

At the time of writing the countdown clock says 12

days and 11 hours until the start of the 2013 Rush Fest. The biggest Fest ever will be hosting 38 teams from as far and wide as Alaska, Hawaii, Virginia, Sothern California and even the Bahamas. Held in Denver, CO for the first time in its 6 year history, not only will this be the biggest Fest yet but will surely be the best ever for players, coaches and parents alike.

The players schedule (Link to schedule) have them playing four competitive games, have 3 field sessions (with the keepers getting two keeper specific sessions), and have 3 classroom sessions including one from world classSports Psychologist Lee Hancock. In addition to the traditional social event and gift exchange and professional player appearance we have added an adidas footwear trial and have sold over 1000 tickets to the Rapids vs. New England MLS game. Finally, the Rush Select staff will be in attendance looking for the top talent on display to be invited to the Rush Select ID camp with an opportunity to represent Rush Soccer nationally.

Parents have the opportunity to join the players at the Rapids game and there is a meeting from former Rush Technical Director, John O'Sullivan. John is the recently published author of Changing the Game – Youth Sports Parenting and Coaching, and he will be coming in to speak to the parents.

For the coaches this will be the most educational Rush Fest ever. We will continue with the evening coaches meetings to help educate the coaches on the Rush Way as well as partner coaches with teams from other states to learn from each other. However, for the first time we will be holding coaches clinics that will be conducted by Laurent Papillon. Laurent was an advisor to the French Football Federation, is a UEFA delegate and currently a national team coach in the Oceania Football Confederation. Laurent led a group of Rush coaches in a coaching education trip to Paris in December and is one of the world's leading youth coaches. Finally, before the Rapids vs. New England game the coaches have been invited to speak with the MLS coaches on the tactics of the upcoming games.

The event is gearing up to be the most fun, educational and passionate week in the 16 year history of Rush Soccer. Check out updates on the Fest Facebook page and our Fest website leading up to and during the event.