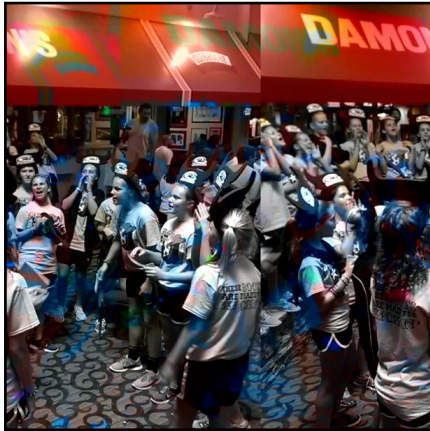


Rush Fest 2013 - Best Fest YET!

Rush Fest 2013 came to a close with as much excitement and as many tears as when it had



started five days earlier. Denver, Colorado was the host of the 2013 event and more specifically a combined effort by Rush Soccer and [North Area Rush](#) put on the biggest and boldest Fest to date.

Over 550 players on 38 teams made their way to Trailwinds Sport Park for a week of fun, education and competition. Monday evening saw the opening ceremony where the 750 chairs that were set out were not close to enough, as there was standing room only to introduce all the teams, the coaches, watch the opening ceremony video and then to top it all [Lucas Kim](#) (TD of [So Cal Rush](#)), proposed to his now fiancée with chants from the crowd of “Say Yes!” There was barely a dry eye in the room.



Bright and early on Monday morning the games began, followed by an afternoon of classroom sessions, coaches clinic and the now infamous “Fest Street Soccer” event. Already the songs and chants had started and the atmosphere was electric.

Wednesday, saw more games, more training and more classroom sessions and then the coaches were treated to some small group coaching clinics with Laurent Papillon, Head Coach of the Solomon Islands National team and former Technical Advisor to the French Football Federation. If this was not enough, that evening saw an army of 1200 strong Rush supports go to the Colorado Rapids game, 250 of which got to go down on the field as flag bearers whilst the coaches met with the Rapids coaches for a pregame clinic.

Thursday saw the games recommenced in the AM and a Sports Psychology session with the new Rush Sports Psychologist Lee Hancock, who demonstrated the [new MAP program](#). That evening was the Rush Fest social event, with a DJ, gift exchange and organized chaos.....the kids had a blast! At the same time the parents met with John O'Sullivan for a parent education meeting.



The final round of games kicked off on Friday morning, before more tears, this time because they didn't want to leave all of their new friends that they had made throughout the week.

The fields, the weather, the energy and the smiles made this one of the most memorable events ever held by Rush Soccer. Roll on July 14th 2014 for the 7th Annual Rush Fest.

Here are a few quotes from this years participant players and parents:

I already miss rush fest. Why does it have to end?!?!?!? :(- Chelseacookiemonster

Best week of my life!!! – Isabelle Camman

Based on what I saw, and the comments of the kids I believe what Rush is doing with the fest is a world class event and a top notch experience for the kids – Todd Litzman