



Welcome! Rush Union Update

As we reach the midway point of the spring season, there is a great sense of momentum across Rush Union. With spring break upon us, it's a natural moment to reflect on the progress made so far and the energy that continues to build across all our programs. From our recreational fields to our competitive teams, it's been a positive and productive start to the season.

We continue to see growth not only in participation but also in development opportunities. In Milton, we have launched new additional programs designed to better bridge the gap between recreational play and academy-level soccer. These programs are an important step in strengthening our player pathway and providing clear, accessible opportunities for players to continue their development within Rush Union.

Our referees also continue to progress, and we want to congratulate those who recently participated in advanced referee training. Their commitment to improving their craft plays a critical role in supporting the game across all levels, and we are proud of their continued development.

As part of our ongoing communication around the upcoming U.S. Soccer age group changes set for Fall 2026, we have now moved into Phase 2 of our integration plan. We recently held two Q&A sessions for families, and a follow-up video has been shared to help provide additional clarity. We will also be hosting team-specific meetings later in April, while continuing to offer opportunities for parents to provide individual feedback and connect directly with coaches. Our goal remains to ensure a transparent, thoughtful transition for everyone involved. More information on the age group changes can be found here: [Resources](#)

We are also excited to announce that Rush Union has been accepted into the National Academy League (NAL) beginning in the Fall 2026–Spring 2027 season. This is an important step forward for our elite player pathway and reflects the continued growth and ambition of our club.

Looking ahead, ID Clinics will be held in early May, with tryout registration opening soon. These events are an important part of our player identification process, and we encourage families to keep an eye out for more information in the coming days. At the same time, summer program registration is now open, with a wide range of options available at both locations to keep players engaged and developing through the off-season.

We also want to take a moment to recognize two outstanding members of our community. Congratulations to Juliet on her induction into the Georgia Soccer Hall of Fame, and to Cara on being honored as the Georgia Soccer Administrator of the Year for 2025. Both were recognized at the recent Georgia Soccer Annual General Meeting, and their contributions to the game and our club are truly exceptional.

April 2026

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Our new community initiatives, [“Get on the Bus”](#) and [“Just Ball”](#) are set to launch later this spring and into the summer. These programs represent an important step in expanding access to the game and creating new opportunities for players in our local communities to get involved in soccer.

We also want to thank our new sponsors, Hyde Brewing and B&B Tavern, for their support of Rush Union. Partnerships like these play a vital role in helping us continue to grow and enhance our programs. We welcome others in the community who are interested in supporting the club to connect with us as we continue to build. See below for more information.

As a reminder, our Annual Meeting will take place on April 29 at 7:00 PM via Zoom. This will serve as our annual “State of the Union,” where we will share updates, celebrate progress, and outline what’s ahead for Rush Union. We encourage all families to join us.

Finally, we are looking forward to wrapping up the spring season with our second annual [Rush Union Spring Recreational Cup](#) on May 16–17. This event continues to grow and will be a great way to celebrate the season and bring our recreational community together.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to Rush Union. We’re excited for what lies ahead as we move through the second half of the season.

Thank you for being part of our Rush Union family. We look forward to seeing you on the field soon.

R|U Ready?



Neil McNab Jr.
CEO Rush Union



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OFFICIAL PARTNER:

 **ACG SPORTS**
MENTAL PERFORMANCE

MIND LAB

NOW AVAILABLE:

Monthly live group mental
performance coaching sessions



JOIN TODAY: CHECK YOUR CLUB CALENDAR FOR DETAILS.

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We are excited to join the [National Academy League](#) (NAL) for the Fall 2026-Spring 2027 Seasons.



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WWW.RUSHUNIONSOCCKER.ORG

Please send any pictures, videos, and everything you captured during games and practices to help us promote better.

RCRUZ@RUSHUNIONSOCCKER.ORG

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Congratulations to Juliet Melvin (Hall of Fame) and Cara Murray (Administrator of the year) on their recent awards at the Georgia Soccer Annual General Meeting!

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WORLD CUP 2026 ACTIVATIONS

World Cup 2026 Activation

WORLD CUP ENGAGEMENT & ACTIVATION PLANS

“Together we thrive — Milton Celebrates the World Cup”
“Serve the Community!”



“Play It Forward — Dunwoody Celebrates the World Cup”
“Connecting the Community!”



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Rush Union is aware of the upcoming age groups changes and is working with Rush National and our governing bodies to make sure we are informed and update our membership. More information will be made available this spring season.

To watch a short update video and access other resources we created so far please click here:

[Age Group Change Information | Rush Union Soccer](#)

NEW AGE GROUPS

STARTING IN THE 2026–2027 SEASON

- AGE GROUPS WILL BE DEFINED BY A SEASONAL MODEL, WHICH RANGES FROM AUGUST 1ST – JULY 31ST OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR.
- NEW SEASONAL MODEL ALIGNS PLAYERS WITH PEERS OF SIMILAR SCHOOL-GRADE AGE.
- PREVIOUS FORMAT: JANUARY 1ST – DECEMBER 31ST

*THESE CHANGES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ACROSS THE ENTIRE YOUTH SOCCER LANDSCAPE, FOR ALL CLUBS.



2026–2027 SEASON

U-8	BORN AUG. 1ST 2018 – JULY 31ST 2019
U-9	BORN AUG. 1ST 2017 – JULY 31ST 2018
U-10	BORN AUG. 1ST 2016 – JULY 31ST 2017
U-11	BORN AUG. 1ST 2015 – JULY 31ST 2016
U-12	BORN AUG. 1ST 2014 – JULY 31ST 2015
U-13	BORN AUG. 1ST 2013 – JULY 31ST 2014
U-14	BORN AUG. 1ST 2012 – JULY 31ST 2013
U-15	BORN AUG. 1ST 2011 – JULY 31ST 2012
U-16	BORN AUG. 1ST 2010 – JULY 31ST 2011
U-17	BORN AUG. 1ST 2009 – JULY 31ST 2010
U-18	BORN AUG. 1ST 2008 – JULY 31ST 2009
U-19	BORN AUG. 1ST 2007 – JULY 31ST 2008



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Congratulations on our referees who participated in an advanced training opportunity in March. We are proud to be growing the game in all areas!

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Want to help our Rush Union community continue to grow and thrive? Become a sponsor or share with your fellow community members and lets grow together!

Rush Union Sponsorship Opportunities



Rush Union provides opportunities to **ALL** players, strengthens **existing** teams, provides **exceptional** coaching, and a stable club in your neighborhood.

And in these times, staying close to home is so important. **We are better together.** And together we are Rush Union. **R|U in?**



Benefits of Sponsorship

- Connect with 4,000 families over 3 prime locations (Rec, Pre-Academy, Academy, Select, and Adult Teams)
- Get in front of 22,000 Rush Cup participants annually
- 4 Adult Leagues annually with 350 participants.
- Increased brand awareness
- Increased digital exposure
- Enhanced community pride
- Partner Community Network
- Opportunities to stay in front of families during Summer and Winter camps

Choose the level that fits your goals:



Contact for more information:
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RUSH UNION SOCCER
EST. 2020
RIU
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WE ARE HIRING

COME BE A PART OF OUR TEAM!

DUNWOODY LOCATION
JACK MAHER
jmaher@rushunionsoccer.org

MILTON LOCATION
CHRIS PANAYIOTOU
cpanayiotou@rushunionsoccer.org

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