



December 2025

Dear Rush Union Families,

U.S. Soccer has announced a nationwide shift in player age group classifications beginning Summer 2026. This change moves all youth programs away from the current calendar-year system (January–December) and back to a seasonal-year model based on the traditional soccer calendar of August 1–July 31.

This realignment will impact how teams are formed across the country and may create natural “pinch points” as players adjust into new age groups. At Rush Union, we want to reassure our families that the player experience remains our top priority. We are already reviewing the structural implications of the change and developing an implementation plan that keeps player development, team continuity, and individual well-being at the center of every decision.

Over the coming months, our leadership and coaching staff will analyze rosters, training environments, and competitive platforms to ensure that we transition into the new age group standards in the most thoughtful and supportive way possible. Our goal is to minimize disruption while maintaining a consistent, high-quality developmental pathway for every Rush Union player.

As more details and guidance become available, we will provide timely updates to all families, including a clear timeline, FAQs, and next steps for the 2026–2027 seasonal year.

Thank you for your trust and partnership as we navigate this important national change. Rush Union will continue to prioritize the growth, enjoyment, and long-term development of every player as we prepare for the shift to seasonal-year age group alignment.

Sincerely,

Rush Union Soccer