



# PORTLAND TIMBERS PRESS RELEASE

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## TEN-MAN TIMBERS FALL TO VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC IN MLS SEASON OPENER AT PROVIDENCE PARK

**Antony scores Portland's first goal; Diego Chara makes history with  
400<sup>th</sup> appearance**

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – A 10-man Portland Timbers side fell to Vancouver Whitecaps FC by a score of 4-1 in their 2025 MLS season opener at Providence Park on Sunday afternoon. Antony scored Portland's lone goal of the match and first of the 2025 season. The Timbers will return home next weekend, hosting Austin FC on Saturday, March 1.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season**

The Timbers kicked off its 15<sup>th</sup> MLS season and 50<sup>th</sup> club anniversary season today. Founded in 1975, the Timbers have been a beloved part of the Portland sports landscape since their early beginnings in the North American Soccer League, launching the era of "Soccer City USA" in the Rose City. Portland joined MLS as an expansion team in 2011, winning its first league championship in 2015.

### **Portland Debuts**

Six new players debuted for the Green and Gold in today's match. Jimer Fory, Kevin Kelsy and Joao Ortiz all started the match, while Portland's newest Designated Player David Da Costa entered the match as a halftime substitute. MLS SuperDraft 2025 pick Ian Smith also made his professional debut, entering the match in the second half. MLS Veteran and Portland newcomer Ariel Lassiter made his Timbers debut in the final minutes of the match.

### **Milestone Match**

Starting in today's match, Diego Chara logged his 400<sup>th</sup> MLS regular season appearance with the Timbers. He's just the 13<sup>th</sup> player in league history to reach that milestone and the first to play all 400 with one club. Portland's longest tenured player and captain has tallied 12 goals and 34 assists in his 15 seasons in Portland. Also in today's starting eleven, Felipe Mora recorded his 100<sup>th</sup> appearance for the Timbers. The Chilean striker has notched 39 goals and 15 assists since joining the club in 2020.

### **Goal-Scoring Plays**

**VAN – Ryan Gauld (Jayden Nelson), 24th minute:** Jayden Nelson intercepted a pass and dribbled into the 18-yard box before playing a square pass to Ryan Gauld, who hit a left-footed shot into the middle of the goal.

**VAN – Pedro Vite (Jayden Nelson), 32nd minute:** Nelson played a give-and-go with Pedro Vite, who dribbled the ball to the top-right corner of the 18-yard box, finding space to strike a right-footed shot into the top-left corner of the goal.

**VAN – Sam Adekugbe (Jayden Nelson), 53rd minute:** Through a breakaway run, Nelson dribbled into

the box and delivered a pass across the face of the goal. Sam Adekugbe tapped the ball into the back of the net.

**VAN – Jayden Nelson, 61st minute:** Nelson dribbled from near the midfield and towards the top of the 18-yard box. Once in the box, Nelson cut through the defense to hit a left-footed shot into the lower-left corner of the goal.

**POR – Antony, 73rd minute:** Near the top of the box, Kevin Kelsy attempted a shot that ricocheted off a 'Caps defenseman. Antony found the loose ball near the six-yard box and fired a shot past Vancouver's goalkeeper.

### Notes

- The Timbers kicked off their 50<sup>th</sup> club anniversary season today.
- The 2025 season marks Portland's 15<sup>th</sup> MLS campaign.
- Portland is 8-3-4 all time in Providence Park openers.
- Antony scored the Timbers first goal of the season.
- Notably, Antony has scored in back-to-back home openers, after notching a brace against the Colorado Rapids on February 24, 2024.
- Starting in today's match, Diego Chara logged his 400<sup>th</sup> MLS regular season appearance with the Timbers.
- Chara's just the 13<sup>th</sup> player in league history to reach that milestone and the first to play all 400 with one club.
- Felipe Mora recorded his 100<sup>th</sup> appearance for the Timbers.
- David Da Costa, Jimer Fory, Kevin Kelsy, Ariel Lassiter, Joao Ortiz and Ian Smith all made their debuts in Green and Gold.
- Smith, drafted by Portland in the MLS SuperDraft 2025, also made his professional debut in the match.

### Next Game

Up next, the Timbers will host Austin FC on Saturday, March 1 at Providence Park. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m. (Pacific) on [MLS Season Pass](#) on the Apple TV app in English and Spanish as well as local radio broadcasts, 750 The Game (English) and La Grand 1150AM/93.5 FM (Spanish).

### **Portland Timbers vs. Vancouver Whitecaps FC**

February 23, 2024 – Providence Park (Portland, Ore.)

Goals by Half	1	2	F
Portland Timbers	0	1	1
Vancouver Whitecaps FC	2	2	4

### Scoring Summary:

VAN: Gauld (Nelson), 24  
VAN: Vite (Nelson), 32  
VAN: Adekugbe (Nelson), 53  
VAN: Nelson, 61  
POR: Antony, 73

### Misconduct Summary:

POR: K. Miller (ejection), 11  
VAN: Cubas (caution), 37  
POR: Fory (caution), 63  
VAN: Gauld (caution), 89

### Lineups:

POR: GK Crépeau, D Surman (Smith, 66), D McGraw, D K. Miller, M Antony (Lassiter, 86), M Ayala, M

Chara ©, M Ayala (Da Costa, 46), M Ortiz (Paredes, 66), M Fory, F Mora (E. Miller, 37), F Kelsy

Substitutes Not Used: GK Pantemis, D Bravo, D Mosquera, F Guerra

TOTAL SHOTS: 6 (Kelsy, 2); SHOTS ON GOAL: 2 (Antony, Kelsy, 1); FOULS: 9 (Chara, 5); OFFSIDES: 1; CORNER KICKS: 3; SAVES: 6

VAN: GK Takaoka, D Laborda, D Veselinovic, D Blackmon, D Adekugbe (Ocampo, 82), M Vite, M Cubas (Priso, 62), M Berhalter (Badwal, 82), M Gauld ©, F White (Chateau, 87), F Nelson (Ahmed, 62)

Substitutes Not Used: GK Boehmer, D Ahmed, D Johnson, D Halbouni, D Utvik, M Priso-Mbongue

TOTAL SHOTS: 23 (White, 5) SHOTS ON GOAL: 10 (Gauld, 3); FOULS: 15 (six players tied, 2); OFFSIDES: 2; CORNER KICKS: 10; SAVES: 1

Referee: Victor Rivas

Assistant Referees: Brooke Mayo, Justin Howard

Fourth Official: Ekaterina Koroleva

VAR: Kevin Stott

Attendance: 20,079

*All statistics contained in this box score are unofficial.*

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