

## ABOUT THE COMPETITIVE BRANCH

The Competitive Branch is divided into three divisions, Youth, Juniors, and Seniors. The Youth Division is for players from U11-U12. The Juniors Division is for players from U13-U15. The Seniors Division is for players from U16-U19. There is a Nike Team (first team) and a Swoosh Team (second team) in each age group. This level is referred to as Academy. All other teams formed are called advanced teams. Whichever the case, players have made a decision to play competitive soccer and are placed based upon their passion and ability.



Photo: Rush support the GU18 National Champions, July 2008

Our Competitive Branch exists to allow any player, irrespective of ability, the opportunity to take their game to the height of their potential. Players play with other players of like-ability with various levels of commitment throughout. Higher the level... greater the commitment. The Rush believe in striving for excellence and as players progress, they are constantly put in new situations to provide a greater challenge if indeed that is what the player desires. For our top players their goals include playing on the Nike team, Rush Select team, ODP state teams, regional teams, national teams, college teams, professional teams, etc. For our club, we want to push our players to "the next level". This "next level" may be different for every player.

### The Academy Mission Statement

*The Rush Academy Program is designed to maximize the development of players who possess the highest level of passion and ability for the game. This is achieved by providing a professional atmosphere that continuously exposes players to an elite standard of competition, through a variety of environments'. Ultimately, developing players capable of performing at the highest level, namely top 20 DI universities, Olympic Teams and National Teams.*

Our Competitive Branch, however, stretches far beyond elitism only. We offer programs for both player and personal development.

The following list is an example of some of our programs:

College Advisory Program	Player Evaluations
Goalkeeper Training	Rush I & II
Guest Playing	TOPS Soccer Volunteer
Fitness-Agility-Speed-Training	Tutor
Juggling Club	Youth Academy Trainer
Player's Blue Book	

Rush is proud of its traditions of taking young and talented players to the next level. Some of the players that the club has helped grow and develop are now part of our national or professional teams in the country and/or around the world such as Aleisha Cramer, Wes Hart, Mark Lisi, Collin Clark, Todd Dunivant, Jordan Angeli, Sarah Wagenfuhr, Marian Dalmy and Connor Casey to name a few.