State Cup 2012

May 25-28 * Boise, Idaho

Ten more Idaho Rush teams will attempt to follow the lead of the state champion U18 boys Nike team w they kick off play at the Idaho State Cup beginning Friday, May 25. Among the highlights are the U19 boys, will attempt to win their fourth state championship in their final run at the tournament, and the U15 girls, wh looking to become the second Idaho Rush girls team ever to win a state title. The U19 boys lost in PKs in la year's final and would like to avenge their loss against Nationals, the only other team entered in the U19 ag group. Idaho Rush also has legitimate contenders in at least four other age groups.

We will update this tournament web page as the tournament rolls along, adding scores and updating schedules when Rush teams gain the semifinals and finals, as neeed. To add game photos or stories abou particular teams in the tournament, e-mail Mark French.

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Boys U18 **CHAMPI**

The boys U18 Nike team claimed its fourth State Cup championship Sunday, holding on for a 3-2 win ov Idaho Thunder of Post Falls. Mehmed Selimovic had a pair of goals and Hector Martinez added another to Rush up 3-0 before Thunder made it interesting with a pair of goals in the second half. But the boys held or win their second consecutive title and a ticket to Far West Regionals in Phoenix, June 18-24. Rush cruised the finals with a 9-0 win over Real Caldwell and a 13-0 win over Blackfoot Elite FC. The U18 State Cup was played as a part of the IYSA Director's Cup one weekend before the traditional Memorial Day weekend to a conflicts with high school graduations.

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Boys U13 **CHAMPI**

The boys U13 Nike team used every bit of full time, extra time, overtime and penalty kicks before finally nailing down their first State Cup championship over PVSC of Pocatello on Monday afternoon in front of mo than 100 fans. Alex Draghici knocked home the fifth and final penalty kick to seal the win, complementing th two saves from GK Casey Sturtevant. Rush dominated most of the match, missing at least two clear opportunities in the first half and putting another shot off the underside of the crossbar. The onslaught conti through the second half with a number of chances sailing just wide of the goal and a few more floating into PVSC goalkeeper's arms. Solid ball-winning in the midfield kept the chances coming even as the back line snuffed out the few counter-attacking opportunities generated by PVSC. The boys advance to Far West Regionals in Phoenix June 18-24.

Other finishes

Boys U19: Second place
Boys U14: Third place
Boys U17: Fourth place

State Cup daily roundup

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Day 1

Friday's small batch of opening-round games yielded a mixed bag of results for the club, with both U13 g teams getting wins along with the U17 boys, but the U16 boys, U15 boys and U14 girls all starting slowly. T U13 girls each logged shutouts to put themselves in good positions to advance to the semifinals. Ric Gale's Elite team dominated Soccer Xpress 6-0 and Kenny Morrell's Premier team matched the feat with a 2-0 win over Nationals. The U17 boys earned a measure of revenge over Idaho Thunder in their 2-1 win over the P Falls team. Thunder beat Rush in PKs to advance to the State Cup finals last year after the two teams tied pool play. The U16 boys, though, were overmatched against Nationals, falling 4-0. The U14 girls also found themselves with a challenge too large against Nova, dropping their opener 7-0. The U15 boys nearly drew l just before halftime but the Nationals keeper pushed a floater over the bar to keep the score at 1-0. The wh came off early in the second half, though, on a penalty kick and a goal from the run of play in the first 10 minutes. The boys went on to lose 5-0.

DAY 2

Two teams earned berths in the State Cup semifinals and another two kept their state title hopes alive d a day filled with cold clouds and plenty of rain. The boys U13 and U14 teams started the day right with back back wins over Twin Falls Rapids (2-1) and Nationals (1-0), respectively. The U13 win was especially impor as Nationals was one of only two teams to beat Rush during the regular season. Rush will face the only oth team to beat them, Super Nova, in the semifinals. The boys U17s also nailed down a spot in the semis on t strength of a 10-0 thumping of Ballistic of Idaho Falls. They will also face local rival Super Nova in the semifinals. The U14 boys added a 8-0 win over Sandpoint Strikers later in the day to stay on track for a spo the finals. Neither U13 girls team was as lucky though, as both teams were upset in their second and final p game. The teams had been on track to create an all-Rush final, but now must settle for consolation games. U15 girls fell to the same fate after they dropped their second game to PVSC 3-1. The U19 boys lost 2-1 to Nationals in the first leg of their two-leg final. The two teams meet again on Monday with the combined scor of the two games determining the winner. The U14 girls and U15 boys earned their first points of the tourna with a draws with Coeur d'Alene Sting (0-0) and Super Nova (1-1), respectively, while the U16 boys continu look for a positive result after dropping their second match.

Day 3

The boys U13 will play for their first-ever State Cup championship on Monday after thumping Nova 5-0 in their semifinal Sunday afternoon. The boys will face cross-state rival PVSC of Pocatello at noon on Simplot in the final. The win was one of the few bright spots on Sunday as the U17 boys lost their semifinal 1-0 to Sandpoint Strikers and the U14 boys lost a de facto semifinal game against Nationals 6-1 to miss an oppor to play in the final for the second straight year. The consolation games were better fare for Rush as both U1 girls teams won their final game of the tournament. Nike-Premier beat Twin Falls Rapids 3-0 and Nike-Elite Fury FC 3-1. The U14 and U15 girls both also ended the tournament on a high note, with the U15s beating Nova 2-0 and the U14s beating VYSA 2-0. The U16 boys, though, remained winless after dropping their fin game 4-1 to Coeur d'Alene Sting 4-0. Along with the U13 boys, the U19 boys will have a chance to claim th fourth State Cup title of their careers when they take on Nationals in the second of their two-leg final. Natior won the first leg 2-1, which means Rush will need to win by at least two goals in Monday's game to claim th title outright. A one-goal win by Rush would send the series to extra time and a draw or a loss would land R in the runners-up position. Tomorrow's two finals games are:

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- Boys U13 Nike vs. PVSC (Pocatello), 12 p.m., Simplot 12.
- Boys U19 Nike vs. Nationals, 12 p.m., Simplot 5.

Day 4

Four Rush teams closed out the State Cup tournament with a pair of wins, a draw and a loss on a sun-splashed day at the Simplot Sports Complex. The most important win came at U13 as the boys finished off remarkable run with a win over PVSC (Pocatello) in penalty kicks following a 0-0 finish. Rush definitely earn its State Cup title, beating Nationals, Nova and PVSC en route to the win (see full story above). The U14 bo garnered the other win on Monday, beating Real Nampa 2-0 to claim third place. The U19 boys used a furio rally to claim a 2-2 draw against Nationals in the second leg of their two-leg final. But the effort was not eno to overcome a 2-1 deficit from the first leg and Rush finished in second place for the second time in three ye The two runners-up positions pair with their three State Cup championships to make them one of the most decorated teams in club history. In the final game of the tournament, the U17 boys fell 1-0 in a rematch with Idaho Thunder to finish in fourth place. The boys beat Thunder 2-1 on the opening day, but could not repea feat.

Master State Cup schedule

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Friday, May 25

Time	Rush team	Opponent	Field	Result
5:15 p.m.	Girls U13 Nike-Morrell	Nationals-Rio	Simplot 9	2-0
5:15 p.m.	Boys U16 Nike	Nationals-Celtic	Simplot 18	0-4
5:15 p.m.	Boys U17 Nike	Idaho Thunder	Simplot 16	2-1
5:15 p.m.	Girls U13 Nike-Gale	Soccer Xpress	Simplot 11	6-0
7:15 p.m.	Girls U14 Nike	Super Nova	Simplot 15	0-7
7:15 p.m.	Boys U15 Nike	Nationals-Milan	Simplot 5	0-5

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Saturday, May 26

8 a.m.	Boys U14 Nike	Twin Falls Rapids	Simplot 13	2-1
10 a.m.	Boys U13 Nike	Nationals-Inter	Simplot 3	1-0
10 a.m.	Boys U16 Nike	Twin Falls Rapids	Simplot 17	0-3
12 p.m.	Boys U15 Nike	Super Nova	Simplot 5	1-1
12 p.m.	Girls U15 Nike	Neto United	Simplot 15	6-1
12 p.m.	Girls U14 Nike	Coeur d'Alene Sting	Simplot 11	0-0
2 p.m.	Boys U14 Nike	Sandpoint Strikers	Simplot 12	8-0
4 p.m.	Boys U13 Nike	Coeur d'Alene Sting	Simplot 17	4-1
4 p.m.	Girls U13 Nike-Morrell	Coeur d'Alene Sting	Simplot 18	0-2

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6 p.m.		Boys U19 Nike	Nationals	Simplot 14	1-2
6 p.m.		Boys U17 Nike	Ballistic	Simplot 6	10-0
6 p.m.		Girls U13 Nike-Gale	Lakeland Nighthawks	Simplot 12	1-3
6 p.m.		Girls U15 Nike	PVSC United	Simplot 20	1-3

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Sunday, May 27

10 a.m.	CONSOLATION	Girls U13 Nike-Morrell	Fury FC	Simplot 3	3-1
10 a.m.	CONSOLATION	Girls U13 Nike-Gale	Twin Falls Rapids	Simplot 9	3-0
12 p.m.		Boys U14 Nike	Nationals-Liverpool	Simplot 3	1-6
12 p.m.		Boys U15 Nike	Idaho Thunder	Simplot 6	6-0
12 p.m.	CONSOLATION	Girls U14 Nike	VYSA	Simplot 11	2-0
12 p.m.	CONSOLATION	Girls U15 Nike	Nova	Simplot 20	2-0
2 p.m.	SEMIFINAL	Boys U17 Nike	Sandpoint Strikers	Simplot 5	0-1
2 p.m.	SEMIFINAL	Boys U13 Nike	Super Nova	Simplot 3	5-0
4 p.m.	CONSOLATION	Boys U16 Nike	Coeur d'Alene Sting	Simplot 5	1-4

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Monday, May 28

8 a.m.	3rd/4th place	Boys U14 Nike	Real Nampa	Simplot 11	2-0
12 p.m.		Boys U19 Nike	Nationals	Simplot 5	2-2 (3-4 agg
12 p.m.	FINALS	Boys U13 Nike	PVSC	Simplot 12	1-0 (3-2 PKs
10 a.m.	3rd/4th place	Boys U17 Finals	Idaho Thunder	Simplot 5	0-1

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