

**An MLS Field Experiment:
New England Revolution record on natural grass versus artificial turf
(for the period between March 30, 2008 thru June 6, 2008)**

This item tracks the win-loss record of the New England Revolution in reference to the type of playing surface and other conditions, as reported by *The Boston Globe*.

01. Houston Dynamo (0) v. Revolution (3) at New England, Gillette Stadium. Artificial turf. March 30, 2008. According to right back Jay Heaps, "I liked us defensively, we kept them in front of us. We probably caught them off guard a little with the cold [sub-freezing temperatures] and field [FieldTurf], but we were raring to go." Frank Dell'Apa, "Revolution imports deliver the goods," in *The Boston Globe*, March 31, 2008, available at http://www.boston.com/sports/soccer/articles/2008/03/31/revolution_imports_deliver_the_goods/. "The Houston defense was knocked off balance in the early going, victimized by the Revolution's speed and unpredictability." Frank Dell'Apa, "Revolution as good as new," in *The Boston Globe*, March 31, 2008, available at http://www.boston.com/sports/articles/2008/03/30/revolution_as_good_as_new/.

02. Revolution (0) v. Fire (4) at Chicago, Toyota Park. Natural grass. April 1, 2008. According to Matt Reis, the Revolution goalkeeper, "This was their home opener; we beat them the last three years and knocked them out of the playoffs, plus the weather and field conditions, and some inexperience on our part led to some mistakes." Frank Dell'Apa, "Revolution get burned early," in *The Boston Globe*, April 2, 2008, Sports section, page E2, available at http://www.boston.com/sports/articles/2008/04/04/revolution_get_burned_early/.

03. Revolution (3) v. Wizards (1) at Kansas City, Community America Ballpark. Natural grass. April 9, 2008. According to news reports, "The game was played at high tempo, a cold rain making the field slick." The Rev coach, Steve Nicol is quoted as saying, "The field was really fast and it was difficult for the players to control the ball." Frank Dell'Apa, "Revolution back on attack," in *The Boston Globe*, April 10, 2008, Sports section, page C2, available at http://www.boston.com/sports/articles/2008/04/10/revolution_back_on_attack.

04. Colorado Rapids (1) v. Revolution (0) at New England, Gillette Field. Artificial turf. April 12, 2008. It rained heavily during the first half of play. According to the broadcast comment on Boston's Channel 38, "the slick field wreaked havoc with the passing game."

05. Revolution (1) at New York Red Bulls (1), Giant Stadium. Artificial turf. April 19, 2008. Frank Dell'Apa, "Revolution not caught short," *The Sunday Boston Globe*, April 20, 2008, Sports section, page C2. The article stated, "Altidore adjusted to the conditions,

the Giant Stadium artificial turf slickened after having been soaked by the grounds crew before the game.”

06. Revolution (1) at FC Dallas (0), Pizza Hut Park. Natural grass. April 24, 2008. No mention of field conditions or affect on play.
07. Chicago Fire (3) at Revolution (0), Gillette Stadium. Artificial turf. May 3, 2008. No mention of field conditions. It rained during the day on Saturday, May 3.
08. Revolution (2) at Chivas (1) Carson City, Home Depot Center. Natural grass. May 11, 2008. No mention of field conditions.
09. San Jose Earthquakes (0) at Revolution (2), Gillette Stadium. Artificial turf. May 17, 2008. No mention of field being a factor. The weather was warm, no rain.
10. Revolution (1) at Columbus Crew (0), Crew Stadium,. Natural grass. May 24, 2008. No mention of field conditions being a factor.
11. DC United (2) at Revolution (2), Gillette Stadium. Artificial turf. May 29, 2008. No mention of field conditions being a factor.
12. RFC Dallas (1) at Revolution (2), Gillette Stadium. Natural grass (converted from artificial turf because of Brazil-Venezuela friendly), June 6, 2008. No mention of field conditions. It drizzled early on in the day and a day before it was a rainy day.