

# Palm Beach Rush Connection

- Connecting our teams, families and community -

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## Note from the Founder

As we prepare for the 5th anniversary of PB Rush, we take a moment to thank all those who have supported the project. The Town of PB, Sponsors, Players, Parents, coaches and directors have all been instrumental in setting the club up to where it is today. A big thank you to all who have been involved.

Looking back on the past 4 years, we have seen some great achievements with teams and players as well as some hiccups along the way. As a club, we care and take pride in helping players maximize their potential and achieve their sporting goals. Youth sport can teach the truly important character traits that we wish to instill in our future leaders; empathy, ambition, courage, honor and integrity. Our number one priority at PB Rush is to reinforce these attributes continuously on and off the field whilst developing the soccer player.

As we enter the next stage of the club, our focus will be on the continued development of players, creating player pathways and giving each child a nurturing environment for them to achieve success.

We will be introducing a scholarship program through PBRFoundation to award future deserving players. In April 2026, we will be kicking off the first annual Palm Beach 5v5 tournament as a primary fundraiser for the scholarship program. This will be a unique event hosted by the Rec center that will bring U13 and younger teams from all across South Florida to compete for the title.

Lastly, our plan is to publish the newsletter twice a season as a primary source for all constituents to stay connected with the club and how our teams and players are performing.

We look forward to serving the PB community for years to come. Let's go Rush!!

Onwards and Upwards.

# Season Kickoff

The 2025–2026 season is officially underway, and we are excited to share updates and highlights from a fantastic start to the year. It has been great to see our players back on the field, training hard and representing Palm Beach Rush with energy and pride.

## Season Kickoff

The season kicked off in early September at the beautiful Mandel Recreation Complex, and the enthusiasm from our athletes has been outstanding. This year, Palm Beach Rush proudly fields multiple boys' and girls' teams, including:

- 2013 - 2014 Boys
- 2014 - 2015 Boys
- 2016 Boys
- 2017 Boys
- 2014 - 2016 Girls

Over the past few months, teams have focused on building strong technical foundations and preparing for the official start of league play. Competitive league matches begin at the end of November, with all teams competing in the Florida League against strong regional opponents. We are excited to see the progress these groups continue to make.

## Palm Beach Gardens Classic

Tournament In October, several of our teams had the opportunity to test themselves at the Palm Beach Gardens Classic Tournament. All teams represented Palm Beach Rush with pride, effort, and sportsmanship. We are especially proud of our 2016 Boys and 2017 Boys who both earned finalist medals after outstanding performances.

The tournament provided valuable experience and confidence as teams head into league play.

## Increased Emphasis on Futsal Training

This season, Palm Beach Rush has increased its focus on futsal, incorporating indoor training sessions for all teams at the PBDA or Rec Center gym. Futsal is a fast-paced, 5v5 version of soccer played on a smaller surface which encourages quicker decision-making and improves foot skills while also increasing touches on the ball.

In many soccer-rich countries, particularly in South America, futsal plays a critical role in early player development. By integrating futsal into our training model, we aim to strengthen technical ability and creativity that will benefit players long-term in the outdoor game.





## Staff Spotlight: Kristi Gregory

We are excited to welcome Kristi Gregory as our new Club Administrator this season. Kristi brings years of experience working with a larger soccer organization and values the close-knit, family-oriented environment that Palm Beach Rush provides. As a soccer mom herself, she understands the importance of clear communication and strong support for families and players.

In addition to her role with Palm Beach Rush, Kristi also leads a highly successful TOPSoccer program at Plantation FC Rush, serving more than 100 athletes with special needs. The program is offered free of cost thanks to generous donors and sponsors and provides uniforms and specialized equipment such as weighted balls, sound-enhanced balls, and other adaptive tools. The program operates on a one-to-one buddy ratio to ensure every child receives individualized support. We look forward to bringing this inclusive program to Palm Beach Rush.

Kristi's passion for inclusivity and expanding access to the game is a tremendous asset to our club.

*TOPSoccer is part of a 501(c)(3) organization, making all donations tax-deductible. Volunteers are always welcome, and service hours are available for students. Anyone interested in donating or volunteering is encouraged to contact Kristi directly.*

## Player Spotlight: Oscar Lago (2012)

Oscar Lago has been part of the Palm Beach Rush family since our club's inception four years ago. His dedication, work ethic, and steady development have been impressive to watch. As his level of play advanced, he transitioned to Plantation FC Rush, leveraging the Rush network to move into an MLS NEXT environment. That progression has paid off, and Oscar now competes in an MLS NEXT Academy Division, earning his place through hard work and talent.

Most recently, he was selected to represent South Florida Rush Select at the IRC, another testament to his commitment and ability. We are incredibly proud of his journey. At Palm Beach Rush, our mission is to help players reach their full potential, even if that means guiding them to an environment that best fits their growth. Oscar is a great example of what happens when passion meets opportunity. Congratulations, Oscar. We are cheering for you.



# South Florida Rush Select Program

Palm Beach Rush is proud to participate in the South Florida Rush Select program—a collaboration among all South Florida Rush clubs that offers a higher-level developmental pathway for standout players.

Rush Select players train monthly in addition to their regular club schedule. Based on performance and evaluations, players are selected for upcoming tournaments and events. Our first major event of the year was the International Rush Cup, that took place in Palm Beach the weekend of November 21st.

This year, Palm Beach Rush was thrilled to have three 2013 players selected to the South Florida Rush Select roster: Henry McClelland, James McNamara, and Max Principe. Their hard work, technical growth, and competitive spirit earned them this recognition among a talented pool of players from across South Florida.

At the International Rush Cup, the team delivered an outstanding performance, going undefeated in all regular group matches and advancing to the championship final. In a closely contested match, they narrowly fell short with a 2-1 loss, but their run to the finals showcased exceptional teamwork, resilience, and high-level play.

We are incredibly proud of our Palm Beach Rush athletes as they united with fellow Rush players to compete against top teams from across the country. Their achievements reflect the strength of our developmental pathway and the bright future ahead for these young players.

## Looking Ahead

It has already been an exciting start to the season and we're looking forward to the continued development of our players both on and off the field. Thank you to all of our families for being part of our community. We are looking forward to everything this season has in store.

Warm regards,  
Palm Beach Rush Soccer Club

# Palm Beach 5v5 Tournament

We are excited to announce our first ever tournament taking place April 18th-19th at The Mandel Recreation Center. All proceeds from the tournament will go directly toward supporting Palm Beach County youth who want to play soccer but may not have the financial resources to do so.

This tournament is more than just a weekend of competition- it's an opportunity for our community to come together and give back to a sport we love. Through events like this we can continue creating access, opportunity, and unforgettable experiences for young athletes in our area.

