About The International Player Program

Throughout the years, Rush has set up several successful community outreaches. The most recent program is designed to collect used uniforms and equipment, primarily from our membership and get them overseas to specifically identified areas. Some of these areas include African communities in the countries of Gambia, Senegal, South Africa and Mali.

After several visits and increased contact with soccer leaders in these communities, it was evident that not only is there a deficiency of many basic needs but more importantly, a strong desire to provide increased opportunities for their young, talented players. Several of these communities have since become official Rush partners and are committed to exposing the Rush brand in Africa as well as creating an environment conducive to helping these players achieve their goal of going to college and/or playing professional soccer. In January of 2010, with the collaboration of Colorado Rush and the Technical Director for Rush Africa, four Gambian boys were recommended to come to Colorado for our first ever player exchange opportunity in hopes that we could help them in their pursuit to go to college or to play professional soccer. The process to make this happen has been a learning experience for all and will be ongoing but our goal is to continue to grow the international player program to include future international players on an annual basis and to help prepare other Rush clubs to take on the challenge of hosting players. This packet will provide a step-by-step process in handling Visa requirements, family hosting responsibilities, insurance coverage and NCAA standards.

The Rush is committed to exposing its members to the World's Game and providing the best opportunities for our youngsters to experience its multi-cultural flares and traditions from all around the world. It is our intent to cultivate relationships with soccer organizations and foreign soccer clubs. The international player program will help us achieve our objectives.

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Four Gambian Players (Left to Right): Seedy, Abdoulie, Famara and Baboucarr pose for the camera after training with the U18 Developmental Academy team.

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