



# US SOCCER

## AGE GROUP

## CHANGE



ALABAMA RUSH

# LEAGUE PLANS

## USYS

 NATIONAL LEAGUE

 STATE LEAGUES

## US CLUB

 ECNL

 ECNL RL

 NPL

 SCCL

## OTHER

 MLS NEXT HOMEGROWN

 MLS NEXT ACADEMY

 GIRLS ACADEMY LEAGUE

 GA ASPIRE

 DPL

 NATIONAL ACADEMY LEAGUE

 ELITE ACADEMY LEAGUE



# TIMELINE PRE 2017 TO PRESENT



**ALABAMA RUSH**

All youth soccer leagues form teams based on August 1st - July 31st age groups.

-  US Youth Soccer
  -  US Club
  -  AYSO
- PRE 2017**

-  US Soccer announces they are reverting back to August 1st - July 31st age groups.
- MARCH 2025**

## AUGUST 2015

 US Soccer announces starting August 1st, 2017 all youth soccer leagues will form teams based on birth year.

## 2017-2026

All youth soccer leagues form teams based on birth year (January 1st - December 31st)

-  US Youth Soccer
-   US Club
-  AYSO
-  USSSA

## 2026 & BEYOND

Youth leagues are switching back to August 1st - July 31st age groups.

-  US Youth Soccer
-   US Club
-  AYSO
-  USSSA
-  GA
-  MLS Next (Academy)

# RESOURCES PARENTS & PLAYERS



## AGE GROUP CHART

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2007	20U	20U	20U	20U	20U	20U	20U	20U	19U	19U	19U	19U
2008	19U	19U	19U	19U	19U	19U	19U	19U	18U	18U	18U	18U
2009	18U	18U	18U	18U	18U	18U	18U	17U	17U	17U	17U	17U
2010	17U	17U	17U	17U	17U	17U	17U	16U	16U	16U	16U	16U
2011	16U	16U	16U	16U	16U	16U	16U	15U	15U	15U	15U	15U
2012	15U	15U	15U	15U	15U	15U	15U	14U	14U	14U	14U	14U
2013	14U	14U	14U	14U	14U	14U	14U	13U	13U	13U	13U	13U
2014	13U	13U	13U	13U	13U	13U	13U	12U	12U	12U	12U	12U
2015	12U	12U	12U	12U	12U	12U	12U	11U	11U	11U	11U	11U
2016	11U	11U	11U	11U	11U	11U	11U	10U	10U	10U	10U	10U
2017	10U	10U	10U	10U	10U	10U	10U	9U	9U	9U	9U	9U
2018	9U	9U	9U	9U	9U	9U	9U	8U	8U	8U	8U	8U
2019	8U	8U	8U	8U	8U	8U	8U	7U	7U	7U	7U	7U
2020	7U	7U	7U	7U	7U	7U	7U	6U	6U	6U	6U	6U
2021	6U	6U	6U	6U	6U	6U	6U	5U	5U	5U	5U	5U
2022	5U	5U	5U	5U	5U	5U	5U	4U	4U	4U	4U	4U
2023	4U	4U	4U	4U	4U	4U	4U	3U	3U	3U	3U	3U

Age group chart available for parents and players to view the age group changes in chart form. Players/Parents can use this to learn what their new age group will be moving forward. Age group chart can be found [HERE](#).

## AGE GROUP CALCULATOR

### 2026-2027 AGE GROUP CALCULATOR

(For birthdates between Aug 1, 2007 - Jul 31, 2023)

Enter player's birthdate:

Tool available for parents and players to easily access their new age group. Plug in the birthdate and the calculator will tell them which age group they will fall into moving forward. Age group calculator can be found [HERE](#).

## U.S. SOCCER FEDERATION DECISION ON PLAYER REGISTRATION



US Soccer has shifted roster formation guidelines to national and local leagues. More information can be found [HERE](#).



# RUSH NATIONAL INFO

## RUSH FEST



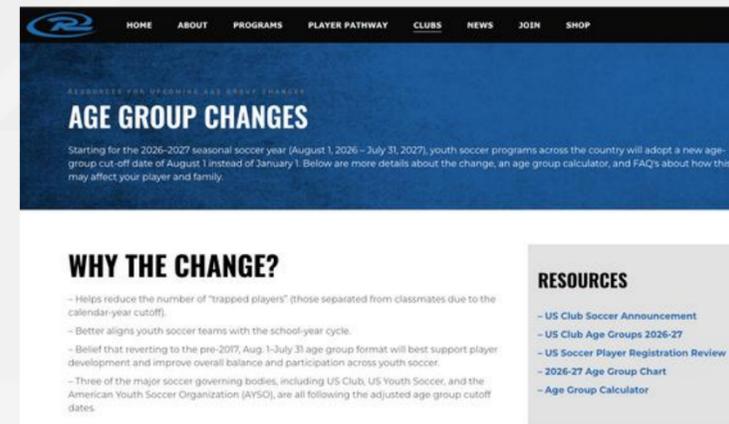
With the upcoming age group changes, Rush Fest will feature two distinct age categories in 2026. Players remaining in U12 will compete in 7v7 matches, while those advancing to U13 will participate in 11v11 games. More information on Rush Fest can be found [HERE](#).

## RUSH SELECT



Rush Select has always been and will remain birth year-based, even with changes in age groups. This approach aligns with other regional and national select programs, as well as international age group standards. More information on the Rush Select program can be found [HERE](#).

## RESOURCE WEBSITE



Rush National has created a webpage dedicated to addressing any inquiries related to the age group change. You can access the Rush National resource website [HERE](#).



ALABAMA RUSH

# WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

## LOCAL LEAGUE POLICIES



As of now, local league policies are still unsettled. Current indications are that each league will set its own approach, using guidance from groups like US Club, USYS, and AYSO. Expect updates as leagues finalize details and share timelines.

## SENIOR PLAYERS?

U18 → U19

Play-up decisions will be guided by each governing body, league, and club. Final choices will follow their written policies, age and safety rules, and player development goals. We do expect there to be some concession for older High School Seniors.

## SUMMER 2026 TOURNAMENTS



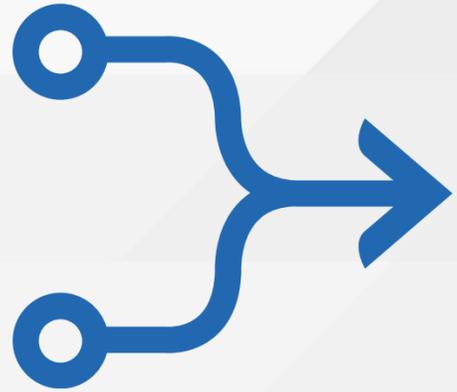
Summer tournaments following the tryout season may continue to utilize the birth year age group system. Currently, no decisions have been made regarding the participation of the new age group teams in competitions.



# AGE GROUP INTEGRATION



## ROSTER REVIEW PROCESS



Our staff and coaches are reviewing all roster to see where players are impacted so discussions can happen internally on where best to place players ahead of player placements/tryouts in May.

## TEAM/AGE GROUP MEETINGS

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		X				
	X					
			X			

We will conduct team or age group specific meetings as needed to address individual team concerns and answer questions.

## TOWNHALL DISUCSSION



A townhall meeting will be set up to all for feedback and answer questions on the Alabama Rush implementation plan once the plan is finalized. This will likely happen in April.





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