



LA Galaxy Media Conference

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Maya Yoshida

Press Conference

Q. What's your favorite color?

MAYA YOSHIDA: That's exactly the same as my daughter ask to the Siri.

White, yeah.

Q. We wanted to talk to you because we've been talking to you after losses and this is a win. You came out on Wednesday and apologized to fans. What does this mean for you, for the team? I know it's just one win, but it seems like a significant step forward.

MAYA YOSHIDA: After last game I came here not to excuse the reason why we keep losing; instead I came here for showing my determination.

Today we showed a different performance I would say and making good result. Probably the game performance wasn't like our top performance, but still we make clean sheet and we could score two goals. And we could control the game easily second half also. We make a good block defensively.

Then everybody sacrifice for defending, even the wingers as well, and strikers, and Naschi come back a lot of times and just Pec press back to the wingback as well.

And so for my performance also I think I don't deserve to be here. I think instead Novak or Lucas should be here. Probably they're too shy to be here as well. Novak making great save at the beginning of the game, that was crucial for me and for us. And Lucas playing better and better every game and understanding each other and physically fit as well.

So very happy for him to score first MLS goal. You know, many things. Football is so -- looks is easy and looks so complicated. You know, we try to win many games and we couldn't, and today we could win. So I cannot explain why is this, but this is what soccer is.

Q. Is there a sense of relief? Just happiness? I know you guys go on a two-week break now. Is there any reason you guys can't carry this momentum forward?

MAYA YOSHIDA: I think the important key is continuity, so that's we are missing since the beginning of the season. This is just one win, but for me, for us, it's huge win, and important thing is we have to continue like that. That have to be our standard. That have to be our minimum.

So we still have a lot of possibility to improve as a team, as individual, and we have a break next week, no games, international, so we can be very fresh mentally, physically, and start again.



Saint Lucia is just two, three above us, so every game is crucial for us because of the past results. One by one we have to focus and showing our continuity, and then we'll see and we can talk more, think more positive things after that.

Q. You talked about Novak and Lucas. They're young, but how have you seen them develop the last couple weeks, especially Lucas? He seems to be almost like a different player since the start of the season to now.

MAYA YOSHIDA: Novak have been long time, but Lucas is just first season. Also come from different country, just the first time abroad. It's not easy. I was same. So we need to have time, but unfortunately because of our result we needed to like -- we need him to be fit as quick as possible.

Beginning of the season probably that was very difficult for him, and for us as well, but after couple games constantly he played and he got better condition and also get used to MLS style, especially the Galaxy style.

We understand also his strengths. Novak had a big opportunity to play beginning of the season. Then there is competition. J Mack (?) was champion goalkeeper last season.

I think this kind of like competition between the team is very important, including myself. So there is always competition. And I don't think we are too far from the team above us, so during the competition in the team we have to lift each other up and making good result.

Q. Continuing on Novak, Greg said that he has finally or the team is starting to finally see the Novak that he thought that he would see and maybe the keeper of the future. How does it feel playing there in front of him, and could you see Novak being the keeper here in the future?

MAYA YOSHIDA: Again, he and we need continuity, so especially goalkeeper. One mistake is crucial. The stability is very important. He's still young and mistake will happen, but also his potential is really, really interesting for me. He's very shy boy and very quiet, so not communicating a lot in the team.

But once he played and he's showing great performance then he get different reputation. So he need to keep working hard. Then again, J Mack (?) Is still ready as a professional as always. That's kind of environment is very important for young players. Not only him, but also Lucas, Julián, Isaiah, Elijah, those kind of players.

Q. What do you hope to accomplish in the next two weeks?

MAYA YOSHIDA: So some small injuries have to be back and fit, everybody fit. Because now it's getting hot and we have to play in some away game like Houston and Dallas, I don't know, somewhere. So physically getting much tougher, so be ready, everybody have to be ready.

Again, in good fit and good competition and competition in the team, and we have to be ready for every minute, every situation, again, one by one. This is just one game. This is big step and we make another step.

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