



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rick Mullins hired as Academy Director

Glacier Surf is excited to announce the hiring of Rick Mullins as our new **Academy Director**. Rick will start with the club in mid-June 2023. His primary goal and responsibility will be to help grow and develop our Academy program players, coach Glacier Surf teams, and help coach with the Surf Select Regional program.

Rick has been involved in soccer since he was five years old and has served for over 20 years as a Club Director in Idaho and Wyoming (Coeur d'Alene Sting, Idaho Rush, Sandpoint Strikers, and most recently served as the DOC for the Casper Blades Soccer Club in Casper, WY.)

Over his coaching career, Rick has obtained several of the best available coaching licenses available including the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) National 'A' license, USSF National Youth License, National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Advanced National Diploma, NSCAA Regional Goalkeeping Diploma, NSCAA Professional Development Certificate, and the NSCAA Director of Coaching Diploma. Recently, he has obtained his US Soccer Grassroots 7v7, 9v9, and 11v11 licenses. He has also coached 12 years in the Idaho Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program.

Before coaching, Rick was considered one of the top soccer players to come out of Central Washington. He is a hall of fame athlete (2008) for the Community Colleges of Spokane where his team won the school's first championship. He was team captain, 1st Team All Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges and voted Most-Inspirational player. Rick then transferred to Central Washington University (CWU) where he was Team Captain (1991-1993), MVP (1992-1993), three time Most-Inspirational player and three-time first team All-League. He is still second in school history for points. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Fitness and Sports Management from CWU, Rick went on to play semi-pro soccer for both the USL Spokane Shadow and Yakima Reds. In his free time Rick enjoys the mountains, fly fishing, supporting Liverpool FC, and spending time with his dog "Alston."

Rick is best described as a humble man that has contagious energy and a passion to help kids through the avenue of sports. "It is a tremendous responsibility and even greater honor to know that you are working for the success of youth. I'm excited to contribute to the success of the Glacier Surf and the growth of soccer in Montana."

"Rick is an incredible soccer coach and director and an even better human being. I'm extremely excited to work alongside him and to witness the positive impact he will have on all of our developing players. Rick has a great passion for helping players on and off the field and this, combined with his extensive experience in the game, will bring an immediate and lasting positive impact to our soccer club and community. Rick will be vital in helping our club continue to grow, while also maintaining our mission of offering the best possible soccer experience and most playing opportunities for players in the Flathead Valley." - Nathan Evans, Director of Coaching & Operations.

