



IOWA RUSH – RUSH FEST 2020

RUSH FESTIVAL 2020 – Denver, CO July 13– July 18

WHAT IS RUSH FEST?

Rush Fest is an annual event held in Colorado in mid-July that brings together 12U Boys' and Girls' players from Rush clubs across the country. The week-long festival of soccer joins competitive games, training sessions, classroom sessions and a host of social events into one of the most unique soccer events anywhere in the country. In the morning, teams compete against one another in games that are organized by ability-level. During the afternoon, teams take part in training sessions, which includes goalkeeper specific training, and classroom activities run by coaches from within the Rush family.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE RUSH FEST?

The main goals of the event are:

- A chance for Rush players from across the country to come together and be educated in the Rush Way, which further develops the national club culture.
- Create a fun and competitive environment.
- Players being exposed to instruction during practices and games from other coaches within Rush Soccer.
- Educational opportunities for coaches, team managers, and parents.
- Serves as the Regional Select ID Center for 2008s. This provides a pathway into Rush Select/Elite Player Program events and activities in the years ahead.

It is an opportunity to learn everything about Rush, share everything about Rush, and make lifelong friends that share your passion for Rush Soccer.

Additional Iowa Rush goals:

- Team Building
- Develop Player Responsibility
- Preparation for Future Travel Events

WHO IS IT FOR?

Rush Fest is an event meant primarily for players who are currently on an Iowa Rush 12U Select Boys or 12U Select Girls team. In addition, there will be activities specifically geared towards parents and younger siblings. Therefore, entire families are welcome to take part in the experience.



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DAILY SCHEDULE

A typical day involves:

- A game (Played 11v11)
- A training session
- A classroom session
- A social event for the players

Players have time to relax and socialize, especially in the evenings, but they should expect to stay active and be on a tight schedule during the day.

More detailed schedules for Rush Fest will be released in late June by Rush National.

REGISTRATION

Have the option of registering as an individual or a team for the event. Our priority is to generate enough interest to register players as part of a team.

The number of players registering through their Stack Sports account by the deadline in mid-March will dictate the number of boys' and girls' teams we enter into the event. Depending on overall numbers these teams will be enrolled as "Full" or "Partial" teams.

Full Team- Comprised of 14 or more players. These teams will typically operate independently and not have players outside of Iowa Rush supplement their rosters.

Partial Team- Comprised of 13 or fewer players. Rush National will identify other partial teams or individuals from other Rush clubs to join with our players to create a "Full" roster.

Specific player roster assignments will be confirmed in late June. If there are multiple teams formed for the Boys or the Girls, these teams will be classified as "Rush" and "Nero". Team assignments will more than likely correspond to the bid the player receives at the completion of 2020 Tryouts.



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COSTS AND EXPENSES

Q) Are meals provided?

A) It is the responsibility of each club to provide their players meals throughout the event. Over the past few years, Iowa Rush teams have organized meals as follows: Breakfast-Provided by the hotel, Lunch-Subway delivers sandwiches ordered by the players, Dinner-Meal is catered in by a local restaurant. Other options for meals, such as buying in bulk at a local grocery store, have been utilized by past groups and may be considered. One of the primary functions of the Planning Committee is to put together an efficient and cost-effective meal plan for the players. The set-up for meals will be confirmed by the Committee well in advance of the event.

Q) Do players need to stay in a specific hotel?

A) Yes, Rush Fest is a "stay-to-play" event. We will need to choose one of the area hotels Rush National has secured for the week. The primary factors influencing the hotel chosen are: 1) Cost, 2) Proximity to the Fields, and 3) Proximity to the Host Hotel where most of the classroom sessions and social events will take place. We will look to have four players stay in each room. In addition, our suggestion is that rooms for the chaperones (2 parents per room) are part of the player fee.

Q) How long should we plan on staying?

A) The opening Ceremony will commence on Monday evening, July 13th. Our expectation is that the players arrive at the team hotel earlier that day so the group can get organized in their rooms and have a meeting before heading to the ceremony. The last games should conclude by late morning on Saturday, July 18th. Therefore, costs are based on being there for 6 days and 5 nights.

Q) Are parents encouraged to attend even if they are not in the role of chaperone?

A) Yes. As an organization Rush thinks it is beneficial for parents to experience the Rush Way, as well. It is expected that players stay together in rooms under the supervision of chaperones and coaches, and not stay in the same room as their parents. This is likely the first time that the players are traveling and staying together as a team, so we want to use the event as a way to develop responsibility, and prepare for future group travel opportunities. Furthermore, we think the overall experience will be enhanced by having the players connected throughout the week.

Q) How can parents book hotels for the same rate and location?

A) Parents can book their hotels via the same link as players and coaches; however, we ask that you are courteous with your room block - space is limited, and we want as many teams/players as possible to have their choice of hotel. ***We strongly encourage parents who are not chaperones to reserve a room at a different hotel from the players.***

The following is a breakdown of expenses which has been put together by:

- Assessing per player costs from the groups attending the event in 2014-2019.
- Anticipating that player registrations will dictate we register one girls' team and one boys' team.

The listing factors in all of the major expenses for the event. The variability for some of the costs is due to decisions the group will make such as:

- Will chaperone rooms be factored into total cost (Recommend this).
- Will vans be rented or will the vehicles of participating families be used.
- What meal structure does the group utilize throughout the week.



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<u>Approximate Per Player Expense (Based on registering as a team)</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Iowa Rush Festival Deposit Fee *Confirms a spot for the individual and is non-refundable *Applied to Iowa Rush staff expenses and certain individual registration items	\$150.00
Rush Festival Team Registration Fee *Includes Games, Training, Classroom, Social, and T-shirt * Teams of 14 or more players are billed \$1,400.00; \$120.00 is the rate for an individual player registration or the per player fee for partial teams.	\$100.00-\$120.00
Hotel *Estimated room cost of \$150.00-\$175.00 per night *Based on 4 players to a room and 2 chaperones to a room for 5 nights	\$350.00-\$400.00
Transportation * Relates to gas expense for travel during the event. * Additional expense related to travel to and from Colorado (Gas, Rental, Lodging) is not part initial player fee.	\$15.00-\$25.00
Food *Past Groups: Breakfast @ Hotel, Subway Box Lunch, Hotel catered dinner	\$100.00-\$125.00
Events * Social Activity TBD * Past groups in Colorado Springs have taken the Cog Railway Pikes Peak Tour and visited the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo.	\$30.00-\$70.00
Gift Exchange * T-shirts to be traded at the Closing Ceremony	\$20.00-\$40.00
Estimated Per Player Expense Total:	\$765.00-\$930.00

Past groups have had per player expenses near the bottom-end of this range.

For 2019 group: After applying group fundraising amount to the final hotel expense, the actual out-of-pocket expense (Factoring in all items listed above) was around \$730 per player.



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FUNDRAISING

In order to reduce out-of-pocket expenses, the club encourages groups to organize fundraising activities.

Some basic guidelines concerning fundraising:

- The Rush Fest Planning Committee will organize and facilitate the fundraisers. Non-committee members with a fundraising idea should initially present their proposal to the Committee.
- The Committee will submit proposals to the Iowa Rush Executive Staff for final approval.
- Funds raised are to be applied to player expenses.

Approved fundraisers will be designated as either a “Group” or “Individual” activity.

Group Activity Examples: Rummage Sale, Yard Signs, Tourney Raffle, and Which Wich Night

Individual Activity Examples: Village Inn Pie Sale, Casey’s Discount Cards, Hy-Vee Coupon Books, Sportsman’s Warehouse Car Wash, and Bass Pro Shop Hot Dog Stand.

Specific Iowa Rush Fundraising Policy for Rush Fest

Families should read the information presented in the [Rush Festival Fundraising Policies and Procedures](#). All families participating in the event are expected to abide by the rules and regulations presented in that document.

GROUP ORGANIZATION

Iowa Director-Rush Fest: Jeff Adamiak

- Helps facilitate the group getting organized and registered for the event.
- Organizes training sessions for attending players prior to the event.
- Provides communication before the event to all participants concerning “soccer-related” activities during Rush Fest.
- Works with Rush staff to make hotel reservations for the group.

Team Coaches: TBD

- Members of the Iowa Rush staff assigned to work with the teams during the week of Rush Fest.
- Provide coaching and game management during matches.
- Lead or assist in training activities during the week.
- Assist chaperones with daily planning and scheduling.
- Enhance the benefit to player development the event provides.



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Rush Fest Lead:

- Sends consistent communication concerning Rush Fest to participating families.
- Assists Director with Player/Team Registration process.
- Acts as the liaison between the participating families and Rush staff.
- Organizes fundraising activities with assistance from Planning Committee members.
- Oversees the budget and tracks fundraising amounts.
- Works with Club Administrator and Bookkeeper to maintain accurate billing and disbursement of group funds.

Planning Committee: TBD

- Coordinates the assignment of chaperones.
- Helps organize issues related to travel (To Denver, During Rush Fest, Back to Des Moines).
- With assistance from chaperones, creates a player plan for breakfast, lunch, and dinner during the week.
- Responsible for “Capturing the Rush Fest Experience” through photos, videos, and social media releases during the event.

Group Chaperones: TBD

- Be responsible, soccer-loving, and able to pass a background check.
- Must be punctual, tireless and attentive.
- Responsible for driving players to all activities throughout the week.
- Responsible for organizing meals.
- Get players organized at the hotel (Representative of the team while in hotel).
- Primary resource for players to ‘go to’ when they have a need (Be on call 24/7).

An email will go out after individual registration closes asking for parents to confirm their interest in chaperoning by the beginning of February. Chaperone assignments will be confirmed by the Planning Committee in April.

Q) Are chaperones compensated for their time or travel expenses?

A) Our recommendation is that hotel room cost and the expense of gas related to travel within the Denver area during the week of Rush Fest is factored into the overall group budget. Some groups have decided to cover the expenses related to meals and the off-day activity for chaperones, as well.

Q) How much driving should a chaperone expect?

A) Because so many activities are fit into the schedule, a chaperone can expect a fair amount of driving. ***Parents assigned to the role of chaperone are expected to have a vehicle at the event if the rental van option is not utilized.***



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RUSH FESTIVAL REGISTRATION/ORGANIZATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

The following serves as a tentative timeline for the registration and planning process:

FEBRUARY

February 17: Main Parent Info Meeting

February 19: Rush Fest page on Iowa Rush website is updated to reflect information presented at meeting.

February 19: Individual Registration for Iowa Rush players opens

February 22: Confirm members of planning committee

Late February: Rush Fest Planning Committee Meeting (Outline preparation process, Assigning committee roles/tasks, fundraising)

MARCH

March 22: Iowa Rush Player registration closes

March 22: Parents confirm interest in being considered for chaperone role

March 23: Register appropriate number of Iowa Rush teams for Rush Fest based on individual signups.

Late March: Rush Fest Planning Committee Meeting (Travel, Transportation Planning, and Chaperones)

APRIL

Mid-April: Rush Fest Planning Committee Meeting (Prep for info meeting with families)

Mid-April: Confirmation of chaperones attending Rush Fest.

Late April: Rush Fest Committee conducts meeting for all families attending the event (Group Planning, Budget, Fundraising, Transportation)

Late April: Confirm coach/staffing assignments for the event

Late April: Player Budget is finalized

MAY

Mid May: Rush Fest Planning Committee Meeting (Group Planning)

May 22: Player Fee Payment Due (Installment #1) Half of Total Fee Paid

JUNE

Early June: Rush Fest Planning Committee Meeting (Group Planning)

Mid-June: Rush Fest Chaperone Meeting (Expectations, Organization, Schedule)

June 26: Player Fee Payment Due (Installment #2) Total Fee Paid

Late June: Week #1 of Training Sessions in preparation for the event.

Late June: Player roster assignments confirmed by the staff

Late June: Rooming assignments finalized by the Planning Committee



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JULY

Early July: Itinerary document completed for week of Rush Fest

Early July: Week #2 of Training Sessions in preparation for the event, which includes the following meetings:

- Rush Fest Player Meeting after one of the group training sessions.
- Rush Fest Parent Meeting for all families attending the event (Final preparations, Expectations)

July 10th: Final update to parents from staff

July 13th: Arrive at hotel in Denver by early afternoon to get organized. Rush Fest begins with opening ceremonies in evening.

July 18th: Camp ends late morning/early afternoon. Depart Denver.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[Iowa Rush – Rush Fest Webpage](#)

[Rush National - Rush Fest Webpage](#)

Game and Training Fields:

Trailwinds Park

13385 Holly St, Thornton, CO 80241

TO REGISTER

- ▶ Go to the Iowa Rush-Rush Fest webpage
- ▶ Scroll down to the bottom of the page, and then click on the “Register Here Now” icon.
- ▶ Log into your Iowa Rush Stack Sports account and fill out the required information.

- ▶ Registration includes a non-refundable \$150.00 payment
- ▶ Registration will open on Wednesday, February 19th
- ▶ Deadline for player registration is Sunday, March 22nd

QUESTIONS

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