

June 4, 2015

RE: Jamie Kotula Award & Scholarship – North Pocono Boys' Soccer Team

Dear Mr. Kotula,

Last night I was informed at the North Pocono High School Athletic Awards Ceremony that I was chosen to receive the Jamie Kotula Award. I am beyond humbled to receive such a tremendous and spiritual honor. As a player, I always looked forward with extreme excitement each season of soccer to come and play a class act team like Holy Cross at the Marywood turf field at the soccer tournament that you initiated in Jamie's honor. This award means more to me than any other medal I have received in my past thirteen years of playing soccer. It means more than being a stand-out player, because Jamie was more than a stand-out player. He was a man of men, a class act, a faithful player, a courageous team leader, an idol to many, and a person people and players should strive to be.

Upon receiving this recognition at our North Pocono Awards Ceremony last night, I thought very long and hard about my future and how I am going to college soon and thought maybe I wouldn't play soccer, which would probably turn into turmoil because I would not find that drive to get me out on the field again. Until last night, I thought my senior year would be it, but your award really opened my eyes to see that I cannot stop playing soccer. This was the push that I needed to motivate myself to get back up and play; but not only for myself, but the people that I have affected: friends, family, coaches, and even you who have touched my heart. I would love to accept the scholarship in turn to play in Jamie's name when I go away to college.

Even with his passing, he has left more than a powerful memory that you, Mr. Kotula, have carried out so graciously and with such determination to spread the message of safe driving, that Jamie's legacy will never be forgotten and immortalized forever. Thank you once again for this esteemed honor. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Drew Collins
North Pocono Men of Troy Soccer Player
Class of 2015

