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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reading United roll to a 2-0 win over F.A. Euro *Delhommelle and Conde star as Reading earn second league victory of 2017*

READING, PA (May 27, 2017) – Reading United returned to the friendly confines of Exeter High School's Don Thomas Stadium and scored a workmanlike 2-0 victory over visiting F.A. Euro in scrappy Premier Development League Mid-Atlantic Division contest. Mo Conde got Reading on the board just before halftime and Hugo Delhommelle provided an insurance goal midway through the second half to secure the three points for United.

Entering a stretch of three games in a week, Reading United Head Coach Stephen Hogan used his squad's impressive depth to hand debuts to forward Salar Faryar and goalkeeper Alex Bouillennec. Zach Zandi made his first start of the season for Reading after a good run of appearances of the bench.

Reading dominated possession for much of the first half of the match, but the game lacked flow as the referee often halted play as the teams combined for 16 fouls in the opening 45 minutes of play. With the visitors well bunkered in their half of the pitch, United tried again and again to find the opening goal. The breakthrough the hosts were pressing for finally came at the stroke of halftime.

Deep in first half stoppage time, Delhommelle teed up Reading United's fifth corner kick of the half. The Frenchman, who was recently named one of the PDL's Top 20 prospects, hit a lofted ball into a crowded penalty area. Conde rose up and headed the ball into the back of the net to give Reading a deserved 1-0 lead at halftime.

Halfway through the second half, it was Delhommelle that would provide the insurance goal Reading needed to secure the win. The Reading captain, who was the best player of the field all evening, found himself in acres of space just outside the F.A. Euro penalty area. Delhommelle hit a low shot on frame that took a slight deflection that stranded F.A. Euro goalkeeper Brian McPartland and settled into the back of the net to push Reading to a 2-0 lead.

"It was kind of a lucky goal, but if I don't shoot, I don't score. I don't care how it went in because a goal is a goal," Delhommelle said of his second league goal of the season.

After the goal, it was Reading's back line that stepped up to secure the club's first clean sheet of the season. Lamine Conte and Emmanuel Chanis mopped up any threat F.A. Euro posed in their attacking third of the pitch. So solid was the defensive work of the back line, Alex Bouillennec did not record a single save in his first start for Reading.

Coach Hogan was satisfied with his team's effort in the 2-0 victory, saying after the match, "The lads put in a workmanlike performance. They won all their physical battles, but in terms of being patient, we talked about moving the ball side to side and trying to create as many chances out wide, isolate them one on one and we did that well." Hogan continued, "We got a chance to see some of the new players. Overall, I'm happy with the new players. We've got a lot to work on, but I'm happy with the win."

Next up, Reading United welcome their in-state rivals, the Harrisburg City Islanders, for a third round U.S. Open Cup match at Exeter's Don Thomas Stadium. Kickoff is set for 7:30pm with tickets available online. All United home matches throughout the 2017 PDL season will be played at Exeter Township Senior High School. Tickets for the all regular season matches are available at www.readingunitedac.com. Contact our ticket sales team at sales@readingunitedac.com for all your group needs.

ABOUT READING UNITED AC

Reading United A.C. is the Greater Reading area's premier minor league soccer team. Led by the ownership group of Berks Professional Sports, Inc. the club was founded in 1995 as the Reading Rage. As the club entered its 15th season a name, logo, and color change was made to better feature the ties to the local and state community as well as the soccer goals of the team and its partners. Now in its twenty-second season, Reading United's commitment to professional player development has produced over fifty players currently on the rosters of professional clubs throughout the United States, Europe and Latin America. Reading United is the official Premier Development League affiliate of Major League Soccer's Philadelphia Union. For more information about Reading United AC, visit www.readingunitedac.com.



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