



# NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION

## TRANSCRIPT

### TRANSCRIPT (10/4): Postgame at Inter Miami CF

*Soundbytes from Interim Head Coach Pablo Moreira and Defender Will Sands*

#### Revolution Interim Head Coach Pablo Moreira

##### ***On Saturday's match at Inter Miami CF:***

**Moreira:** "I thought Miami did a good job in the first half playing around the perimeter. It caused some problems for us in terms of some of the rotations that we had. Then once we sorted that out, I thought it was a little better in that sense. But yeah, it was tough because obviously, we were down one-nothing, at that point, you just want to stop the bleeding and get to the half 1-0. That was a tough moment to give up that goal; a bit deflating. In the locker room, we had a good chat at halftime and changed some things up in terms of the formation and personnel based on what we saw. I thought we had a good run in the game, pulled it [back to] 2-1. Again, when your response is that and then all of a sudden, they're right back at you and 20 seconds later they score a goal, it's going to be a difficult mountain to climb, especially against a team like Miami. Ultimately, we weren't good enough on the day and they were. When we did have moments to get back, ultimately we shot ourselves in the foot again. We essentially killed our own momentum and that's something that we have to move forward with and correct and take that into this week."

##### ***On what caused the defensive letdowns and his message to the team after the match:***

**Moreira:** "I think it's just letting your guard down in those moments. The soccer IQ has to be better in the sense [that] there's no need to play that quickly on the second goal. Ultimately, just our response after we score a goal, we're back in it but again, it's not [an] aggressive nature. It's almost like we were very happy pulling that goal back, but then ultimately, when you let your guard down in that fashion, it just zaps your momentum. Credit to the guys in terms of them pushing and getting ourselves in a good spot to get back into the game. But like I said, those are just moments that [are] deflating and they're hard to come back from."

##### ***On what the strengths of this team are and areas where they need improvement next season:***

**Moreira:** "I've said it over and over, we have a great locker room. In terms of the character of the locker room, that's exactly where it should be. In terms of what we need to get better, you saw it today, I think our responses. Some of that has nothing to do with soccer and everything to do with the mentality. Unfortunately, we've been through a lot this year, but we can't have the victim mindset. We have to have an aggressive mindset, and just our IQ in some moments. I feel like this season we've given away some sloppy goals in moments that we can't correct. I think a lot of that can come down to frustration in those moments, but that's where we need to be mentally stronger and push forward. But yeah, we're going to keep working on it. The Philly and Atlanta games, it felt like we were ticking upwards. Then you run into a team like this [Inter Miami] that's going to punish you. Margins are always slim, but against this team, you can't have those lapses and errors."

##### ***On Dor Turgeman scoring in a second straight game to start his MLS career:***

**Moreira:** "It's two games and two goals, so the guy [Dor Turgeman] gets goals. I really liked that he completed a full 90 [minutes] and looked strong from the beginning to the end. He was a bright spot on the day. You just see what he does in tight spaces, and he makes you pay. He's a lethal player and we've seen that over the last two games. He has two goals and one assist and has contributed in all of our goals."

Obviously, he's someone that we profiled and we hit it on the head with him. We're really happy with his performance and we just want him to keep going."

***On the halftime substitutions and change in formation:***

**Moreira:** "I think Allan [Oyirwoth] didn't have a great first half. I think that's, again, the maturation of a young player; it's can you get to halftime. I think he grew into the game. At the beginning, it was fast for him. It was a lot and ultimately, I put my hand up there because I thought [Alhassan] Yusuf came in and did very well. Allan had a good run of games, but this is a big game. This is a big game against a good team, and sometimes the lights are bright, and it was a lot for him. Then with Mamadou [Fofana], I just felt like that play was a tough play. It's not the sole reason, but we needed to change the shape and get a little more aggressive to get back in the game. That was just kind of our tweaks. They helped out in getting that goal back, but ultimately not good enough."

**Revolution Defender Will Sands**

***On tonight's match at Inter Miami CF:***

**Sands:** "Quite simply, I just don't think it was good enough. I think we played into their hands too much. We definitely dug ourselves a hole in the first half and then [it was] an uphill battle from there. Just overall, not good enough."

***On the team's defensive letdowns in moments that led to Miami's goals:***

**Sands:** "I think it was just momentary lapses in concentration. It's just something we have to be better at. Overall, just simple mistakes that kind of led to our undoing, and then the game opened up when we tried to go for it. I think it's the little mistakes that kind of grow into bigger and bigger holes."

***On areas in need of improvement moving forward:***

**Sands:** "I think just a general cohesion. We need to have a clear identity of how we are, as a team, going forward and at the back. At times this year, it's been a little bit too disjointed. I think this is a group of guys that always works hard and gives their all, but at this level, you have to put together 90-minute performances and that's something we haven't done enough this year. While I think the effort is there, I do think that we have to kind of clean up our performances."

***On the team's focus for the final game of the season on October 18 vs. Chicago Fire FC:***

**Sands:** "We all just want to give our fans a good ending to the season. It's been hard throughout the entirety of the season. I think giving our fans a sendoff they deserve is kind of the utmost importance for us, and that's something we're going to work really hard for over the next two weeks."

***On his defensive tackle late in the game against Lionel Messi tonight:***

**Sands:** "Credit to them, they have a lot of amazing players. That's certainly not a position you want to be [in] at the end of the game. As I said before, I think we need to put ourselves in a position where that's not really necessary and that we are [in] a much closer game at the end."

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