



The Colorado Rush U18 Girls opened

up play at the US Youth Soccer National Championships this morning with a 1-0 win over FC Milwaukee. Although the temperature for the 8:00AM game time was relatively low for Phoenix in July at 90 degrees, our girls would soon be feeling the real heat on the pitch. After sparring in the middle of the park for the early part of the first half the opposition from Milwaukee began to find their shooting boots. The FC Milwaukee girls recorded 8 first half shots to Rush's 3, putting goal keeper Molly Polletto and her defense under pressure on numerous occasions. With great play by Polletto, as well as leadership from Captain and Rush left back, Cassandra Hanna our girls weathered the storm. As we approached the half time whistle the Rush girls appeared to hold the fitness edge over the other side, giving hope to them and all of their supporters.

The second half looked to be a repeat of the first with much of the possession and shots belonging to the team from Wisconsin. But the game was quickly turned on it's head after Kelsey Loupee hit a laser-shot into the upper left corner in the 68th minute to put Rush in front 1-0. Down, but not out the girls from Region II continued to put pressure on the Rush goal with a number of good opportunities that went begging time and time again. Polletto continued to play big in the net with important saves. The save of the day came in the 82nd minute when, at full stretch to her right, Molly was able to come away with the ball that was surely bound for the side netting. The remaining minutes ticked off until the final whistle was blown and the Rush Girls were one step closer in their bid for a national title.

Tomorrow the girls take on the other day 1 winners in the group, FC Stars from Massachusetts.

The U17 Florida Rush and New Mexico Rush teams both struggled in their opening games losing 4-0 and 3-1 respectively.

### U17 Boys Schedule

Rush Club	Opponent	Game Time/Date	Score
New Mexico Rush	Penn Fusion (PA-E)	8:00PM - 07.27.11	L 3-1

Florida Rush	Grand Rapids Crew Juniors (MI)	8:00PM - 07.27.11	L 4-0
New Mexico Rush	Florida Rush	8:00PM - 07.28.11	
Florida Rush	TSC Black 9 (OK)	8:00PM - 07.29.11	
New Mexico Rush	Dallas Texans Red (TX-N)	8:00PM - 07.29.11	
National Championship	TBD	9:30AM - 07.31.11	

**U18 Girls Schedule**

Rush Club	Opponent	Game Time/Date	Score
Colorado Rush	FC Milwaukee (WI)	8:00AM - 07.27.11	W 1-0
Colorado Rush	FC Stars of Massachusetts (MA)	8:00AM - 07.28.11	
Colorado Rush	Team Boca (FL)	8:00AM - 07.29.11	
National Championship	TBD	7:45AM - 07.31.11	