

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Kansas Rush Soccer Club Announces Partnership with University of Kansas Health System Physician Dr. Stephan Pro

Founding Club Alumni Returns as Team Physician, Bringing Elite Sports Medicine and Female Athlete Program Resources to Rush Players

Olathe, KS — May 18, 2026 — Kansas Rush Soccer Club is proud to announce a formal partnership with **Dr. Stephan Pro, MD**, an affiliated physician with the **University of Kansas Health System (UKHS)**. In his new role as Supporting Team Physician, Dr. Pro will coordinate with the club's supervising athletic trainer, **Dr. Chris Crawford, Ed.D., LAT, ATC**, to provide a seamless experience with orthopedic medical oversight, injury management, and sports performance guidance for Kansas Rush Soccer Club players across all competitive levels. Dr. Pro currently serves as Head Team Orthopedic Physician for the Kansas City Current (NWSL) and Head Team Orthopedic Surgeon for all Olympic sports at the University of Kansas and completed his fellowship training at the first FIFA-recognized sports medicine fellowship program in North America.

The partnership carries a unique personal dimension: Dr. Pro is a proud alumnus of the **Spirit of 76**, the founding club that grew into what is today, Kansas Rush Soccer Club. His deep-rooted connection to the organization and its culture makes this collaboration a homecoming as much as a professional milestone.

"This club is part of who I am. I grew up playing for the Spirit of 76, and watching it evolve into Rush Soccer Club has been incredible. Being able to give back — to help today's athletes perform at their best and stay healthy — is something I'm deeply passionate about."

— **Dr. Stephan Pro, MD, Supporting Team Physician, Rush Soccer Club**

Expanding Access to the Female Athlete Program at UKHS

A cornerstone of this partnership is Kansas Rush Soccer Club's new affiliation with the **Female Athlete Program at the University of Kansas Health System**. This nationally recognized program is dedicated to the unique physiological, biomechanical, and

performance needs of female athletes — from injury prevention and return-to-play protocols to nutrition, hormonal health, and long-term athletic development.

Through this affiliation, Kansas Rush Soccer Club players will have access to a multidisciplinary team of specialists, cutting-edge sports medicine resources, and evidence-based protocols tailored specifically to female athletes. The program reflects Kansas Rush Soccer Club's ongoing commitment to supporting the whole athlete — on and off the field.

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Pro back to the Rush family and to formalize this connection with the University of Kansas Health System. Our athletes deserve world-class medical support, and this partnership delivers exactly that — with a physician who knows and loves this club from the ground up."

— **Daouda Kante, Executive Director, Kansas Rush Soccer Club**

About Kansas Rush Soccer Club

Kansas Rush Soccer Club is a competitive youth and adult soccer organization with roots tracing back to the Spirit of 76 founding club. Committed to developing players through elite coaching, competitive programming, and a strong club culture, Rush Soccer Club has grown into a premier soccer organization dedicated to athletic excellence, community, and player welfare at all levels.

About University of Kansas Health System

The University of Kansas Health System is the region's premier academic medical center, delivering compassionate, evidence-based care while advancing research and training the next generation of health professionals. The Female Athlete Program at UKHS provides specialized, comprehensive care for female athletes at every level, addressing the distinct challenges and opportunities unique to women in sport.

About Dr. Stephan Pro, MD

Dr. Stephan Pro, MD is a board-certified orthopedic sports medicine physician affiliated with the University of Kansas Health System. He currently serves as Head Team Orthopedic Physician for the Kansas City Current of the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) and as Head Team Orthopedic Surgeon for all Olympic sports at the University of Kansas — roles that place him among the most accomplished sports medicine physicians in the region. Dr. Pro completed his sports medicine fellowship training in Los Angeles at the first FIFA-recognized sports medicine fellowship program in North America, bringing an internationally credentialed foundation to his clinical practice. His expertise spans surgical and non-surgical orthopedic care, injury prevention, and return-to-sport protocols for elite athletes at all levels. A former player for the Spirit of 76 — the founding club of Rush Soccer Club — Dr. Pro brings both a personal connection to the organization and a distinguished professional career to his role as Supporting Team Physician. His focus on female athlete health and performance makes him an ideal partner for Rush Soccer Club's affiliation with the Female Athlete Program at UKHS.