

MLS POST-GAME QUOTES

Portland Timbers FC v Real Salt Lake
Jul 25, 2026 – Providence Park, Portland, OR
Final: Portland Timbers FC 2, Real Salt Lake 1

Portland Timbers FC Quotes

Portland Timbers FC Interim Head Coach Jack Cassidy

On what the last few weeks has been like for the team and as interim Head Coach...

"We've been on a bit of a journey because it was slowing down a bit at the start, and the club were still sort of searching and going through the process to find what they wanted to be the right candidate, and obviously the whole point of me stepping in for this period of time was to allow them to find the time to do that. Because when you appoint a new manager, you want it to be for a long time. Historically, the clubs kept managers for a long period of time, so they wanted to take their time on that and get that process correct. So it's been interesting few weeks in terms of actually how you navigate these different things. There's a lot of different things that I won't bore you with now, that you have to navigate during these periods. But I haven't got anything but good things to say about what the players have done. Seriously, I think like I know I haven't seen the red card back yet, but sometimes you need a bit of fortune, and I think the lads deserve a little bit of fortune for what they've given to me, the staff, and each other over the last six-seven weeks. They really have been so engaged. I've been really demanding. They've stepped up to every challenge, and I've been really really impressed with their professionalism. So they deserve that, and obviously Felipe deserved that tonight."

On Kristoffer Velde's Performance tonight...

"Yeah, no, I thought he was brilliant. He had an electric start to the game, and it was a little bit like the last. The way that we started was a little bit like how we finished the previous game, but we kept giving the ball so much that he wasn't going to be able to do that for 90 minutes because he had about six of the one-on-ones in the first 20 minutes. But no, I agree. I thought he was very good. He always looked dangerous. We like him on that left-hand side. That's something that we wanted to do. I think he's really dangerous on that side of the pitch, and I thought he contributed massively today."

On Felipe Mora's announcement to leave the club and his overall performance tonight for his last game...

"I thought he was excellent tonight, and some sort of story is already written. You know, you see it when you look at the outcome tonight, and you see on your phone that he's got two goals with a 2-1 win, and it's his last game. Sometimes things are already written in the football gods, you know. So I think it's just a magnificent moment for him. It says a lot about our supporters, the way that the reception they gave him at the end. You know, we all know there's not a better atmosphere in the MLS. There's just not, and I think he deserved that. He's been such a good professional. Ned [Grabavoy] spoke about his whole time at the football club. Probably only right that I comment on this period that I've known him, and honestly, he's such a top, top, top pro. The way that he trains every day, the way that he goes about his attitude and application. He is an example to how young players should behave, whether you're in the team or out the team. He is the same, and he trains so well every day. And I can't compliment him enough or thank him enough because him alone, and I mentioned it yesterday. Some of the senior players have been really good with how they've been with me and allowed this period to go a lot smoother than it could have."

Portland Timbers FC Forward Felipe Mora

On his entire journey with the Timbers...

"When I got here in the 2020 pandemic it was a difficult time, it was me and my family in a new country. I will always be grateful. I felt the love here and the importance, not just me but my family as well as they were always with me. It's not easy being at a club for so long. When I got here I didn't expect to score as many goals, and I am glad that I did and I'm leaving with my head held high."

On what was the motivation to keep going after being injured and out of play for so long all those years ago...

"Yes, I've had happy times and I've had difficult times. Especially when I went through my knee injuries. I didn't know if I was even going to play again, but my family was there every step of the way supporting me. The club and the staff were also there supporting me as always. The kinesiologists were there helping me recover. I'll always be thankful to the club. Like I said, every staff member, yesterday I got to say my goodbyes to everybody. And I will always be thankful."

On this transfer to a new club motivate him for a potential call up for the Chilean National team...

"The transfer occurred because a club wanted to count on my services. What I'm looking for is continuity. I've said it before, I feel great right now and I'm in a good moment. What I've wanted ultimately is continuity and even a new challenge. The national team is an option, but I think if I continue to perform that option could always be there. I'm happy for the new challenge ahead and hope to continue doing well."

On breaking Sebastian Blanco's record of scoring the most goals against Real Salt Lake, and having this be his last match scoring two goals with the Timbers...

"I'm very happy for the win. I didn't know I surpassed him. He did just send me a message so I might have to brag and reply and let him know that I beat his record. He'll probably be upset. But more than the record though, I'm happy to score for this club and for this jersey. Like I said, it's one of the most important things. I'm happy for the victory, the club needed it as they go ahead and fight for the playoffs."

Portland Timbers FC Midfielder and Captain Deigo Chara

On how special Felipe Mora has been for the club...

"It's really hard to get just one word to define Felipe Mora, and not just as a person, but as a player. You know, I can say he's a special person, a special player. We are going to miss him a lot, you know. But at the same time, we know this is a lot of professional sport that happens sometimes."

On the change in team performance since the World Cup break...

"I think right now the team is very confident in our system. You know, trying to make things simple, and talking about the last three games, I think we showed that character, discipline on the field. And at the same time, I think our attacking players have been amazing and effective, and that's so important for us."

On the upcoming transition into a new head coach and Mora's transfer to a new club...

"Yeah, I think talking about the transition is really hard for a team to adapt to the next coach in our situation, you know. And I mean, I say we'll miss Felipe. You know, many great memories in hand, playing the last season together. But again, I mean, he did everything today, everything good. Scored two goals for us, win the game for us. Now he's going to get a different opportunity in life, in his career, and I think now the team is really, really focused. What is coming next and talking obviously about the next coach too."