



Welcome!

Rush Union Update

October was a very busy month at Rush Union as it marks the middle of our fall season that included multiple coaching education events, planning for winter programs, and setting spring calendars. We were honored to have Chris Panayiotou “Chris P”, who is part of the leadership team with Virginia Rush and a Coach Educator with US Soccer, visit Rush Union at the beginning of October. Chris spent some time working with our full-time staff, meeting with parents & players, and observing practices. The intention of the visit was for him to provide feedback on areas we are excelling and to help us identify areas of growth for the future relating to Coach Education, Parent Engagement and Player Development

We also hosted two more USSF Grassroot Coaching Courses in October at our Dunwoody location. We have now hosted four coaching courses during the fall season, putting us at the forefront of Grassroot Soccer Education in Georgia. We will be hosting a USSF D Coaching Course starting this month that several of our Rush Union Coaches are participating in to further their education. To learn more about the courses offered please visit the US Soccer Learning Center: [U.S. Soccer Learning Center \(ussoccer.com\)](https://ussoccer.com)

We have a wide range of winter programs available to our members including indoor and outdoor skills clinics, camps and weekly small-sided leagues and events. Registration for all winter programs opened at the end of September and spots fill up fast! Please check our website for all the details and register: [Rush Union Soccer | Home](#)

Although the FIFA World Cup is a little under two years away, planning started months ago. Rush Union is extremely proud to have been invited to attend a site visit that included delegates from FIFA, US Soccer, USYS and AYSO as part of the Innovate to Grow Grant that we had been part of this fall season. FIFA and US Soccer are very interested in growing the game at the Grassroots level, and specifically targeting school programs for the future. Rush Union has been involved in school programs for nearly 15 years. More information including a link to the official article released by FIFA is below.

The end of October brings some spooky fun with Halloween. The players are always excited for the opportunity to participate in our Halloween week dress up practices. This year many groups participated in the festivities and there are many photos below of our spooky, scary and some funny players, coaches and teams really embracing the opportunity to have some fun at practice.

We are getting close to the end of the fall season, which concludes with our annual Rush Union Fall Cup. We are very excited about this year’s event. We have 275 teams registered to participate, which is a record attendance. The event will play at 10 venues across metro Atlanta area and include over 500 games during the weekend. For more information the Rush Union Fall Cup please visit our website: [Event Details - Rush Union Cup \(sincsports.com\)](#)

November 2024

R | U RUSH UNION R | U in?

Later this month several of our players will have the opportunity to represent Rush Union Soccer at the International Rush Cup held at West Palm Beach, Florida. Our players who have been selected to participate will be joined by players from all over the country to represent Rush Soccer. Some of the players selected are highlighted below. We would like to say congratulations to all the players who are able to participate in this experience and congratulate all our players who were nominated for Rush Select. For more information on Rush Select and the International Rush Cup please visit their website: [Rush Select: Elite Player Program \(rushsoccer.com\)](http://rushsoccer.com)

The Milton Neighbor will be publishing another one of my articles this month which will feature how the game gives back to the adults that are involved in the sport as coaches, volunteers and administrators at Rush Union. The article is also posted below in this newsletter, which I hope you enjoy reading. As November is the month for Thanksgiving, I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the adults that make our soccer club a great place to play soccer. We are very thankful for all of our full-time staff, coaches, volunteers and parents who make everything possible for our children to participate in youth sports.

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

RUSH UNION MILTON
24/25 WINTER INDOOR CUP

Competitive Team Indoor League
(Designed for Academy/Select level teams.)
-Fee: \$900.00 per team
-5 season games plus playoffs

Showcase your skills and enjoy friendly competition!

Stay active and competitive during the off season!

REGISTRATION OPENING ON SINC SPORTS OCTOBER 2ND!

BOYS & GIRLS DIVISIONS
-U9/10
-U11/12
-U13/14
-U15

-HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION (U16/17/18/19)

Season begins the weekend of December 6th.
Season ends the weekend of February 1, 2025 (Playoffs)
No games 12/20 thru 1/5 due to holiday break.

THIS IS OUR TURF

Questions? Please contact Cara at cmurray@rushunionsoccer.org.
14295 Birmingham Hwy Milton, GA 30004
RUSHUNIONSOCER.ORG

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[FIFA Forward boost to grassroots growth in United States](#)



We were honored to participate in a site visit to Atlanta that included FIFA and US Soccer!

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Halloween fun! This is just some of the team photos that were submitted!

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Social Media

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EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR



THE GAME GIVES BACK...



BY NEIL MCNAB,
RUSH UNION SOCCER

Soccer is a sport that continually gives back, not only to its players but also to the adults who stay involved in various capacities. At Rush Union, this dynamic is especially evident, with former players who have grown into adulthood now returning to coach the next generation. These individuals exemplify how soccer offers lasting rewards, enriching both personal lives and the broader community.

Georgia Rush and Chiefs Futbol Club merged in 2020 to form Rush Union Soccer. The word Union was chosen to represent a Union of clubs coming together with a common goal and philosophy towards player and coaching development. What we did not anticipate was the impact that the club would have on the adults who support our programming.

For adults involved in soccer—whether as coaches, referees, or volunteers—the sport offers a wide range of benefits. Coaching,

for instance, allows them to develop leadership and communication skills, while simultaneously mentoring young players in teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship. The former players who now coach at Rush Union are prime examples of this. Having benefitted from the program in their youth, they are uniquely positioned to pass on their knowledge, passion, and love for the game to younger athletes.

Beyond skill development, soccer provides adults with an opportunity to stay physically active, maintaining their fitness and health through regular involvement in training sessions and games. The sport fosters social connections as well, as coaches and other participants form strong bonds with one another, creating a supportive community that extends beyond the field. For former players, coaching at Rush Union has not only kept them engaged in soccer but also allowed them to maintain these important relationships.

In addition to physical and social benefits, soccer offers adults a form of stress relief and promotes mental well-being. The act of coaching, playing, or even organizing events

allows them to unwind, focus on positive goals, and enjoy the camaraderie of being part of a team.

At Rush Union, these adults, especially former or current players, are critical to the program's success. They return as coaches and mentors, helping guide today's youth while also staying connected to the sport they love. Their contributions reflect the full circle of giving back, as they share the lessons learned from their own experiences, inspire young athletes, and keep the spirit of soccer alive in the community. Through these efforts, soccer continually gives back to the adults who help shape its future, offering fulfillment, purpose, and lasting connections.

We have former and current players coaching in a variety of programs that have led us to formalize our coaching mentorship program that now supports young adults being involved in coaching the game while they are still playing at Rush Union. We currently have coaches, who are existing or former players, in our Academy, Mini kickers, After School, Camps, Rec and our Adaptive Thunder Programs.

MILTON AND DEKALB LOCATIONS

WINTER PROGRAMS

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

VISIT RUSHUNIONSOCCEr.org AND FILTER BY LOCATION

18 • OUR MILTON NEIGHBOR

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We all live busy lives and many of us live in the future by means of planning ahead of work, vacations or just managing logistics of work life balance. The game gives back to the adults involved by allowing them to live in the moment on the field with the children with whom they are working with. By positively impacting others in coaching or mentoring, the game continually finds rewarding ways to truly give all the participants a feel-good factor.

I would like to take this opportunity this Thanksgiving and holiday period to thank everyone involved in Rush Union Soccer and to recognize all the former players who are giving so much back to the game, but gaining so much for their own involvement in the sport they love... This is truly the definition of Playing it Forward at Rush Union Soccer.

Don't let injuries slow you down.

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BEST OF GEORGIA 2022 REGIONAL WINNER

BEST OF GEORGIA 2023

NOVEMBER 2024 • 19

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RIU RUSH UNION RIU in?

Winter Program Registration is now OPEN at both locations!

RUSH UNION 2024/2025 WINTER PROGRAMS

REGISTRATION OPENING
SEPTEMBER 30TH!

DEKALB LOCATION

ADVANCED WINTER TRAINING
RECREATION WINTER TRAINING
RECREATION WINTER GAMES
JANUARY 7V7 LEAGUE
HIGH SCHOOL TRYOUT PREP



MILTON LOCATION

REC 4V4 GAME PLAY
REC SKILLS CLINICS
PRE ACADEMY SKILLS
RUSH UNION CUP-7V7 LEAGUE



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The Rush Union Fall Cup will be on November 16-17, 2024!

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Congratulations to our players selected to compete at the International Rush Cup!

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RIU RUSH UNION RIU IN?



The graphic features a central shield-shaped logo with a soccer ball in the center. The ball has the Rush Union Soccer logo and 'RIU' on it. The shield is blue and white with snowflake patterns on either side. Below the shield, the text 'RUSH UNION WINTER INDOOR CUP MILTON 24/25' is displayed in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The background is a blue-toned indoor soccer field with players in action. At the bottom of the graphic, the address '14295 BIRMINGHAM HWY MILTON, GA 30004' is listed. To the left, under the heading 'DIVISIONS:', are two categories: 'BOYS & GIRLS (ACADEMY/SELECT LEVEL): (U9/10, U11/12, U13/14, U15)' and 'HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION: (U16/17/18/19)'. To the right, under the heading '\$900 PER TEAM', are '5 SEASON GAMES PLUS PLAYOFFS' and '*REGISTRATION OPEN ON SINC SPORTS OCTOBER 2ND*'. At the very bottom of the graphic, it says 'QUESTIONS? CONTACT CARA AT CMURRAY@RUSHUNIONSOCCKER.ORG'.

**RUSH UNION
WINTER INDOOR CUP
MILTON
24/25**

14295 BIRMINGHAM HWY MILTON, GA 30004

DIVISIONS:

BOYS & GIRLS (ACADEMY/SELECT LEVEL):
(U9/10, U11/12, U13/14, U15)

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION:
(U16/17/18/19)

\$900 PER TEAM

5 SEASON GAMES PLUS PLAYOFFS

REGISTRATION OPEN ON SINC SPORTS OCTOBER 2ND

QUESTIONS? CONTACT CARA AT CMURRAY@RUSHUNIONSOCCKER.ORG

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