grinding out a 1-0 win against Vancouver last Saturday:***

**Farrell:** "It was a good grinding win. I think it wasn't a clean game, it was kind of stops in the flow of the game, but we got a good goal from Kelyn and Teal and Kei's holdup play, and then we kind of locked down. We had a few mishaps here and there and Cody [Cropper] came up huge, but defensively, it was good to get the shutout going into a tough place like New York."

***On Saturday's performance translating to away games:***

**Farrell:** "We've obviously harped on it, that we want to get a win on the road and we haven't gotten one yet, but you've got to grind it out on the road. It's a tough environment against a hot team who are really good at home. You've got to bring that mentality of grinding results out. It might not be the 15<sup>th</sup> minute you get the goal, but maybe the 75<sup>th</sup> minute, and then you grind it and shut it down."

***On Sunday's matchup with David Villa and New York City FC:***

**Farrell:** "He's the guy for them. Everything kind of goes through him. They've got a lot of good players around him who – because we have to focus so much on [Villa], they get open shots and open looks. It's tough, you've got to lock down on him and even if you lock him down, he's going to get a few shots here and there. So we've just got to lock it up. Cody [Cropper]'s going to have to come up big for us in a few instances. Our attack has been doing well, so we've got to keep that going, and then we've got to defend as a team."

***On having almost 600 traveling supporters at Sunday's match:***

**Farrell:** "That's good, it feels like a home game when our fans travel. The New York trips have been a lot of fun when our fans get down there. Looking forward to another [game of] good support from them as they have been all year at home and away, and then getting a result for them."

***On how Claude Dielna has settled with the group:***

**Farrell:** "He's been good, he's really good. You can see the quality he has on the field. He's got a good left foot. He's very physical and gets stuck in tackles, very vocal as well. A piece that's, I think, really welcomed by everyone on the team, competing for minutes and maybe looking to be a leader for us."

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