

We have put together some general information here to help inform and educate our soccer community on how GulfSouth Soccer Club is joining Coastal Rush.

## **GENERAL FAQ**

Will GulfSouth be controlled and operated by "Corporate" Rush?

No, this is a partnership. The Club will still operate independently including filing of its own taxes, governance by its own Board of Directors, hiring of its own employees, etc. This venture is a cooperative effort with the purpose to serve to make each organization better. The partnership allows for the clubs to interact and share ideas.

Will we have to buy new uniforms?

Not at this time. We will utilize the remaining life cycle of our current uniforms.

Does this announcement affect Tryouts?

No This announcement has no impact on tryouts and they will take place as scheduled.

What do I do with all my GulfSouth fanwear?

Keep it and continue to wear it proudly. Our uniforms will not change this year so our fan gear will remain the same as well.

What are the main benefits of partnering with Coastal Rush?

This partnership will offer continuity and a clear pathway for development of GulfSouth players. Locally, players will have multiple opportunities to participate in free interclub events, guest play with other Coastal Rush home clubs and gain access to the Rush Train at Home program among other items that can be found at RushSocer.com.

At the regional level, players will gain access to participate in the ECNL Regional League and benefit from the exposure and competition afforded by the ECNL platform. This will be optional to participate in, and tryout information will be sent out by Coastal as well as home clubs.





What are the other clubs affiliated with Coastal Rush and where are they located? PBFC Rush (West Pensacola/South AL), Bayside Rush (Gulf Breeze), Pensacola Rush (Pensacola), Emerald Coast Rush, formerly FC Dallas (Destin/Niceville), Baldwin Rush (Baldwin County, AL), Mobile Rush (Mobile, AL).

What does this mean for my son / daughter?

For players born 2012-2016, very little will change from day to day. You will still have 2 practices per week and participate in 3 tournaments per season. You will use your current training kits and game jerseys. However, there will be new opportunities to access and utilize the Rush train at home program; and to participate in some exclusive league and playdates with other Coastal Rush partners as we begin the fall season.

What are some changes we can expect to see in the coming months? This week we have met and discussed the club with four potential new board members. We are onboarding the new members and defining each member's responsibilities going forward. At the same time, our priority continues to be hiring a new Director of Coaching, Technical Director and further defining the role of an Assistant DOC / Registrar. Next we will turn our focus to integrating the new resources and implementing beneficial programs that are now available to us with the assistance of Rush.

Will registration fees be increased as a result of this partnership?
The structure of this partnership has little impact on the club financially. We do not anticipate any drastic increases in the club dues. The club Treasurer is currently evaluating our current budget for the upcoming season.

How does Coastal Rush help players who are interested in playing in college? In addition to College Showcases, every single player registered within Coastal Rush has access to our College Advisory Program!! <a href="https://rushcollege.com/">https://rushcollege.com/</a>

Where can I learn more about Rush Soccer?
<a href="https://rushsoccer.com/">https://rushsoccer.com/</a>
<a href="https://rushsoccerdevelopment.com/">https://rushsoccerdevelopment.com/</a>

https://CoastalRush.com



## ADVANCED FAQ's

Can my daughter/son still do FL/AL ODP?

Yes, players will still be allowed to participate in Florida or Alabama ODP if they wish to do so and will not be penalized in any way.

## What is ECNL-R?

ECNL-R stands for Elite Clubs National League Regional League, and it is a youth soccer league in the United States that operates under the Elite Clubs National League (ECNL) organization.

ECNL-R is designed to provide a competitive and development-focused environment for elite-level youth soccer players, primarily at the U-13 to U-19 age levels. The league consists of regional divisions, and teams compete against others in their area, with the best teams advancing to national competition through the ECNL Playoffs.

The ECNL-R league is known for its high standards and emphasis on player development, with a focus on promoting both on-field success and off-field growth. The league also offers a range of resources and support for coaches and players, including access to top-level training and coaching, college recruitment assistance, and leadership and life skills development programs.

The ECNL-R is considered one of the most prestigious youth soccer leagues in the United States and has produced numerous professional and national team players.





## What is NPL?

In the United States, the National Premier Leagues (NPL) is a youth soccer league sanctioned by US Club Soccer. It is composed of 20 regional leagues, which are made up of approximately 300 clubs and 12,000 players across the country.

The NPL is designed to provide a high level of competition and development opportunities for youth players, with a focus on player development rather than winning at all costs. The league is structured around a promotion and relegation system, with the best-performing teams advancing to higher levels of competition.

The NPL offers a range of age groups for both boys and girls, with teams typically starting at the U-13 level and continuing through U-19. The league operates under a set of standards and guidelines aimed at promoting a positive and developmental environment for young players.

Who chooses the Coastal Rush coaches and who do they report to?

The Technical Directors, with input from the technical staff will choose the coaches, oversee tryouts, and the ECNL-R teams.

**Boys Technical Director - Bill Elliott Boys Program Director - Kyle Sealy** 

Girls Technical Director - Joe Bartlinski Girls Program Director - Ken Skinner

What is Rush Select and How Does My Player Get Selected?

Rush Select is a national run program that selects the best players from all over the country. Teams are both regional and national teams from Rush Clubs all over the US and Canada. You can learn more about the program here, <a href="https://rushsoccer.com/rush-select/">https://rushsoccer.com/rush-select/</a>

What is the process for trying out for Coastal Rush ECNL-R teams? After being accepted at GulfSouth, players will register for tryouts and attend the Coastal Rush Tryouts in Pensacola. Players should find out in 3-5 days their placement on the Coastal Rush team.





My daughter/son plays ECNL, how does this affect that opportunity?

If a player gets selected as a Discovery Player (DP) for a ECNL team they will have every opportunity to choose their own path and will not be penalized in any way for playing with a ECNL team.

All players under the Coastal Rush umbrella <a href="www.CoastalRushSoccer.com">www.CoastalRushSoccer.com</a> now have the ability to be considered for the Rush Select teams if they are nominated by club directors to Coastal Rush staff and are ultimately selected by Rush Select staff.

Overall, This is HUGE news for our soccer community and we are very excited about the future.

**Listen to the Coastal Rush Podcast Here** 

https://coastalrush.buzzsprout.com/

Welcome GulfSouth Rush!!