

THE NEW JERSEY SOCCER GROUP

Press Release



Blaze to Prove Point with Three Points Against FC Sonic
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Nothing less than three points is the target for head coach Rob Napier and the New Jersey Blaze team as they face up to FC Sonic, who currently sit second in the table with eight wins, one draw and one loss.

The Blaze will be coming off the back of a defeat to FC Buffalo, who travelled to Lakewood - the temporary home of the Blaze that week - who emerged 2-0 winners over the hosts. Despite going 1-0 down, the Blaze kept up pressure on the visitors and were awarded a penalty to tie the game after Mathieu Larroutourou was brought down in the box on 70 minutes. Cory Bachstein stepped up and hit the post, allowing Buffalo to maintain their momentum and ultimately triumph.

Napier said: "The turning point came with the penalty, as we were in the ascendancy then. I would have fancied us to go on and win it from there, should we have converted it."

There were still a number of positives, meanwhile, particularly with the goalkeeper's performance. "Kevin Gramata in particular had an absolutely brilliant game with some world-class saves. He just didn't deserve to be on the losing side," Napier concluded. "We'll move forward by working hard and playing with more of a will to win. We need better quality and composure in the attacking third and we also need to take the opportunities we have, such as penalties and indirect free-kicks in the box."

Meanwhile, FC Sonic will be hoping to improve after a 3-3 draw against the division's tie-game leaders Pocono Snow, who the Blaze have taken all four points from this season. Their only loss was, similar to last week for the hosts, a 2-0 home defeat to FC Buffalo.

Napier said of the rematch: "We're planning an upset. FC Sonic are the best team in the league so we'll be determined to put on a good showing and correct the 4-0 reverse from the second game of the season."

The [New Jersey Blaze](#) are the central New Jersey members of the [National Premier Soccer League](#), the highest level of men's amateur soccer in the United States. They are part of the [New Jersey Soccer Group](#), a management company for a family of soccer based organizations offering a full range of soccer services in New Jersey.