

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



NEW MEXICO RUSH SOCCER CLUB

A NM First - Youth Soccer Team Shatters Glass Ceiling at National Level!

NM Rush 04 Boys Soccer Team Win US Youth Soccer National League Red Division



Photo credit Devon Baird

For additional information

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ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., March 14, 2018 - The New Mexico (NM) Rush 04 Boys Soccer team etched its place in NM history this past weekend by being the first team from NM to be crowned US Youth Soccer National League Champions! The NM Rush 04 Boys Team won the National League Red Division with six wins, and only one tie earning a total of 19 points in league play, and the winner of the Blue Division, Nationals Union 04 Black (MI), came away with six wins and one loss totaling 18 points. It is the 11th season for US Youth Soccer National League play. Only two teams from New Mexico have been selected to play in National League since its inception.

NM Rush 04 Boys player Jaime Terrazas lead the league in goals scored with 11. The top two teams from both the red and blue divisions qualify to participate in the US Youth Soccer National Championships this summer in Frisco, Texas. The US Youth Soccer National Championships will feature the top teams in the 04 age-group in the country. By winning the league, the NM Rush 04 Boys team also clinched a guaranteed spot in National League next year.

The NM Rush 04 Boys team is coached by Justin Sells (USSF A License), NM Rush Technical Director & Director of Coaching, as well as the new head Coach for the Albuquerque Sol FC. Sells is

also the National Technical Director for Southern Clubs for Rush Soccer. He previously played for the University of New Mexico (UNM) men's soccer team, and still holds the record for the all-time leading scorer and total career points at UNM. Sells also played professional soccer at all levels including the MLS. Sells commented on the amazing success of the team, "The boys represented the state of New Mexico and Rush soccer very well this National League season. We got results against some of the best teams in the country and are looking forward the US Youth Soccer National Championships this summer, and continued participation in National League next year."

The NM Rush 04 Boys National League Champion roster includes: Brendan Baird, Jamal Bynum, Saul (Aaron) Cisneros, Jarrett Claypool, Derek Lozano, Tenzing Manske, Stefen Molinar, Keegan Monheimer, Nicholas Moralde, Aidan Romero, Kaden Schufft, Ivan Szakacs, Jaime Terrazas, Andres (Joaquin) Torres, Luis Vasquez, Denilson Velasquez, and Michael Wissman.

The US Youth Soccer National League competition is for the nation's top teams in the 14U, 15U, 16U, 17U and 18U boys and girls age groups. The 14U and 15U divisions consist of a total of 16 teams per gender age group, while the 16U through 18U gender age groups feature 32 teams each. The National League offers additional exposure to collegiate, professional and U.S. National Team coaches and offers the highest level of competition in the country as each team must earn their place in the league. National League teams continue play in their respective US Youth Soccer Regional Leagues and State Championships to complete their competitive calendar.

Teams play a seven-game schedule over two weekends, facing each team within its age group division one time. The League consists of three weekends of play per gender, with each team playing two of the three weekends.

The top teams from each division advance to the US Youth Soccer National Championships, the oldest and most prestigious youth soccer national championship in the country. The four National League representatives will join the four Regional Champions in the 14U through 18U age groups to play for the National Championship. The top teams in each 14U through 17U division also secure a spot to return to National League play the following season.

The National League's alumni have gone on to prove themselves at the collegiate and professional levels, with former players competing in NCAA Division I, II and III, Major League Soccer, National Women's Soccer League, the UEFA Champions League and the FIFA Women's World Cup.

The National League is an extension of the highly successful US Youth Soccer Regional Leagues (Eastern Regional League, Midwest Regional League, Southern Regional Premier League and Far West Regional League).

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For more information about NM Rush Soccer Club, go to www.nmrush.com. For more information about Rush soccer go to www.rushsoccer.com. For more information about US Youth Soccer National League to www.usyouthsoccer.org.