

Miguel Jaime nets winner for the Colorado Rush 18DA and Charlie Caswell hits for the brace for the 16DA's as both Development Academy teams top cross town rival Colorado Rapids. The 18's win has them in second place in the competitive Central Conference while the 16's have climbed up to 4th place in the 13 team division. Below is the full day writeup by Colorado Rush Director of Academy Sean Bushey.



Derby Day! Colorado Rush traveled across town to take on the Colorado Rapids. When both teams traveled back home on the cold day, they returned the victors!

The 18s kicked off at 1pm in front of club-mates made up of the 14DA and various ECNL players. For the game being the first game in almost 2 months, the team started well, though there was no doubt that the work of the two center backs (Eric Morrison and Garrett Wilson), along with defensive midfielder, Eduardo Reza (Lalo) kept the team anchored firmly in the game.

The second half saw the hard work matched with quality soccer, though were undone by a bit of individual work and found themselves behind 1-0 early into the second half. No worries. It was the soccer, the determination and the work that continued forward. Soon after, Spencer Goldstein neatly found Miguel Jaime (Miggy) behind the opponent's back line; the keeper was left all alone and had no other choice but to foul Miggy. Lalo calmly stepped up to bury the penalty kick. 1-1.

Onward! As the 75th minute passed by, the Rush continued forward. Joe Kerridge's rocket from outside the box was pushed away by the Rapids' keeper but Miggy was "Miggy on the spot" and skillfully buried the winner. The team defended well in front of keeper Jonny Finucane, who did his job well throughout the game, to earn the win.

The 14DA saw the example of Rush Soccer: Tenacity. Unity. Enjoyment. These are the players to emulate, to model, to learn from—it was well worth their time in the 20 degree weather!

The 16DA also took note. The 16's had defeated the Rapids last Fall at home and were determined to make it a sweep. From the beginning, it showed. On the front foot, the passing, the

movement forward and the numbers in attack caused the opponent problems in the first quarter of the game...and it paid off as Will Eslinger buried the corner on the back post that was served from Noah Bush y and flicked on at the near post for Will to calmly finish. There was a period of time in the first half where the momentum seemed to slip, but during those times it was the work of the center backs (Will and David Solis) and the defensive midfielder (Frank Morales) that kept all matters calm. They did take note of the 18s! The first half finished well and back in charge with the passing of Ryan Crowley and the extreme hard work of Jack O'Brien and David Ortiz.

As the second half started, it was the charge of the 16s to continue going forward and to continue to dictate the game. The message was played out and soon Charlie found himself in the box; as he weaved himself past a small handful of Rapids defenders, he buried his shot past the stranded keeper. Onward! The 16s continued to keep their foot on the pedal. Ty Lang and Adrian Cordova pressed forward from the outside, the midfield kept churning and the forwards kept moving. Soon a free kick was earned. Morales found a running Caswell who again was able to work himself, and ultimately the ball, past the Rapids defense. 3-0! A shutout for Carter Auth and a sweep of the cross-town rivals on the day: a great, and deserved, soccer day.

This is Rush Soccer! Tenacity. Unity. Enjoyment.