

**U18 TEXAS RUSH AHFC VS. DALLAS TEXANS, OCTOBER 11, 2008**

The Texas Rush AHFC players started strong against the Dallas Texans and had moments where they played exceptionally well. The Texas Rush AHFC defending was vastly improved from the prior game against TSC. Defenders Francisco Martinez and Jorge Vasquez worked very hard in the back to keep the game level. With 15 minutes left in the half, Texas Rush AHFC was awarded a free kick from the right side of the half way line. Mitchell Cardenas stepped up and served the ball to the back post. Charlie Thevenau competed with the goal keeper which allowed the ball to cross the goal line at the back post. The first half ended with the Texas Rush AHFC up 1-0.

The second half was very much like the first half; the team defended well and quality possession at times. The Dallas Texans had a player with an outstanding long throw in and with 10 minutes to go they served another throw in into the box. A challenge with our keeper led to a loose ball which the Dallas Texans converted to tie the game at 1 -1. With 5 minutes left an indirect free kick was awarded to the Dallas Texans for a pass back to our goal keeper; a questionable decision by the referee. From 6 yards out the Dallas Texans hit the restart which led to a goal and a 2-1 victory.

Although the team lost they can certainly see that by taken care of some details the result can be favorable for the Texas Rush AHFC U18 boys.

**U18 TEXAS RUSH AHFC VS. SOLAR, OCTOBER 12, 2008**

This game was less than stellar for the Texas Rush AHFC team. "Our performance can be attributed to a few things" says Coach Dean. "One, playing in this league with limited substitutions is new for our boys. They must get used to managing the game and its conditions. Second, is the consistent level of competition that we face; every team is a quality team. Lastly, is the level of our fitness."

"A similar learning process was experienced by last year's Academy clubs, coaches and players. I'm confident that our boys will quickly get used to this level which will greatly help them in the long run" says Coach Dean.

Texas Rush AHFC saw a number of players go down with cramping, injuries etc. This had a direct effect on the end result giving up a second half goal.

The U18 Texas Rush AHFC team has a bye week which allows them time to recover and focus on areas that need improvement. During this break from games, we should be able to come out strong and build off the start of the season. Victory will be waiting just around the corner.

**About Texas Rush AFHC USSF Academy Program**

With our innovative partnership, Rush and AHFC are redefining Houston soccer by creating best-in-class teams to compete at the highest level providing our players the competitive environment and desired exposure to extend their soccer careers into college and beyond.

