



Frank Caricchio Memorial Soccer Scholarship

At the age of 13, Frank Caricchio came to the United States from Italy, completed 8th grade at Holy Cross School and then went on to attend Charlotte High School. In high school, Frank excelled not only academically but in sports as well. While he participated with success in both wrestling and track, he was outstanding in soccer. As a soccer player at Charlotte, Frank broke several scoring records and was named to the All County team for three straight years.

While still in high school, he began playing for the Italian-American Sport Club, one of the best amateur teams in the region. As a player and then coach of this team, he experienced the greatest success in 1963 when the team, which Frank captained, won the National Amateur Championship, after defeating St. Louis by a score of 1-0. The interesting story leading to the National Championship took place during the semi-final game against Boston Italia. In that game, with the Italian-Americans trailing by 1-0, Frank asked to be moved from fullback to forward and scored the tying goal, eventually defeating the team by 5-1.

Frank also played for three years with the Rochester Lancers, the professional soccer team of this region. Afterwards, he coached and played for the Celano Club, another Rochester amateur team. He also coached the Mother of Sorrows boys' team, as well as the Rebels and Thunder travel teams. He did all this while working full time at Eastman Kodak. After his retirement, Frank went on to coach the Greece Athena Varsity Womens' soccer team, winning honors as Monroe County Coach of the Year and a Sectional title. Afterwards, he coached the Bishop Kearney Varsity Boys' team. The number of league and state championships, as well as tournaments and state titles which encompass Frank's soccer career are too numerous to list.

Frank was passionate about playing, coaching and watching soccer, always rooting for his beloved Napoli team. On March 10, 2018, Frank passed away following a hard-fought battle with pancreatic cancer. This scholarship was created by Frank's family to support two Holy Cross students who share Frank's passion for soccer and giving back to the community.

Awards: Two \$500 scholarships and a custom soccer jersey for each recipient.

Eligibility Criteria: The students must be current (2018-2019) 4th, 5th or 6th grade students at Holy Cross who have played CYO soccer for at least one season and plan to attend a Catholic school next year.

Application Criteria: Each applicant must write a short, one-page essay describing the following:

1. What they love most about playing soccer;
2. What lesson(s) soccer has taught them; and
3. How they embody the following virtues which Frank possessed:
 - Passion for the game;
 - Fairness;
 - Respect; and
 - Contributions to the community.

Deadline: The deadline for applications is Monday, June 3rd. All applications must be *postmarked or received* by this date to be eligible for consideration. Completed applications should be submitted to Lorisa LaRocca, 41 Dutchess Drive, Rochester, New York 14612 or can be given to the Main Office with a note indicating the award.

Review: All applications will be reviewed by a committee consisting of members of Frank's family and at least one Holy Cross CYO soccer coach. Names will be removed from all applications prior to review by the committee.

Announcement: The recipient of the scholarship will be announced at the Holy Cross Scholarship mass in June.



Photo of the 1963 National Championship Team
Frank is in the back row, third from the right