

Pacilio recognized for Building a Soccer Community

Soccer play in Watertown region expands to over 1000 players in three years

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Corning, NY. November 16, 2009. New York State West Youth Soccer Association is pleased to recognize Chris Pacilio as our Administrator of the Year. In these difficult financial times, in a community that had not traditionally embraced soccer, Chris has been a driving force promoting the game. Now over 1000 children are playing competitive soccer compared to less than two hundred just three years ago.

Under Pacilio's leadership the Northern New York Soccer League has grown from 12 teams to 51 teams. In addition, Chris cooperates with the YMCA program and other community soccer organizations to foster complimentary activities for year-round play. To grow the league, he personally sought out and mentored others in the surrounding communities through the process of forming soccer clubs.

The increase in play demanded more referees and highly trained coaches. Pacilio, through the Watertown District Referee's group, has encouraged educational opportunities in Watertown for officials and now there are roughly 30 USSF grade 8 or higher officials in the region. He fostered coach education bringing clinicians and courses to the Watertown area—even in the dead of February- to train parent- coaches and enhance the skills of competitive coaches. Roughly 50% of the clubs now have coaches with national coaching credentials.

Chris also stresses keeping soccer affordable. The league fees are low -\$50 per team. Volunteers figure heavily into the structure and the league worked with SCORE, American Soccer Company, to negotiate volume purchasing of uniforms for all clubs in the league

Pacilio lives in Watertown, NY, is a pharmaceutical sales representative. The Administrator of the Year award is to recognize someone for extraordinary accomplishments in the administration of soccer, promoting the play of the game, and who has well served the membership and /or grown the membership of his/her organization.

New York State West Youth Soccer Association is the largest non-profit organization organizing both recreational and competitive (travel) soccer in western New York. NYSWYSA has over 70,000 registered players and adult volunteers. NYSWYSA is a member of US Youth Soccer Association and the US Soccer Federation.