



Rush Soccer has a new partner in Africa! Zambia Rush becomes the 11<sup>th</sup> African partner to Rush Soccer and 10<sup>th</sup> country to join the club. Located in South Central Africa, Zambia is a landlocked country of over 11 million people. The new club will be located in the town of Chililabombwe in the Copperbelt province.

“Zambia has some excellent potential. The city, Chililabombe, is in the Coppeltbelt state which has a population of 5 million habitants. This is the hub for Zambian soccer talents. We are hoping we can help nurture these young players through our overseas programming,” commented Rush Soccer President and CEO Tim Shultz.

Rush Zambia aims to provide its members with an academy that will help players reach their potential as soccer players. In addition to soccer, Rush Zambia incorporates life skill messages, such as poverty and HIV/AIDS awareness in order to foster an environment of learning.

The membership of Rush Zambia approximately 360 players ranging from 12-20 years old with about 240 players on the boys side and 120 on the girls side. The club plans to open more teams within the region over the next two years.

The new club will be lead by Kebby Thijesho Shampongo who will serve as the C.E.O and President. Lazarus Chomba, Emmanuel Kaimana, Evans Lupando and Philip Chomba who are former soccer players and have wide experience in the management of the game in various capacities will also play a major role within Rush Zambia.

“Kebby Shampongo is a proven leader in the Chililabombwe community,” said Rush Soccer Technical Director Andrew Kummer. “We are proud to be associated with Kebby and the 300 boys and girls that are now part of the Rush family.”

“Partnering with Rush Soccer shall help us learn, proven high quality youth development programs that Rush Soccer has for both girls and boys,” Kebby said of the new partnership. He continued, “We are committed to learning from Rush and the wider family on experiences on finest soccer, teaching fundamental skills on the organizations of the leagues, tournaments, athletics, coaching, and facilities. We hope to learn from the Rush family on the integration of first aid (healthy and safety measures) into the game on and off the pitch.”