

# State Youth Soccer recognizes Baranello and Randall

Homer residents named coach of the year and young referee of the year

PHOTOS AVAILABLE

Contact: Amy Gush, Executive Director  
607-962-9923 Office  
607-368-6851 Cell  
[agush@nyswysa.org](mailto:agush@nyswysa.org)  
41 Riverside Drive  
Corning, NY 14830

*Corning, NY. November 16, 2009.* James Baranello, of Homer, NY, was named Girl's Competitive Coach of Year for his accomplishments in coaching and promoting woman's soccer in western New York. Samantha Randall another Homer area native was named one of two Young Referees to be honored by New York State West Youth Soccer Association.

Baranello began as a coach with Cortland County Youth Soccer Association in the 1980's when his children began to play. More than 20 years later, he is still deeply involved. Jim's particular commitment was to foster the girl's teams and founded the Crown City Futbol Club; a club committed to creating an environment where the girls could develop to compete at higher levels of play.

Baranello gives of himself to the game, figuratively and financially, he procured a building in Cortland and created the first area indoor facility long before any were built by larger municipal or recreational organizations. He has also personally funded travel and housing costs for families of children who would otherwise not be able to play travel soccer.

His players have gone onto shine in the Olympic Development Program, premier clubs and college competition. Though pulling his teams from one of the smallest counties in New York, his teams have been successful in state, regional and national tournaments. However his coaching style and philosophy are grounded in player development rather than just selecting the very best talent from any given pool. A parent shares, "He coaches with an approach and philosophy that develops character, leadership, and hard work."

Samantha Randall played soccer as a Homer High student and is now in college at Morrisville State. She shown this year as a young refers when invited to officiate at state and regional competitions. She began officiating at age 12. In the 2009 Regional Championships she was honored with a semi-final center assignment and a finals assignment as an Assistant referee.

In her semi-final center, which went to kicks from the mark, she was honored by the instructional team for dealing calmly and intelligently with a very unusual situation when both keepers were injured on the

same kick (keeper shooting on keeper on the 5th kick from the mark). Bill Campbell, the state head of youth referees, shared on her nomination form, "She is a very talented, natural referee who understands and reads the game very well and is a very smart, quick study."

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.