

REVOLUTION

MEDIA RELEASE

Revolution Media Assets & Transcript: Bruce Arena & Matt Turner (June 17, 2022)

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. – The New England Revolution are back in action this Sunday for a 5:00 p.m. ET kickoff against Minnesota United FC at Gillette Stadium on Juneteenth. CBS Boston’s pregame coverage begins with “Revolution Kickoff” at 4:30 p.m. ET on WSBK-TV38, before kickoff at 5:00 p.m. ET on TV38, myRITV (Rhode Island), 98.5 The Sports Hub, and 1260 AM Nossa Radio.

Following Friday’s training session, Revolution Sporting Director & Head Coach **Bruce Arena** and goalkeeper **Matt Turner** addressed the media in a virtual press conference to preview the match against Minnesota. This Sunday will mark Turner’s final match with New England before he travels to London to complete his transfer to Arsenal FC of the English Premier League. View the links below to access footage of today’s interviews in addition to a complete transcript, game notes, and additional media assets.

This **Juneteenth**, the Revolution will dedicate the match to highlighting various members of the local Black Community, grassroots organizations, and social justice leaders. Nicole Jacob, a representative of the [North Shore Juneteenth Association](#), will serve as the club’s Hero of the Match. Across Major League Soccer, “Lift Every Voice and Sing” will be performed prior to kickoff, and all 28 clubs will wear Juneteenth-inspired “Freedom to Be” numbers, designed by Black queer artist Judah “Tip” Middleton, and “Unity” warm-up tops as part of a league-wide recognition in partnership with Black Players for Change (BPC). The special edition jerseys will be auctioned to benefit [Man Up](#) of Rhode Island, which provides a broad range of unique workforce development and higher educational opportunities, resources, and support services for formerly incarcerated men of color. Read more about Major League Soccer’s recognition of Juneteenth [here](#).

Revolution Media Assets: June 17, 2022

- [GAMES NOTES: June 19 vs. Minnesota United FC](#)
- [SOUND: Revolution Sporting Director & Head Coach Bruce Arena \(6/17\)](#)
- [SOUND: Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner \(6/17\)](#)
- [VIDEO: Training B-Roll](#)
- [Additional Revolution Media Assets](#)

| Revolution Media Schedule: June 17 – June 19 | | |
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| Date | Media Availability | Notes/Links |
| Friday, June 17 | Video Press Conference feat. Sporting Director and Head Coach Bruce Arena & Goalkeeper Matt Turner | VIDEO HERE |

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| <p>Saturday, June 18</p> | <p>11:00 a.m. ET – Training Access</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. ET – 17th Annual Boston Scores Cup at Gillette Stadium</p> <p>7:00 p.m. ET – Revolution II vs. Rochester NY FC MLS NEXT Pro Match #12 Streaming: MLSNEXTPro.com</p> | <p>RSVP via email</p> |
| <p>Sunday, June 19</p> | <p>4:30 p.m. ET – “Revolution Kickoff” on myTV38</p> <p>5:00 p.m. ET – Kickoff vs. Minnesota United FC MLS Regular Season Match #16 <i>2022 Juneteenth Match & Matt Turner Sendoff</i> TV: myTV38, myRITV Radio: 98.5 The Sports Hub, 1260 AM Nossa</p> <p>7:00 p.m. – Postgame Press Conference feat. Bruce Arena, Matt Turner and TBA</p> | <p>RSVP via email</p> |
| <p><i>Subject to change; Spanish translation available upon request</i></p> | | |

Revolution Sporting Director & Head Coach Bruce Arena

On the talks between himself and Matt Turner throughout the transfer process:

Arena: “Well, I think the ironic part of the transfer is that Arsenal is [Matt Turner’s] favorite team. So, when the opportunity arose, it was clearly something he wanted to do. And we felt that there was a certain number that needed to be met for the transfer to go through and it all worked out. We’re real pleased that it worked out for Matt and our club as well as Arsenal. This this is all part of the business. We’re going to lose good players if we do a good job with them and if our team experiences some successes. So, that’s been the case with the three players that we’ve transferred this year.”

On Matt Turner’s being one of the best success stories in U.S. Soccer history:

Arena: “I don’t know how you come to that. I mean, where would you put Landon Donovan? Among others? I mean, you’re putting the cart ahead of the horse, I think, at this point, but it’s certainly a wonderful story. And hopefully there’s more good days ahead and we can speak about this in years to come with a little bit more history behind it.”

On Boston being selected as a venue for the 2026 FIFA World Cup™:

Arena: “Well, it’s wonderful. I wasn’t at the venue in 1994 when the World Cup was here, but I was at other venues. I went to the opening game in the Silverdome and went to some other games around the country. And I think in this region, our sport is growing. We have great enthusiasm for sports here in New England. So, I think it’s going to be a fantastic home run. On top of it, in the month of June, I believe those are the dates for that World Cup being in Boston, there’s not a greater city in the country. So, I think it’s fabulous. I know the stadium is going to be in fantastic shape. They’ll have a permanent grass field in there and there’s work being done in the stadium now. It’s going to be an absolutely beautiful venue. So, I think it’s just a tremendous opportunity for everyone involved and I think the region’s going to support it great.”

On Minnesota United’s biggest threats:

Arena: “Well, [Emmanuel] Reynoso is one of the best players in the league, he’s their playmaker. [Robin] Lod, I believe that’s how it’s pronounced, their striker, has seven goals to date. So, those are two players that you certainly need to be aware of. Their goalkeeper [Dayne] St. Clair is an outstanding young

goalkeeper, and they have some very good players. They have a good speed on the flanks and they're good team. So, it'll be a real challenge game for us. And, yeah, the end of the week for us with three games in eight days, which is certainly challenging, so hopefully we're up to the task."

On the transfer fee for Matt Turner:

Arena: "We keep those things between us. Often, when these fees are reported, they're not accurate to give you a little bit of a hint. It's something that all parties were obviously in agreement with, and we'll leave it at that but we don't we don't publicize those things. There's no point to it."

On the type of player Matt Turner is:

Arena: "There's very few people in a sport with better character than Matt Turner. His strength is certainly shot blocking. He's outstanding on his line, he's quick, he makes great saves, has great reflexes, his distribution has improved greatly as has his ability on crosses. So, he's becoming a very good goalkeeper. I coached Brad Friedel, Kasey Keller, goalkeepers that have played very well in the Premiership and Matt can grow to that level. So, I think Arsenal has gotten themselves a very good goalkeeper."

On the challenge of playing Western Conference teams:

Arena: "Yes, I think so. This is my third year here in New England and we've never played Minnesota, so that should be fun. [Minnesota Head Coach] Adrian Heath and I drank about six bottles of wine with [Portland Timbers Head Coach] Giovanni Savarese a couple of years ago at a preseason tournament, so it'll be great to see Adrian again. But all kidding aside, they're a good team. It's always interesting to see the teams from the other conference. You know, traditionally, in our league, we've played every team in the league and that's certainly going to change now that we have the expansion that we have to date. But it'll be great. And I look forward, I think we have a couple more games out-of-conference the rest of the year. I think the LA Galaxy come here and there might be another team, I'm not sure, but to date we played Dallas and Real Salt Lake, I believe, out-of-conference and we do enjoy it when we play the teams from the Western Conference."

Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner

On what this next step means to him:

Turner: "It means a lot to me. I've always been in this game because I love it, and secondly to see how far I can take it and this is obviously a big step up, MLS going to the Premier League. It's going to be an amazing journey, amazing step in my story, but that novelty will wear off pretty soon because I understand that going there, it's going to require a lot of focus. It's going to require a lot of dedication and sacrifice, and I'm going to have to put my best foot forward every single day if I want to have even a sniff of success."

On his career so far:

Turner: "It's been insane. It's been an insane ride as a professional, but I'm a product of how I was brought up through the game. For me, I came to soccer late, and because of that I've always had to prove myself every single day. I always sort of had the decks stacked against me, so I didn't have opportunities come flying at me all the time. When I got those opportunities to play or to be in a preseason, to have an opportunity to start a game, I always knew that I had to make the most of them and really perform if I wanted to develop that credibility. And the more you play, the more credibility you sort of develop over time, but I was never somebody that had the youth or the background career-wise to be able to have that credibility without actually being seen, without actually being on the field. So that's been some of the toughest challenges because not as many doors were open for me, but one of my greatest strengths is because when the opportunities presented themselves, especially over the past few seasons, I was ready for them."

On what it has meant to play for the Revolution and if he imagines himself coming back to the team one day:

Turner: "New England's home. New England's home for me, for my wife. She's from Maine. It's the place where I became an adult. It's the place where I realized many of my dreams so it's hard to speak on down

the road right now. My focus is purely on setting off the right way with the fans and then starting my journey in the UK, so I would never close the door for that possibility. I love it here. I love the facilities. I love the Kraft family. And it would be it would be really, really nice to get to play for them again down the road, but sometimes things happen out of your control, with the way the MLS order is, you know, coming back to the league, it can be a little chaotic, so I'll deal with that in a long time I hope and for now I'm just going to focus on saying goodbye to the fans who hold a really special place in my heart, who've welcomed me to this team, made me feel like a superstar even when I was playing games in Richmond. And it's been tough, no question over the past few seasons with COVID and everything, not getting the chance to be with them one-on-one as closely, signing autographs, those kinds of things as frequently. That's been challenging, but I hope that Sunday we'll sort of be able to rectify all that, and then leave on good terms and hopefully see everyone in the future."

On his inspirations growing up:

Turner: "It's my family in general to be honest, not just my immediate family, who are obviously all amazing people that the fans I think have grown to learn who they are and love as well, but my extended family. I come from a region in North Jersey where all of my cousins, all of my aunts and uncles, grandparents, we all live within 10 minutes of each other, so every birthday, every holiday, every occasion really, everyone gets together and that's kind of the way that you got lifted up when you were down because you got family together and it put things into perspective for you. It shows you what's important, but it also kept me humble because when you were doing really well, you know I was the youngest at the time, and I had older cousins, one who actually played baseball at Merrimack, and he was one that would always just make sure I was humble. He would just take digs at me just to make sure my head could fit through the door so it's really nice. I was really lucky and blessed to come from a region, an area where all my family was close together. And it really did take a village it's not just one person that I specifically looked up to, but obviously my mom and dad are great role models, both of my sisters athletically on the field, off the field academically, they were just amazing role models for me and people that I to this day continue to look up to."

On how he's feeling about joining Arsenal and when he found out the team was interested in him:

Turner: "I'm feeling good. I'm feeling extremely excited, grateful obviously for this opportunity to play for such a historic club with an amazing fan base. It's surreal so I'm looking forward to getting my boots on the ground in the UK and getting to work, not thinking of it as this like mystical foreign land and just really going over there and putting the work in because that's what I do best. I'm going to go there and I'm going to work really, really hard. And I guess I'll say the interest, I found that out late last year, late fall, early winter, and as time went on, in the beginning of January, that's when I realized it was definitely really real, the interest, and then the negotiations happened and that was quite an experience in itself and then you go from there and obviously sign and the transfer will be completed next week pending the medical."

On what advice he's received ahead of the transfer:

Turner: "I'd say that everything worked out the way it was supposed to because going to London, luckily I do have family there. My cousin actually lives in London. Where I went to school at Fairfield University, probably over the course of time while I was there I went to school with a dozen or so guys that were from London, from the UK, so I have a really good support system over there. My goalkeeper coach here is from London, his family is still over there. Obviously, my college roommate lives in London. So I have people that I can rely on, people that can hold me accountable and get together to destress a little bit, per se but yeah, it is no question, a lot of change at once. I think the thing I'm most nervous about is becoming a father. That's outside of soccer, but I know that I'll have people that I can rely on over there so I'm not really concerned in that matter."

On Djordje Petrović:

Turner: "Yeah, I've been watching every game obviously. He's done really well his last two games. I thought in the Kansas City game, obviously, he stood tall, he made a good save. But what impressed me the most was some of the balls he was coming out for, dealing with punching, catching, and I thought those were some really impressive plays that just instills that confidence in his backline. I think his English is coming along which is really helpful for communication. And obviously the other night, still some growing pains but he made some dazzling saves and showed you what he's capable of. I mean, I was not

like that when I was 22 that's for sure, so I think he's got a bright, bright future. Obviously, I tried to help him as much as I could with the time we had together. It wasn't much but hopefully down the road he can think of some of the advice I gave him and be a great player for this organization. He's a great kid. He's humble, he's quiet, but at the same time, he has that bite and that edge, and he loves to compete, so I really like Djordje, and I wish him the best in the future.”

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