



SPI staff and Rush Select Coaches, Nik Penn, Arian Hoxha and Matt Mittelstaedt traveled to Italy this week to familiarize themselves with the facilities, regions and opportunities for the upcoming B13 Rush Select trip to Northern Italy. The guys that were hosted by John Salvatore, TD of CT Rush and the guys from Dream Team Italy, got to experience both Inter Milan and AC Milan play at the [San Siro stadium](#) as well as the stadium tour that the players will have the opportunity to see. The trip will take the players to the beautiful [Lake Como](#) area where they will play a couple of friendly games in preparation for the tournament. The cultural experience will be priceless also, with the coaches seeing the cities of [Milan](#), [Florence](#) and [Sienna](#) of which the boys will take in the education and history of these cities and building that are thousands of years old in some cases.

The coaches also visited the venue of the tournament that will be only for their age group and will include seven Italian Professional youth academies including [Juventus](#), [Fiorentina](#), Sienna, Empoli and host club Atalanta as well as Select teams from Japan and Australia. The level will be extremely high and the Rush Select will draw at least one pro academy whilst staying in nearby [Montecatini Terme](#). The trip will include a training session at [Corverciano](#) the home of the Italian National Teams with one of the Italian National team staff and get to see the four world cups won by the Azzurri, that the coaches also got to tour this week.

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Matt Mittelstaedt is in the final stages of selecting the group of Rush U13 players that was aided by last months Select ID Camp in Casa Grande, AZ.