

POSTGAME TRANSCRIPT:

October 10 vs. Seattle Sounders FC

Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović, M Brooklyn Raines, & M Carles Gil

Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On take of the match and what the team can learn from tonight:

Mitrović: “It’s always a learning experience. I would love to say that you don’t need to lose to learn, you can still learn when you win. However, there is always a takeaway. In this game, I felt that the first 15 minutes, we kind of started with the gear down and [weren’t] in the speed of the game, and that’s where we conceded the first goal. But then I felt we grew, how the first half went and all the way until we conceded the second goal. I kind of felt that we had the game in our hands, control, and I felt we are coming, we are close to creating a situation to score. But I felt that when that second goal, when we conceded, it took us completely out of the game.”

On how team handled Seattle’s physicality:

Mitrović: “Every game now there is definitely a high level of urgency for the teams around. At the beginning of the season everybody sees the time ahead, but there is no more time now and I feel that every game from now on will be like a playoff game. I think the last two or three games before the international break, I already felt that teams were on a high level of urgency. I think everybody is now competing to survive and there is no hiding behind that and everything has to match that same intensity and same kind of urgency.”

On his thought process behind balancing when to make substitutions in different moments:

Mitrović: “Before the game, we always try to kind of predict what can happen. First thing’s first, there are things that before you read – because every game is a game for itself – you always go, ‘Okay, this is a needed sub for what we are doing.’ You just go through the process, and then we just read and feel the game and based on that we make decisions. We know what players can come into what positions and based on that we may make our subs. So that was for tonight as well.”

On if Seattle’s physicality brought a higher level of intensity to tonight’s match:

Mitrović: “I think the intensity was there, as you said, and there were a lot of duels. I think that the referee had criteria to let the game go. There is always like criteria, is it a foul or not? When you don’t call the fouls, it just opens the game, and there is more intensity present. I also know that Seattle is a team that has a lot of experience around the field, and probably the way that they felt that they can get something from this game is to be physical and to be intense.

“We are also an intense team. There is no issue with that. But I don’t think that intensity today was something that we didn’t know how to face. I actually believe that’s something that is really kind of our identity [being prepared for intensity]. Was that preparation from them to be more physical in duels? That’s part of the game. I didn’t feel that this is any different than what we just spoke about. I [felt] there is a high level of urgency, actually, from Seattle because they are fighting [with a] survival instinct, and they came here with that. I’m not saying that we didn’t get into the game with the same mindset. Our group is, I always say, one very humble and hardworking group. But in this game, things didn’t go our way. We just have to move forward.”

On defender Josh Wynder’s second consecutive start and what he brings to the team:

Mitrović: “I think Josh [Wynder] had some very good moments, but some moments that he can do better.

Josh is very unique; I mean, it's not unique, but it's a unique situation because Josh didn't play for seven months, and he's a very young player, and this is his second game in a row. If you go back to the minutes that Josh had in [the] last two or three games together, he didn't play that soccer for more than seven, eight months. Any player, doesn't matter on the experience, when you don't play for so long, you need time to get in the rhythm of the games. Especially when you're a young guy. Sometimes when you're more experienced, it's a little bit easier. It's never easy when you don't play for so long. But I think there are moments where Josh still has to get in a playing routine, and we cannot forget he's a very young player who really hasn't played for a long time."

On defender Mamadou Fofana's status:

Mitrović: "It was one of the last actions in the game against Real Salt Lake [on Sept. 26]. [Fofana] felt his hamstring. His recovery is going well. We are happy with how he's progressing, but Mamadou will need a couple more weeks to get back to the team."

On coaching against Seattle's Dejan Joveljić, his former player, who scored tonight:

Mitrović: "I have known Dejan [Joveljić] for a long time, and I appreciate his words [about me]. Dejan is a fantastic human being that I have known for a long time. It was kind of like his first soccer steps and my first coaching steps [happened] together. Dejan is also a brutal finisher."

"You can talk about players like Dejan as much as you want, but when they get in those situations, that's where their quality is. I think he scored one really world-class goal. If you see the positions from Ilay [Feingold] and [Ethan Kohler], he just moved the ball and played the ball. We know how great Matt [Turner] is as a goalkeeper, and he couldn't do anything. That's Dejan's greatness - he's a brutal finisher. It's difficult in those moments to kind of be like, 'Oh, he's going to do this or that,' because that's his life. That's why he's great - that type of finish."

"Sometimes it's funny how life works, and Dejan scored a goal against us, but as I said, he's one fantastic human being and an extremely talented player. He shows that season after season in MLS, how great a scorer he is."

Revolution Midfielder Brooklyn Raines

On his assessment of tonight's match:

Raines: "I mean, it's a tough one. I think if you just look around the locker room, you can see that we're all disappointed, especially after coming back from international break and having a bye week. Personally, for me, I feel like I kind of let the team down just on the first goal and the third goals. Two mistakes, and they score on both those chances. But again, at the end of the day, it's a cruel game. But yeah, we just have to pick our heads up and keep going."

On moving past tonight's loss and preparing for Wednesday's match at FC Cincinnati:

Raines: "I think this is all something everyone's been through at least. It's just part of the game. Everyone's going to go through it in their career. But Marko [Mitrović] really emphasizes just having two choices, whether to kind of give up and shy away, or just continue to work and try and fix our mistakes. But again, for me, I'll definitely look back at this one and be ready for the next one."

Revolution Midfielder Carles Gil

On his assessment of tonight's match:

Gil: "I think we had a very slow start in the game. I don't know why, because we knew it was a game where we knew we had to be 100 percent focused against this team. Like I said, the first 20, 30 minutes, we were losing duels, slow. We conceded first and then the last 15 minutes of the first half were great. We

were the team we wanted to be. Then, I think in the second half, in the beginning, we continued well. We had some chances to counterattack. But it was a bad game.”

On how New England played against Seattle’s physicality tonight:

Gil: “They’re a very good team. I think they defended us very well. Sometimes, on the wings, normally I move but they defended that very well. We have to give credit to them. For us, we need to make our level high. It’s our second consecutive game we lose 3-0. We don’t have time [to dwell] because we go to Cincinnati [on Wednesday].”

On forward/winger Luca Langoni nearing full strength in his return from injury:

Gil: “Yes, of course. We need everyone and Luca is very important for us. He’s had some injuries but he’s starting to feel good. Hopefully for the most important moments of the season, we can have all our players healthy.”