



For Immediate Release

***Jim Casada to be inducted into the
York County Soccer Hall of Fame Class of 2020.***

York County, SC—The York County Soccer Hall of Fame announced today Jim Casada has been selected to the class of 2020, which will be officially inducted into the Hall of Fame on August 1, 2020.

Casada, a native of Bryson City, N.C., moved to Rock Hill in 1971 and his influence on the growth of soccer in York County began. Casada met Ian Davidson (2019 HOF Inductee) and when each learned of their passion for the game of soccer they began their work to make the game part of local youth sports. It started with building a soccer field from scratch in a neighborhood that assembled a team. It started with one team, grew to four and expanded to dozens of youth teams.

Casada earned a bachelor's degree in history from King College (TN), an M.A. in British history from Virginia Tech and a Ph. D. in British imperial history from Vanderbilt. Casada began teaching at Winthrop University in 1972 and retired in 1996. He was a distinguished professor at Winthrop and is a founding member of the South Carolina Outdoors Press Association. While teaching at Winthrop, Casada's influence of soccer trickled over to the University and he began the first men's program in 1975. In 2014 Casada was inducted into the Winthrop Athletics Hall of Fame.

During his coaching career at Winthrop, Casada coached for 12 seasons and was chosen the NAIA District 6 Coach of the Year three times (1979, 1982, and 1984). In 1979 he was selected as the Southeastern Coach of the Year.

In addition to his love of soccer, Casada is a renowned writer and author in outdoor sports. He is a recipient of more than 150 regional and national writing awards for contributions to outdoor literature, is an Honorary Life Member and recipient of the Arnold Gingrich Memorial Award of the Federation of Fly Fishers, an inaugural inductee into the Fly Fishing Museum of the Southern Appalachians Hall of Fame, and has also been inducted into the Swain County High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

The York County Soccer Hall of Fame will hold its dinner and induction ceremony Saturday, August 1 at the Courtyard Marriott at Kingsley in Ft. Mill, SC. There will be a cocktail hour starting at 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 6:45 with hall of fame induction speeches and Teams of Distinction recognition starting around 7:30 PM. Anyone interested in attending can purchase your tickets online at www.YorkCountySoccerHOF.com