

INDY ELEVEN QUOTE SHEET
BIRMINGHAM LEGION FC 0 : 1 INDY ELEVEN
SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021
BBVA FIELD – BIRMINGHAM, AL

INDY ELEVEN HEAD COACH MARTIN RENNIE

Overall thoughts on the match...

“It feels great, it’s been seven months since we’ve played a game so it’s really nice to get the win. There were quite a few good performances from all of the players and everyone had to work hard and fight hard. It was a really hard first game because Birmingham Legion are a really tough team and it was their home opener. It was quite a difficult field to play on as well, but we got a great result.”

About Manuel Arteaga’s goal...

“Manuel Arteaga has scored a lot of goals in preseason, as has Jordan Hamilton, and it was nice to see him get another goal tonight. It was a good move, we managed to get the ball wide, get behind them and got the ball in the box. After a good chance from Cammy [Smith], it was a good save by [Matt] Van Oekel and then Manuel was there to finish it off. I think he will do a lot going forward.

On Indy Eleven’s defense...

“They all did well. It was a good team performance defensively; we had a good shape. A.J. [Cochran] won a lot of good headers, and I also think that helps a lot if a team is playing long balls. They had J.J. Williams who is a threat. but A.J. won those battles and that helps us. The players from the front worked very hard to that shut down the opportunities and in the end that was a good clean sheet. Not too many chances given up, but I thought Jordan Farr did well with all the things he had to do including kicking on a difficult surface.”

On team chemistry with the abundance of new players...

“I think the chemistry was good, the players have had chemistry since the beginning, and it seems like they like being around one another. They are getting to know each other; they care about each other. Tonight, remember, we were missing Ayoze, Gordon Wild, Carl Haworth, and Peter Vassell, which are all going to be very important players for us. It was a good start and I am looking forward to getting home and preparing for Tulsa.”