

REVOLUTION

MEDIA RELEASE

Revolution Media Assets & Transcript: Bruce Arena & Damian Rivera (August 15, 2022)

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. – The New England Revolution will open a two-match week on Wednesday evening with a critical Eastern Conference clash at Toronto FC. The match kicks off at 7:30 p.m. ET and airs on WSBK-TV38, myRITV, and Cozi TV with Brad Feldman and Charlie Davies calling the action. Wednesday’s contest also airs locally on the radio via 98.5 The Sports Hub and 1260 AM Nossa Radio in Portuguese.

Following Monday’s training session, Revolution Sporting Director & Head Coach **Bruce Arena** and midfielder **Damian Rivera** met the media to preview Wednesday’s match. View the links below to access footage of today’s interviews in addition to a complete transcript, game notes, and additional media assets.

Revolution Media Assets: August 15, 2022

- **GAME NOTES: August 17 at Toronto FC: available soon**
- [SOUND: Revolution Sporting Director & Head Coach Bruce Arena \(8/15\)](#)
- [SOUND: Revolution Midfielder Damian Rivera \(8/15\)](#)
- [VIDEO: Training B-Roll](#)
- [Additional Revolution Media Assets](#)

Revolution Media Schedule: August 15 – 20		
Date	Media Availability	Notes/Links
Monday, August 15	Video Press Conference feat. Bruce Arena and midfielder Damian Rivera	VIDEO HERE
Tuesday, August 16	11:00 a.m. ET – Training Access *TRAVEL DAY*	RSVP via email
Wednesday, August 17	7:30 p.m. – Kickoff at Toronto FC MLS Regular Season Match #25 TV: myTV38, myRITV (Rhode Island), Cozi TV (Western Mass.) Radio: 98.5 The Sports Hub, 1260 AM Nossa ~9:30 p.m. – Postgame Press Conference	CLICK HERE to participate
Thursday, August 18	*TRAVEL DAY*	No Media Access

Friday, August 19	11:30 a.m. – Video Press Conference feat. Bruce Arena and a Revolution Player (TBA)	CLICK HERE to participate
Saturday, August 20	<p>7:30 p.m. – Kickoff at CF Montreal MLS Regular Season Match #26</p> <p>TV: myTV38, myRITV (Rhode Island) Radio: 98.5 The Sports Hub, 1260 AM Nossa</p> <p>~9:30 p.m. – Postgame Press Conference</p>	CLICK HERE to participate
<i>Subject to change; Spanish translation available upon request</i>		

Revolution Sporting Director & Head Coach Bruce Arena

On the team's injury status entering the two-game week.

Arena: "I will not know that until tomorrow. Really nothing to update because we really didn't do anything the last two days. Tomorrow, we'll pick it up a little bit and test some of those players that have been out."

On the team's defensive effort over the last four shutouts:

Arena: "Well, everyone's contributing. Certainly, Djordje [Petrović's] shot blocking has been excellent. I think the entire group is defending as a unit, midfield players are getting into better positions defensively, the backline is more coordinated and doing a good job communicating with the players around them, so it's been a total team effort with a goalkeeper making some key saves in games that give us an advantage."

On if he expects the younger players and Academy graduates to get more minutes in upcoming games:

Arena: "Well, I don't think Esmir [Bajraktarević] has played in a game yet and Noel [Buck] just played in one game, so obviously they have to be ready to play. The kind of minutes they get is subject really to the status of our players, who is healthy and who is not, and the kind of games we're in. So, the last game, I would not have expected Noel [Buck] to give us 30 minutes and he gave us 30 real good minutes, so who knows? I think every game as we close out the regular season is going to be challenging, but those guys are expected to be part of our game day roster."

On Tommy McNamara's dependability:

Arena: "He plays in a bunch of positions, he's a good passer, and he's taken part in goals, and not only is he versatile, he's durable, which is big. So, if you look at our team on the year, my guess is that you'll see that [Andrew] Farrell and [Brandon] Bye and [DeJuan] Jones and McNamara and Carles Gil have been there just about every game if needed. A lot of teams, you can look at, say, a team in our conference, Philadelphia, who I think is in first, right? They're playing the same players basically every game the entire season. We have players like [Gustavo] Bou who I think has only started nine or 10 games this year, Giacomo [Vrioni] who just came in, has not been available as of late. It's difficult. [Dylan] Borrero has missed a number of games with his injuries, [Henry] Kessler has missed a number of games, so it's been tough, and we've flipped goalkeepers. We've played four goalkeepers, so I give our team a lot of credit that we're in the position we're in now, to still be active in the playoff hunt. Hopefully, we can close out the next 10 games in good fashion, but certainly Tommy McNamara has been one of the key players in trying to keep our heads above water."

On midfielder Ignacio "Nacho" Gil, Carles Gil's brother, training with the team and if he could be signed:

Arena: "It's possible. He's related to one of the players [Carles Gil] on our team, so it's not surprising that

we've seen him here in Boston, but he's a good player. He's a player that we're considering. He's free right now, so he's eligible to be signed, so that would be a possibility down the road."

On what has helped Damian Rivera rise through the organization to the first team:

Arena: "[Rivera] has come through the Academy and the second team. One of our local players that has shown some promise, so I think that's the reason for it and we have, I believe, 31 players on our roster today – two that are not active, that are out on loan, but Tico's been a player that has done well at the second team level and has gotten minutes here and there for us and continues to show some promise. It's just based on his hard work and his potential."

Revolution Midfielder Damian Rivera

On developing through the Revolution Academy and Revolution II:

Rivera: "I think coming up through the Academy and now with the second team has helped my development a lot. I think playing games with the second team improves my fitness, getting in shape and stuff like that. I think it all helps."

On his friendship with fellow Homegrown midfielder Noel Buck:

Rivera: "I know Noel. We're both Homegrowns. We have an extra special connection. I thought he played well in the minutes he played. I always try to give him a little bit of advice, but I thought he did well."

On the mindset heading into the final 10 games of the regular season:

Rivera: "I think coming off four clean sheets in the past four games is good for us. I think in these last games of the season, we want to continue to push and continue to be a good team defensively, and obviously offensively. I think if we continue to do that, we'll be in a good place at the end of the regular season."

On the teammates he leans on for advice:

Rivera: "I would say it's more than one person. Guys like [Andrew] Farrell, Carles [Gil], they are guys that can give you advice. Dylan Borrero as well. I got close with him. I think most of the group is good at giving advice, especially the older guys."

On his impressions of Nacho Gil in training:

Rivera: "I don't think I saw too much of him, but I did have a few training sessions with him. He's a very good player, like his brother, Cares [Gil]. He's a midfielder player, he's very clean on the ball, and he's an excellent player."

On players stepping up when needed as the team battles injuries:

Rivera: "With injuries and things like that, I think guys that have played recently have stepped up in a way. Even guys that don't usually play as much are stepping up to the level we should be playing at. I think as a team, we've been playing very well defensively and that's helped us a lot recently."

MEDIA RESOURCES

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COMMUNICATIONS CONTACTS

COMMUNICATIONS STAFF

ADAM KLIONSKY
HAROLD RIVERA
DAN SHULMAN
MERISA BOYD

INTERVIEWS, ACCESS & CREDENTIAL REQUESTS

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS (508) 455-7551
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER (ESPAÑOL) (508) 404-0248
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR (508) 404-5677
COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE (508) 254-1890

MEDIA@REVOLUTIONSOCCER.NET

ADAMK@REVOLUTIONSOCCER.NET
HAROLDR@REVOLUTIONSOCCER.NET
DSHULMAN@REVOLUTIONSOCCER.NET
MERISAB@REVOLUTIONSOCCER.NET