



Boise, ID -

Finals Sunday started with much excitement. With the forecast calling for abundant to plentiful sunshine, the U16G final between CO Rush Swoosh/Nero (U16G and Mission SF (CA-N) would have been one worth paying for. Thankfully no admission fees were needed as the Rush were well represented by chants from families and friends, including Alaska Rush, Idaho Rush, and the three other CO Rush teams (U13G, U14G, U17G).

The game started with both teams trying to size each other up with a lot of play done in the midfield. But in the 16th minute, Mission SF United would find the net as a result of an uncleared corner that was headed home. Rush however, got the equalizer just over 10 minutes later when Mia Dobbin crossed a ball that looked to be mishandled in the box by the Mission keeper and somehow reached the back of the net. The half ended with a 1-1 tie.

In the 2nd half, Rush would take the lead on a wonderful build up play and dribbling skills on the right side. Maddie Weeks dribbled possession near the 18 and played an outside foot pass to Maja Sagaser. Showing some impressive dribbling, Maja played a square pass to Bethany Hohnstein who, after some creative dribbling of her own, beat the Mission keeper far post.

The crowd support by the Rush contingent helped tremendously and though the opponent tried to match, nothing equaled the enthusiasm the Rush supporters showed. Once again though, a set piece goal found its way in for Mission as a corner late in regulation was not cleared by Rush and made the game a 2-2 tie heading into extra time.



The two extra 15 minute sessions saw the level of physical play step up as both teams battled hard. Rush weathered a couple of key injuries in both overtime periods but could not find the net until the 104th minute of the game when Ashton Gomez launched a 40 yard shot that hit just below the crossbar and straight down over the line to clinch the Regional final and send Rush to the President's Cup National Tournament, July 11th-14th in Auburndale, FL.

---