

## **BORN TO PLAY FOOTBALL**

My footballer's career started in 1998 when I was only 8 years old. My first team was the Spes Montesacro and there I was a centreforward, it was so funny because I scored a lot of goals. It was really great, with no thoughts in my mind, with no pressure, only the passion and the happiness to practise what I loved: playing Football.

However, my career continued apparently slowly without any big chances of improvement. I continued to sacrifice myself taking every time the bus to arrive at the playground that was half an hour from my home.

When I was 12 I went to another team called Romulea where I started playing in an agonistic way. I spent two years in this group but I didn't love it too much - although we were very good at playing - I had trouble settling in the society, moreover the new coach changed my position from centreforward to defensor, so I was quite confused.

Then I changed once again, I got assigned to the Pro Roma where I had a very good time. They were very kind to me, treated me as a professional player, and all people in the staff believed in me, first of all as a footballer, but as a man too.

After one year another transfer took place: thanks to the collaboration of the Pro Roma I was pushed toward a better level, this time the new team was the Vigor Perconti; I was 15 and as usual I did everything by myself going to the training and coming back home. This was the worst year of my career because the relationships inside the society weren't very good: our coach was too cold with us, with no human dialogue - according to me he was wrong, because at the basis of a great team there must be a sense of community of people united to arrive at the same purpose. At the end, the season was over with no positive result, and this mirrored the incapacity of this society.

Fortunately my friend Gianni, who played with me in the Vigor Perconti, took me to another team called Spes Artiglio where I went enthusiastically. In fact, there I met again a lot of friends and this made it easy my settling in, thus my personal performances got better day after day. The season finished with the first position for our team, so we became the best football team of the category "Allievi Elite 1990". The last team has been the Boreale (as it is possible to see in the photo below) where I'm still playing. The first year I spent there was a confirmation of the previous year, as a matter of fact, I was engaged in the upper team, where I am still playing now. Here the elder players have been very kind to me, encouraging me. Now a new perspective appears in my horizon: a premier league Hungarian team, Vasas Budapest, is formally interested in my transfer there..... We'll see what expects me .....

Francesco