



## POSTGAME TRANSCRIPT: September 26 at Real Salt Lake

*Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović and F Wilson Harris*

### **Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović**

#### ***On the team's performance on Saturday***

**Mitrović:** "I think overall, we started the game as we started with losing from zero. I felt that even though we had a majority of possession in the game, I didn't read the stats, but we couldn't find the right solutions to create better options to finish those attacks. I felt that we were too deep defensively and [were not] winning those first and second balls, which is in general our strength. Today, we kind of exposed ourselves in the big spaces, and [Real Salt Lake] have very quick players higher on the field who, once you give them space, can use it. Listen, at 1-0 and 2-0, they had a strong desire to defend the result, and we couldn't find a way to threaten more."

#### ***On Josh Wynder earning his first MLS start:***

**Mitrović:** "Regarding Josh [Wynder], it's great to have Josh starting the game and getting more minutes. This is Josh's first start, I think, since February [with Benfica]. Josh will need minutes, as some other guys got today, for the rest of the season, because we will need all our guys to be available and help the team."

#### ***On using Saturday's result as motivation moving forward:***

**Mitrović:** "Every game, there is a different circumstance. Playing with altitude or having some players not being with us, that's not an excuse. We have certain values in the way we want to play that has to be present on the field no matter who is on the field. I don't want to hide behind that. That's the circumstance. But listen, every game is an opportunity to learn and grow when you win and when you lose. It's not just when you're losing, it's when we are winning. Today, we lost the game. We will sit and evaluate and see what we could've done better starting with us, the coaching staff, and then of course the players. As a team, how can we use this game as a reference to get better in the coming period? We have nothing else to do other than recover from this game, come next training session, and keep working like we are doing so far."

#### ***On Revolution II midfielder Javaun Mussenden earning his MLS debut:***

**Mitrović:** "Javaun [Mussenden] has a certain dynamic and ability. We felt that in the second half, [Real Salt Lake] started to peak at those second balls and threaten in behind with the pace that they have. We kind of wanted to try to get in control of the space in the middle of the field. It's Javaun's first MLS game today, but I said before the game, whoever is on the field, we trust those guys. I'm glad that Javaun made his debut to get his first [MLS] minutes in his career."

#### ***On Jackson Yueill's play over the past three matches:***

**Mitrović:** "Jackson [Yueill] was kind of like a midfielder where the majority of the games played were with Brooklyn [Raines], [Alhassan] Yusuf, and Carles [Gil] playing a triangle in the middle. Jackson was getting minutes, but not significant minutes. He was really, like every other player, coming in to work every day. Something that we also speak about is you have to be ready to perform. Now, with the circumstances that we have, Jackson is getting more playing time. Actually, he's doing really good. I think he's using his minutes in the right way. Tonight, I still want to watch the game and reevaluate the whole team, and Jackson as well, but he is using his minutes in the right way."

***On Luca Langoni returning to the lineup and his fitness levels:***

**Mitrović:** “We had a certain threshold today that, running-wise, would be very, very difficult and risky for Luca [Langoni]. If he bypassed that, he would be very exposed to injury. As we know, he didn’t play significant minutes for a long time, as you said. Luca created a couple of very dangerous moments in the first half, and one very, very dangerous situation in the second half. But, it’s also not easy because Luca didn’t play for so long, and now to think high expectations stepping on the field. I think this is Luca’s first time playing 55 minutes since May. It’s more than four months that Luca didn’t have this amount of minutes in his legs in one game. We all have to work together with Luca just building his fitness and trying to get even more from Luca in those minutes once he’s on the field.”

***On what the team will address ahead of the bye week and last seven matches:***

**Mitrović:** “The first thing is they have to recover. This group worked so hard and we gave them a few days off because the next game is in two weeks. They have to recover – that’s the most important thing now – both physically and mentally. When we come back, we don’t have a magic formula. We say every day is great opportunity for us to work and to get better. We want to maximize every day, and that’s what’s in our control. Then, when you get to the games, try to actually present all those things that we work on, connect with our values and connect with our style of play. But there is no magic formula. We just have to keep going and giving everything we can day-by-day.”

**Revolution Forward Wilson Harris**

***On the team's response to trailing 1-0 at halftime:***

**Harris:** “I think we had a good 15 minutes in the second half coming out, and then we were pushing for that second goal and maybe were caught off guard on the counterattack, naturally, because we were pushing for a goal. I think it was a good response, but we just have to find that goal before they get their second [goal] and put away the game.”

***On the team's mindset following tonight's result:***

**Harris:** “I think we’re a resilient group and we should be able to bounce back from this quickly. I don’t think tonight showed who we are or what we can do. The mentality now is just to bounce back as quickly as possible.”

***On Revolution II midfielder Javaun Mussenden making his MLS debut tonight:***

**Harris:** “I thought Javaun [Mussenden] looked really good, looked really sharp. I was really happy for him. I think he’s going to continue to do well and prove himself here.”

***On what he learned about the group's resilience and its approach to the next games:***

**Harris:** “I think it was an off night, and I don’t think it shows anything less about us, because I think we are going to come back and bounce back as quickly as possible. I know this group, and it’s a strong-minded, very together group. So, I think we’ll bounce back very quickly.”