



TRANSCRIPT: Summer Transfer Window Media Availability (July 15)
*Soundbytes from General Manager and Chief Soccer Officer Chris Tierney,
Head Coach Marko Mitrović & Homegrown D Peyton Miller*

Revolution General Manager and Chief Soccer Officer Chris Tierney

On what it means to the club to have a player like Homegrown Defender Peyton Miller continue to develop in New England:

Tierney: "We're really proud of Peyton's [Miller] contributions up to this point. To have a player that came into our Academy at a young age, progressed through the second team program, and is now contributing significantly at the first team level is great for us to see. Peyton is a very high-potential player, and we look forward to continuing to develop him and get him to the high level we know he's capable of."

On bringing Matt Turner back via loan and opening a Designated Player slot on the roster:

Tierney: "Yes, that was a crucial component of the transaction for us, making sure we have the flexibility to keep Matt Turner as a TAM-eligible player. I think an important distinction is Matt can be either a DP or a TAM player, so it allows us the flexibility to add another Designated Player if need be. So, that was, like I said, a critical part of the transaction for us."

On if the team is still looking to add players during this transfer window:

Tierney: "We definitely are, yes. We've identified a number of targets that we're working on. We currently have one senior roster spot open, so I would expect, pending any outgoing, I think one, if not two, additions this window."

On which areas the team is looking to address in the transfer window:

Tierney: "If you take a look at our first 14 games of the season, I think Marko [Mitrović] and his staff have done a really good job of solidifying the defense. I think we were top 10 in [fewest] goals conceded during the first portion of the year, so we feel pretty good about our defensive group. I think our additions will be pieces that can help us in the attack."

On re-signing Peyton Miller amid interest from European clubs:

Tierney: "That's certainly a component of it, yes. Extending Peyton's contract through the 2029-30 season gives us protection if there is any interest from overseas. But our focus remains on just getting the best out of Peyton every day here, and continuing his development as a high-potential player for us."

On how much analytics influences personnel decisions:

Tierney: "It certainly does. We've made a push to integrate data into all of the decisions that we make, especially the high-leverage positions like Designated Player spots, so it's an important part of our process. At the same time, we certainly don't undervalue the experience and the eye of our scouting team and our recruiting process as well. It's a combination of the two, but Marko is a very data-driven coach. There are certain metrics that are important for us in evaluating targets."

On how the club is evaluating potential signings:

Tierney: "I think a lot of those things are defined by the category of player. So, if you're looking at a U-22 player, you're obviously looking at the investment profile of the player, developing the player, and

potentially re-selling that player for future value. There are multiple ways to look at the DP position. I think if you look at what we've done in the past with our DPs, it has been more established players. So, I think I would expect, for a young developing team with a lot of young talent, we're probably looking for the latter – a more experienced player that's 'plug-and-play' and ready to go when he gets here."

On if the team is looking to bring in a big-name star player:

Tierney: "We're looking for the right player. The celebrity level or the marketing value of the player is secondary to us. We're looking for the right fit in our team and the way we want to play, and a player that fits our culture that Marko has done a good job developing here. That's the key characteristic of the player we're looking to bring in."

On what makes Peyton Miller such a special talent at just 18 years old:

Tierney: "Peyton has a really good combination of elite athletic ability, first and foremost – something that I most certainly did not have. I talk a lot about the data, Peyton's testing metrics in terms of his athletic ability are at an elite level in comparison to players in his position across the world. We're still developing the technical side with Peyton. I think that's just a function of repetition. His game-understanding I would put in that category as well. Like I've been saying, he has a really elite profile that we need to continue to develop to get him to the spot that we think he's capable of."

On what makes Marko Mitrović the right coach to help Peyton Miller develop:

Tierney: "That's a great question. I think when we were in the hiring process talking to head coaches, having a coach who is a player developer and has a history of doing so was a key component for us being that we have a team that we feel like has a lot of good, young talent. So, we're certainly utilizing Marko's skills in that department to get the best out of not only Peyton but the rest of our young players as well."

On if Peyton Miller has received any interest from overseas:

Tierney: "There is plenty of interest from around the globe on Peyton Miller. Those conversations will remain in-house, but the timing has to be right for the club and the player. Those two things haven't come together yet, but whether they will at some point or not remains to be seen."

On the club acquiring defender Cody Baker on loan from Seattle Sounders FC:

Tierney: "Cody [Baker] is a player that we've had our eyes on for quite a while. One of our assistant coaches, Michael Morris, has a history of working together with Cody in Seattle. We felt like he's a profile player and at an age bracket where he can continue to improve. I can also confirm that Ilay Feingold underwent minor ankle surgery, so he'll be out for a period of time here. Cody gives us some really valuable coverage at the right back position."

On the team's roster flexibility:

Tierney: "Yeah, for example in bringing in Cody Baker we have loaned Malcolm Fry to Lexington SC in USL. It's a great opportunity for [Fry] to get some more minutes, and also allows us the ability to bring in Cody in a position of need. In terms of roster flexibility, like I said before, we have the ability to convert Matt Turner to a TAM player, which would allow us the ability to bring in a Designated Player. Like I said, 19 of 20 [senior] roster spots are full, and so that's basically where we're at."

On if he feels any deals are potentially close to getting done:

Tierney: "Conversations are certainly advancing, so my hope and expectation is we'll have something to announce in the coming weeks."

On why this team is ready for a return to the postseason:

Tierney: "I hope we are. There's a lot of soccer left to be played. We're 14 games into a 34 game season, so there is a lot of soccer left to be played. We feel like we started well, but at the same time we recognize that it is necessary that we continue to look to improve the squad. But I think the culture and environment that Marko has created is a really good platform for us to continue to improve, and we're confident we can get the personnel right, and that the environment and the coaching staff are going to be able to get our team to a place where we're back in the playoffs."

On Luca Langoni receiving interest from overseas:

Tierney: "We haven't had any conversations about Luca [Langoni] with clubs outside of MLS. So, we're focused on getting Luca back to full fitness. He's been working really hard to do so, and we expect him to be able to contribute to some degree once the season restarts."

On how he feels about where the roster stands at the striker position:

Tierney: "I'm confident in the ability of the three guys that we have in that position. Of course, Leo [Campana] has had his issues with injuries, which he continues to work hard on rectifying and trying to get himself available. But I think you have three profiles there that are kind of different profiles of a striker, so it gives our staff options up there. I think we have some really good attacking pieces around them that can create chances for whoever is in that spot. We're confident in that group of strikers for sure."

On the club being linked to Jack Harrison:

Tierney: "I wouldn't be speaking specifically about any players that are under contracts with other clubs."

Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On the progress he has seen from Peyton Miller in coaching him both with New England and in the United States National Team system:

Mitrović: "I mean, all the steps that Peyton [Miller] is making from the player we all talk about, the high potential that he has, to becoming a performer on the field. I think it's the biggest challenge for the young players. Especially those that have that high potential around them, to convert that to become a performer. I'm not saying that Peyton is still where we want him to be, but he's making great steps going forward. At his age, he has a great amount of maturity in his game and he's impacting our team in a positive way. We're really happy to see the progress that Peyton is making."

On what he hopes to see from Matt Turner during the second half of the MLS season:

Mitrović: "Same as the first part [of the season], keep going like we were. It's great to have Matt [Turner] back with us. Matt is not new for us, we are not new for Matt. We're happy that we can continue to work together."

On if changing the surface from grass to turf at Gillette Stadium will impact games:

Mitrović: "I still don't have the answer to that, and I don't want that to be an excuse for us. We're going to try to be who we are every time. Obviously, the surfaces demand different things on the field. The turf and grass have a different impact. But, I don't want this to become any excuse for anything. We still have to go [to Gillette Stadium] and perform well in our games."

On what newly-acquired defender Cody Baker will bring to the team:

Mitrović: "First of all, I have followed Cody [Baker] for a long time, since I started to work with the [United States] federation because he belonged age-wise to the age that I was coaching. Michael [Morris] coached him for the last six, seven years. Maybe things didn't go the best way for him in Seattle, and we saw an opportunity for a young player that can come in our environment, and how much we can help his growth. Also, we strongly believe that he can help us as a team."

On the rapid progress Peyton Miller has made as an 18-year-old player in MLS:

Mitrović: "I think, not that every player can be ready at 16, 17, 18 [years old]. There aren't pros and cons. Some players get there earlier, some players get there later. I think Peyton has a great physical profile that helps him to compete immediately with the senior guys. That's something that's probably a pro for him, compared with some other guys. Also, the way he competes and the maturity to do it. So that's something that has helped him have the amount of games [played] so far at his age."

On if he feels Peyton Miller is at his best as a midfielder, defender, or attacker:

Mitrović: "I don't think he's a midfielder. He's an attacking player. For me, Peyton has the quality where I cannot put him in bracket with Carles [Gil], Brooklyn [Raines], [Alhassan] Yusuf, Matt Polster, if we speak about midfielders. If we speak about players higher on the field, like Luca Langoni, Griffin [Yow], those

wide forwards. When I was [coaching] the [United States] Under-20s Peyton was as a wide forward. He can also play as a fullback or a wing back, depends on how you build up.

"I think one of his highest qualities is arriving in the final third. He has a natural instinct to scoring goals, which can help his game and his career, to help separate him from other players. Something that we're still working on and have to improve is his defending, especially defending in the defending third. That's a part of the game where it will help him to be even better. He's a young player and all those young players still have a lot of room to grow. Peyton's ceiling is very high. [In terms of] where he's going to play, it's great that we can use him everywhere in those positions."

On the availability statuses of Leo Campana and Ilay Feingold:

Mitrović: "Yeah, Leo [Campana] had a setback at the very end of the first part of the season. Now his recovery process is going well. There are, so far, no setbacks. We're hoping in the next three to four weeks that we will have Leo back. With Ilay [Feingold], he had a small surgery. Hopefully in the next two to four weeks, we will have Ilay back."

On the areas he hopes the team will improve on during the second half of the MLS season:

Mitrović: "I think we can improve everything. We can improve our attacking part of the game. We can improve our defending. I'm not saying that we are not good in something. But we can definitely improve everything. I think we can be more relentless, more ruthless when we go in the attack. And then we'll have a tendency to finish more attacks. We were defensively very solid, but there are still certain, I would say, gray areas in our defending where we wanted to have more clarity with the guys. I believe we had a very good review on the first 14 games of the season, what we have to improve, and how we can get there, knowing we have a certain dynamic and profiles on our team. We actually invested all those four weeks so far [of the FIFA World Cup break] in doing that. Let's see what transfer we're going to get when the season re-starts."

On when Matt Turner will re-join the Revolution and jump back into training with the team:

Mitrović: "Very soon, he'll be here very soon. Our guys had three weeks off [at the beginning of the break], and Matt [Turner] went straight after the Charlotte game to the national team camp. It's not just a physical drain and exposure that you're there, it's also emotional. We want Matt, when he comes back, to be hungry and ready. He'll be back in a few days."

On a record number of MLS players, 45, playing in the World Cup this summer:

Mitrović: "I think one of the dreams of every player is to play in the World Cup. I believe every one of our players, if you ask, 'What would be one of your main dreams?' they would say, 'To play in the World Cup.' And then when we have players there we feel proud and happy for them. In this World Cup we had one [Matt Turner], hopefully we'll have more. We'll work toward that and let's see. Having players there and watching them at highest stage, it's great for all of us."

On the progress the United States Men's National Team made in reaching the Round of 16 at the World Cup:

Mitrović: "Number one, I would say we are now in the second World Cup in a row where we get to the last 16. I personally think that's a great step forward. Once you get there, you say, 'Can we get there again?' Now, can we make the next steps? I personally believe that we were very competitive. That game against Belgium happened as it happened. I don't think that if we played against Belgium again it would be the same performance and result. Maybe there was too much pressure. If we would compare the performances at the very beginning of the World Cup to the [Belgium] game, we haven't been at the level we were at in the group stage."

"But I strongly believe in the continuity of things that the federation does, that the next win, we'll get there. We have to wait also for a special generation of the players. We have good players, but Argentina won, you have [a special player, Lionel Messi] who's there. Now Spain is there. You can do all the right things, but sometimes those players have to be born also to think about winning the World Cup. We'll get there, I'm very positive about that."

On how to develop more special players to play in the World Cup:

Mitrović: “I think Messi was born to be special. There was no pay-to-play or any comment. If you go back through all the history of the World Cups, those players, everybody influenced those players but those players are born to be special. We can talk about different models. We can open this discussion for a long [time] but some certain things have to happen organically.”

Revolution Defender Peyton Miller

On what it means to him to re-sign with his hometown club and continue developing with the Revolution:

Miller: “This club means everything to me. I grew up watching this club, and for me to sign another contract means everything to me and to just continue to keep working.”

On staying in New England and continuing to develop under Head Coach Marko Mitrović:

Miller: “It’s amazing to me. I trust Marko [Mitrović] a lot. The confidence that he has in me, and his belief in me, it means everything. Especially, with him being my [United States Youth] National Team coach a bit ago, it’s just that comfortability with him.”

On watching Revolution General Manager and Chief Soccer Officer Chris Tierney play for the club to now working with him to sign a new contract:

Miller: “That belief from [Tierney], it means a lot. I grew up watching him, so it means everything to me to keep playing for this club.”

On why staying with New England at this point in his career was the right decision:

Miller: “For me, there’s a lot that I think that I need to work on, and I have so much belief in Marko [Mitrović]. He holds me to a high standard and [high] expectations, so I just think that there’s a lot more for me to accomplish here, and there’s stuff that I need to do before.”

On his growth as a player and person while progressing through New England’s Pro Pathway:

Miller: “I think I’ve grown tremendously, just learning how to be a pro day in and day out, and learning from guys like [Andrew] Farrell and [Matt] Polster. They help me every single day and they continue to do that.”

On the advice he would give to fellow Revolution Academy products developing through the club’s pro pathway:

Miller: “The first thing is anything is possible. But also, to keep working hard, have belief in yourself, and trust the coaches around you to get you to this level because at the end of the day, every single coach here is able to do that for you.”

On why Marko Mitrović’s coaching experience, including on the United States Youth National Team levels, is a good fit for his development:

Miller: “I just think [Mitrović] has experience with very good teams and even at the national team [level]. He’s [also] coached top players, for example, like Michael Olise. But just his presence at this club is huge.”

On the reactions from his family members regarding his contract extension with New England:

Miller: “They were very excited. I mean, no matter what happens, they’re always going to be happy for me, and they’ll respect my decision. But especially my mom, she’s happy I’m staying home.”

On what it means to have teammate Matt Turner remain with the Revolution:

Miller: “It means a lot. [Turner] has a lot of experience, and he’s a very good professional. Especially for young guys like me, we look up to him, and we keep learning from him every day.”

On what he has seen from newly-acquired defender Cody Baker during his first days with the team:

Miller: "I think [Baker] can bring energy and mentality, and he's a very good person. He's a little quiet right now, but he's getting used to the team and I think he's going to contribute greatly."

On his future goals and aspirations with the U.S. Men's National Team and looking ahead to the 2030 FIFA World Cup:

Miller: "My goal is to be on that [national] team, and the ultimate goal is obviously winning the World Cup."

On if the level of talent in the 2026 FIFA World Cup has sparked motivation:

Miller: "For sure. Especially, [the World Cup] being in the U.S., all these young kids are looking and watching the sport. I think it inspires them a lot. So, the World Cup being here and just the World Cup in general does a lot for us."

On how much the team is looking forward to resuming the MLS season next Wednesday:

Miller: "I think we're looking forward to a lot. It's a big second half of the [MLS] season, and we had a pretty good first half of the season. But, [we are] just continuing to keep going in this second half of the season, pushing for the playoffs, and ultimately winning the MLS Cup."

On Gillette Stadium reinstalling artificial turf before the season resumes:

Miller: "I think no matter the pitch, we're going to perform. I don't think it really affects us that much."