

Toronto FC Media Conference

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Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Terry Dunfield

Media Conference



Real Salt Lake 1, Toronto FC 0

Q. Not the result you wanted but the quality of your overall performance?

TERRY DUNFIELD: Yes, it's a tough one to swallow for sure. I thought that the guys in that changing room should be really proud of their performance and what surprised me when I spoke to the group afterwards was how hard they are on themselves, and we needed more. We need to work harder. Give it everything we've got.

But the feedback was, we've got to give everything. It was special to see, in just four days, and I can't speak to exactly what that changing room was like before but that group has come together and we were seconds away from a really good result against a good Salt Lake side. I think the boys should be so proud of their result.

Q. Lorenzo coming off -- is that injury-related?

TERRY DUNFIELD: Yeah, injury-related. I haven't spoken to medical yet. But hopefully it's good news -- the fact he was able to get to halftime without feeling it, I thought that was positive.

Q. What was the thought --

TERRY DUNFIELD: Yeah, good question. So how we want to work a little bit is amplify what we have in our locker room, and there's some quality in there for sure. But also look at Salt Lake a little bit, too, and I felt like this was the best way to go against Salt Lake. I thought defensively it really good work. We took away their defensive midfielders, protected the middle of the pitch well. I didn't think we were stretched a ton. So that worked, and at halftime we just opened the system unfortunate and it left us some chances and a high tempo in the second half, so it's not that the guys took on the feedback at halftime and did really well with that. But that was some of the thinking behind it.

Q. Bizarre obviously but -- what was the thinking behind that and anything he did?

TERRY DUNFIELD: Proud of his moments, a moment under the lights -- some of the thinking was Shane has been out for a while. We knew we could get to 50, 60 with him. Settled us down a little bit. He's comfortable on the ball. There's more to come. I thought defensively he did well. He had two centers up against him and I thought they did well.

Q. What did you make of the changes -- pushed Salt Lake and overall?

TERRY DUNFIELD: About 70 minutes, when I thought to myself was, I'm really excited to get the video and review it get it work tomorrow. That was my feel. I felt like the pitches were close. It's definitely to change a ton in just four days but I thought it was good. I thought there were some nice moments where we created opportunities, but I think with the ball, yeah, I think we can really move the group and that was my feedback to the team was keep trusting in our process. We have done some excellent work and we are going to keep getting better and that's where we are going to start in the morning is see how close we were to our checklist.

Q. What did you see on the goal?

TERRY DUNFIELD: A set piece. I'd like to say, that Greg had to make and I thought it was nice composure from the Salt Lake player to cut it back. I thought it was good from Salt Lake. Just a tough one with the amount of effort that the group put in but we'll be tested tonight, tomorrow morning, when they come in that we are able to still continue to live off of one. So I'm excited to see how the group react in the morning. But we'll be clear with our video session and we'll regroup and get ready for Orlando on Tuesday.

Q. You said the group has been hard on themselves, and?

TERRY DUNFIELD: We are close and we're looking at the game objectively and we'll take a good look at that video and I think there were close in many moments.

Q. What do you look at Fede's performance, what do



you think?

TERRY DUNFIELD: I felt like he led by example. I thought he led with his heart. I think he can be dangerous in various areas of the pitch for sure. I think us as a team need to work collectively to find the right moments to progress and penetrate, and that's something we'll look at tomorrow. But for sure, Fede can be proud of his performance.

Q. (Off mic).

TERRY DUNFIELD: It was exciting. I definitely enjoyed the special atmosphere at BMO Field again. It was special and once the game started, was excited to see our work play out and see our guys go to work and it was a lot of positives we can take out of it.

Q. What are some of the challenges, it's a real short turnaround, Tuesday, as opposed to Wednesday. Monday is a travel day so you have less time than normal. What is sort of the challenges in terms of getting the team ready?

TERRY DUNFIELD: I don't see it as a challenge. I see it as an opportunity for us to continue to grow with ten games left. So I think the players, once we review processes and review the game, we will see a little bit, maybe something slightly different. My feel is that the guys will want to play again on Tuesday and keep working on our game.

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