

POST GAME QUOTES
Saturday, April 20, 2024
LAFC vs. New York Red Bulls



STEVE CHERUNDOLO
LAFC HEAD COACH

RE: On the game

"I think you saw a very good New York team. Disciplined, hardworking. Pragmatic at times, but a much-improved squad than the New York we saw I think two years ago here. Sandro [Schwartz] has done a great job with them so far. They're out a few of their key players but also seemed very organized and a tough team to beat. We knew that coming in here and we felt like we had the tools and the strategy to do that. I think going down a goal early with a set piece, after an injury, is never easy but I think our boys shook it off pretty well. They got themselves back into the game. The second half response was very good. I think chasing the game like that is difficult against a team who is excellent on the counter and excellent on set pieces. We did it in a controlled manner, without allowing too much but also still being dangerous. I was quite happy with the performance from then on. Two set pieces is important. We'll talk about it, but it doesn't happen very often. We didn't win this game because the first 15 minutes, in my opinion, were just too passive. At home, that is not acceptable."

RE: On Aaron Long's injury status

"He should be fine."

RE: On the two goals the team conceded on set pieces

"The first one was an own goal, so I think just maybe a miscommunication. I'll have to speak with both players about it exactly. In the video it just looked like a slight miscommunication and Eddie [Segura] had just walked on the field. Unlucky for him but it is what it is. Those situations need to be cleared in a better matter. The second one, a little unlucky with the ball just kind of got lost in the middle of a few guys and we lost our mark. So those are not clear mistakes, just kind of unlucky mistakes. But on the night, I think you can say that a lot of those second balls didn't go our way. That's not because of bad luck. That's because of not putting yourselves in the right position, not anticipating and not being on our toes. But I think New York had that small advantage tonight and that turned into two goals for them. From there, it's hard to chase but we did a good job chasing the game and, like I said, getting ourselves back in it."