



Welcome!

Rush Union Update

We are excited to get back to Fall Soccer! Many of our competitive teams have already begun practices and tournaments are just around the corner. Our Recreational and supplemental programs will begin play in just a couple of weeks. This was a very busy summer for us with over 500 participants joining us in our summer programs. We will be reviewing our summer options over the coming weeks and hope to continue to offer a diverse range of programs to suit our family's needs.

We were also able to spend some time in the community this summer. We attended two great events that our families participated in on July 4th, the Dunwoody July 4th Parade for the fourth year in a row and for the first time we participated in the City of Milton July 4th Celebration. Thank you to everyone who came out and showed their Rush Union Spirit. If you know of any upcoming community events that Rush Union could support, please reach out to us.

We will be offering our Recreational Leagues at both locations this fall along with our expanded program options, including Advanced Rec Skills training and Futsal Program, which will be offered at both locations, and Brazilian Soccer Skills which will be offered at our Milton location. These programs have been a huge success, and we are looking forward to offering them again. We are continuing to look for ways to diversify our program portfolio to further engage all our families. If you have suggestions for additional programs, we would like to hear them. For more information on all our programs please visit our website.

Building for a new season gives the Rush Union Coaching staff an opportunity to prepare and improve. We will be holding a series of individual development sessions for our coaches and will be working with our teams of coaches to develop age group specific training goals. We will be using this to identify learning objectives and needs of our players as we continue to implement a player development framework. More information on the development framework will be shared with parents as we get closer to the start of the Fall season.

In addition to the coaching development plan, we will be offering more Jr Referee workshops, and are planning some on site parent engagement offerings in which our soccer parents can participate during their child's practice sessions.

Some of our staff traveled to Colorado on July 11-14 for the Rush Summit which is an annual meeting of all the organizations in the Rush Network. The collaboration between the Rush organizations leads to better programming and education for all our membership on a local level. We also had several of our 2012 players traveled to Colorado to compete in Rush Fest on July 8-12. Rush Fest is the first event in the Rush Select player platform where players can participate and serves as the gateway to Rush Regional and National team selections. On that note, we have nominated over 70 players for the Rush Select player pools. Player selections will occur later in the year for the additional Rush National events around the country. We will also be hosting visits from the Rush College Advisory Program staff in August and the Rush Select Development staff later in the Fall season. Very exciting times are ahead for our players and coaches.

August 2024

R | U RUSH UNION R | U in?

Our Adult Summer leagues are in full swing, and planning for the fall season has already started. I would like everyone to join me in welcoming Ryan Shaw to our team in an expanded role. Ryan has been a part of our program at Legacy Park for the last several years and we are excited to have his help with growing our indoor programs. To better serve our membership, we are looking for part-time field marshals to help with our indoor and outdoor leagues, tournaments and weekend programs. If you are interested in joining our team or learning more, please reach out to us.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to write another article for the Milton Neighbor this summer, it is featured below if you missed the article. I chose something close to me, and highlighted the full circle moment I am experiencing this fall when my youngest two children are now being coached by two of my former players. I hope you enjoy the article.

Rush Union was also celebrated along with many other groups for our outstanding contributions to the Parks & Recreation Program by the City of Milton this summer. This was a great honor for our organization, and we are thrilled to continue to develop our relationship with the City of Milton and community at large. Please see below for photos of the official ceremony.

If you have any questions about Rush Union, our programs or anything soccer related please reach out to our staff at any time.

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

R|U Ready?



Neil McNab Jr.
CEO Rush Union



**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FIELD MARSHALL?
RUSH UNION IS HIRING!**

**On-site Field Marshall
is the Rush Union representative
who is on-site to oversee the
activities at the facility are
completed without any issues.**



**For more information please contact Cara Murray
at Cmurray@rushunionsoccer.org.**

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

RIU RUSH UNION RIU IN?



MISSED TRYOUTS?

Contact us for an evaluation.

**Dunwoody Location:
Please contact Juliet Melvin at
Jmelvin@rushunionsoccer.org**

**Milton Location:
Please contact Alane Gray at
Agray@rushunionsoccer.org**



SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

RIU RUSH UNION RIU in?



Social Media

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram & Twitter

Rush Union

www.Facebook.com/rushunionsoccer

Instagram: @RushUnion

Twitter: @Union_rush

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE 

R | U RUSH UNION R | U IN ?



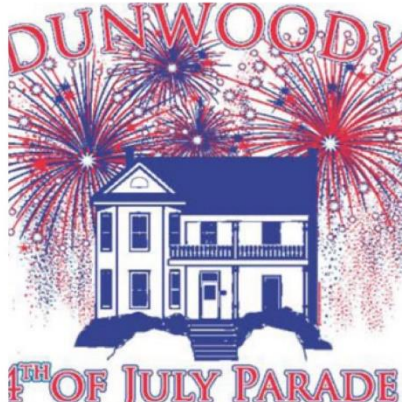
**FALL 2024
RECREATION
REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**



**RU
IN?**

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

RIU RUSH UNION RIU IN?



Rush Union players, coaches and families had a great time in the Dunwoody July 4th Parade again this year!

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

RIU RUSH UNION RIU IN?

© Best Version Media



EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR

A FULL CIRCLE MOMENT AND A METRIC OF SUCCESS!



BY NEIL MCNAB,
RUSH UNION SOCCER

Championships and the future on-field success stories of alumni appear to be the normal metric of success for youth sports organizations. It's so easy to see wins and champions everywhere you look.

The professionalizing of the youth sports experience has enhanced the marketing capabilities of the youth sports governing bodies, individual tournaments, leagues and youth clubs beyond the wildest dreams of the mom-and-pop community volunteer landscape of the late 80s early 90s. The youth sport ecosystem has evolved, and we have shifted from a process orientated environment to an outcome focused spectacle.

This article will not begin to explain, justify or offer solutions to the complex minefield that parents try to navigate these days looking for the right fit for their child to develop their game. Is the goal to develop them and nurse a skill, or churn out mega-athletes who are solely pushed to win? What I hope to achieve is a thought-provoking short read that will make you think a little more about who your child is engaging with on their youth sports journey, and a broader spectrum of success that exists. Let's start with: Who is coaching our kids?

I am not here to discredit any on-field success youth teams have. Tournament and competition wins are a big part of the sports experience and let's face it, winning is fun for kids. For adults too. My hope is that youth players get to experience that feeling along their journey. Winning a game of soccer may not be the primary focus of the sport, but it is the point of the game... why play if you are not at least trying to win? It drives athletes. That euphoric feeling of winning is almost tangible. But we also know that youth sports—like soccer—can teach important life lessons that go well beyond the game itself. And become the true "win" of sports.

So, next time you are signing your child up for a sport, or meeting a coach for the first time, ask them about their journey in the game. Ask them why they coach, and what they like most about coaching. Learning what motivates your child's coach can give you great insight into who your coach is and on what journey they will take your son or daughter. It's an important investigation as you send your child off to a coach for 2,3,4, sometimes 5 days a week. A wise coach recently reminded me that children only get one childhood, and we want them to love every minute of it. Coaches can have a dramatic impact on childhood.




FALL PROGRAMS

- SCCL Competitive • Recreational • All Ages
- NEW INDOOR TURF IN MILTON! • Adult Leagues
- College ID Opportunities • Local/Regional Tournament Play

VISIT RUSHUNIONSOCCKER.ORG AND FILTER BY LOCATION

EST. 2020
RUSH UNION SOCCER
RIU
SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE

MILTON AND DEKALB LOCATIONS

12 • OUR MILTON NEIGHBOR

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE

R | U RUSH UNION R | U IN ?

© Best Version Media

At Rush Union we have multiple coaches who have played the game at a college or even professional level. The professionalization of youth sports has lead to a large increase in professional players finding a pathway to stay involved with their sports as coaches, administrators and educators. At Rush Union we also have many coaches who have grown up playing for our organization. Our adaptive special needs program is run by two former players, who are giving back to the game they enjoyed and "Playing it Forward" to others... the Rush Union tag line. Their personal experiences alone do not make them gifted coaches, it is their motivation to make a difference in the lives of children and their communities that does that!

I have two children participating in our leagues as youth players, and this upcoming season for the first time two of my own children will be coached by two of my former youth players. It's a full circle moment for me, our organization and for our young coaches. It is a wonderful metric of success when former players give back to the sport that they got so much from as children themselves. Positively impacted youth is an amazing privilege and opportunity, and I am so honored to have my former players working with my own children inspiring a love of the game. It means so much more than the championships and tournament wins we had on the field together years ago.

We all want the best possible experience and journey for our children in youth sports. I would encourage everyone to find the right coaches, professional or otherwise. Find the ones who will support your child and share their passion with them and the youth they are working with. Great youth coaches are hard to find, harder to keep, and have experiences to share that are far more important than a trophy case. If you have a great coach, let them know how appreciative you are for the transformation work they are doing. Kids only have one childhood, let's make it great together.

RU Ready to join our Rush Union family and start your playing or coaching journey? Please reach out to us.

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE 

R I U RUSH UNION R I U IN ?



We had a lot of fun at the Milton July 4th celebration!

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

R/U RUSH UNION R/U In?



We Are Hiring

Coaches Wanted

R/U
RUSH UNION

R/U In?

Email NMcNab@rushunionsoccer.org

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

RIU RUSH UNION RIU in?



Save the dates... Rush Union Fall Cup will be on November 16-17, 2024!

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

RIU RUSH UNION RIU IN?



We were among other groups who were honored by the City of Milton this summer for outstanding contributions to the community.

SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE. 

R | U RUSH UNION R | U IN ?



Our Request for Good Sideline Etiquette

<https://www.rushunionsoccer.org/>



- Be the role model on the sideline you want your kids and neighbors to see.
- Let kids be kids. Chaos is OK! There are no 'important' games. Just enjoy it!
- Coaches and referees. Everyone is a volunteer.
- "Coaches Coach, Referees Ref, Players Play, Parents Cheer!"

How You Can Help (Your Child)

1. Be relentlessly positive with all players, referees, coaches. We're all neighbors!
2. When cheering - simply be encouraging, not directing with "instructions".
3. Please keep the focus on FUN! (not game outcomes)
4. Tell your child after every game: "I love watching you play!"

THANK YOU!

Check out the link below to join to gain access to articles, interviews, courses, and more-created specifically for youth soccer parents. Paid for by the Rush Union leadership.



SCAN ME
to learn more



SERVE, DEVELOP, INSPIRE.

