

## Rush Pikes Peak Welcomes New Directors of Coaching!



***Dan Highstead, Director of Coaching, Seniors*** -Dan was born and raised in Southend, England. He grew up playing in the youth system at Hullbridge Sports FC before representing the club at U18 and then the senior team at a semi professional level. In 2000, he obtained the Girls Director of Coaching position at Rio Vista FC in Albuquerque NM. Rio Vista quickly became the largest and most successful girls program in NM history, dominating the state in terms of State championships between 2000–2006. While in NM, Dan was a member of the

New Mexico storm professional Indoor team with the AISL. Dan has been a head coach for the New Mexico ODP for the past 6 years and placing 2 NM teams in the Region IV ODP championship games in Las Vegas, NV. During his time with Rio Vista FC he accumulated several state cup titles including a Region IV championship in 2001 as an assistant coach. Dan has also been on the Region IV coaching staff for the past 3 years and currently holds his USSF “A” License.



***Heather Pedersen, Director of Coaching, Youth Girls*** – Heather was born in West Bloomfield, Michigan. She attended Kalamazoo College for two years before transferring to Eastern Michigan University. Heather was a starter all four years of her college career, and was awarded All-Conference and All-Region honors at both schools. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University with honors and a Physical Education degree. Heather continued playing soccer in the W-League with the Hampton Roads Piranhas (2003, 2005) and the Detroit

Jaguars (2004). She was a starter for both teams and won a National Championship in 2003 with the Hampton Roads Piranhas. Heather transferred from the Virginia Rush and has her National “D” license.