

**INDY ELEVEN QUOTE SHEET**  
**INDY ELEVEN 2 : 1 SPORTING KANSAS CITY II**  
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2020**  
**LUCAS OIL STADIUM – INDIANAPOLIS, IN**

**INDY ELEVEN HEAD COACH MARTIN RENNIE**

*Overall thoughts on the match:*

“I feel good about it, I think we played well especially really up until the last 10 minutes in which we dropped a bit and they scored a great goal. Before that, I thought we were well on top – we created good chances and had a lot of shots, especially in the first half. It’s exciting to see two young players both playing up front together, both scoring goals. Obviously, the opponent tonight has a lot of young players, but you have to see that we have talented young players as well. It’s nice to see Jeremy [Rafanello] get his first goal for the club and remembering that he came to open tryout, he’s a young guy. He’s got a lot of potential and Nick [Moon] is showing how good he is as well. I think that everyone did a good job tonight and it was very important that we got the win.”

*On the game plan without defender – and 2020 club leader in minutes – Neveal Hackshaw:*

“It doesn’t change too much. I think that [Mitch] Osmond is good on the ball as well and I think that his possession was good tonight. Having Ayoze in the position next to him helps and increases possession as well. We know how good of a player [Neveal] Hackshaw is and how important he is for us, so it was nice to get a win with a couple of key players not available. I thought Mitch did a great job. He got the ball, moved it well, and defended really well too.”

*On the importance of diversifying the team’s goal-scoring outside of Tyler Pasher: :*

“It’s really important – until tonight, no one on the team had scored more than one goal, which isn’t really what you would expect at this point in the season. It’s something that we had talked about yesterday and something that we talked about improving, and tonight we got a couple of goals from players with Nick getting his second and Jeremy getting his first. That’s a huge boost and we need more people scoring goals for us. We had created quite a few opportunities and quite a few shots and did well overall. Coming off a defeat where everyone is a bit disappointed, it’s nice to bounce back and get energy from winning.”

*On Ayoze returning:*

“We’ve been a bit unfortunate this season that we haven’t been able to get all of our starting players all on the field at the same time. There’s been various things where maybe Ayoze has been out or Carl Haworth has been out or various different times, we haven’t been able to get that mix going. It’s important around this time of the year to start getting in form and hopefully start playing our best and try to get a consistent lineup. We started off the season really well but had a little dip. Now is the time where we need to pick things back up and really fly until the end. I think tonight is going to be a big help towards that.”

## **INDY ELEVEN FORWARD NICK MOON**

*On the match as a whole:*

“I thought it was a good game. We performed and got two good goals, had a lot of other opportunities that we could’ve probably gotten a third or a fourth out of. I thought the team’s defense was great; only gave away one free kick and they managed to hit it perfect. I think after they scored we closed it out well and got the win.”

*What was Rennie’s message to the team after this weekend’s result:*

“It was a game that we knew that we had to win. We knew that we had a couple of poor results the last week or so and we just had to put it past us and move forward.”

## **INDY ELEVEN FORWARD JEREMY RAFANELLO**

*On lessons learned after his first start last weekend:*

“It was mostly finishing my runs. We were working on it a lot in the two days that we had training. When the ball comes in, finishing my runs and finishing that last run for the final product to finish the goal.”

*On his partnership with Nick Moon:*

“I thought it was a really good connection between us. We have similar strengths and weaknesses as well. It was just really good getting to play with him, to stay connected with him, and I thought we had really good chemistry, including organization with the press and defense as well. On offense, we stayed connected as much as we could and that was what Martin was trying to tell us and preach to us, to just say as close as we could and combine with each other and stuff will come.”