

Kent Youth Bridge Report – January 2020

I am afraid I have been side-tracked over the last quarter, due to fairly extreme work commitments in trying to rescue a mining company in Zambia. As a consequence, I have had to withdraw from running a number of break time and extra mural clubs at schools around Sevenoaks and could only support school clubs with existing teachers. I will also not be able to run an Interschools tournament this year.

Schools Bridge Clubs

However, a number of existing school clubs continue to run and develop in Kent and I should be able to pick up on this when my working commitments return to normality. Notably, Peter Edkins is in his second year of running the BC at Skinner's West Kent Primary. The two teachers that helped us start a club at Sevenoaks Primary, have continued to run with it, Diane Rogers has continued with her excellent work at Tonbridge Grammar School and Helen Erichsen continues to produce young players at St James. Finally, a new school – St John's C of E Primary – has requested assistance in starting up and I expect to see them implement Minibridge later this year.

Southern Counties Youth Bridge Alignment

We continue to work with William Bourne, representing Sussex and Tim Warren representing Surrey around a combined calendar of junior events for the region. The next big Kent event will be the Southern Counties Camp.

The Southern Counties Junior Bridge Camp

Planning is now well underway for the 2020 event which will once again be hosted at Bowles Rocks (a junior activity center near Tunbridge Wells) and coordinated by William. Full details will be posted on the KCBA website (a fair amount of updating of the "Junior tab" is required at the same time). Once again, the KCBA Committee is asked to consider a sponsorship of £500, alongside similar amounts from Sussex, Surrey and EBED, to ensure the event is adequately funded (please see the attached motivation letter with reference to the successful 2019 camp, attached).

The Real Easy Congress

The Real Easy Kent Congress (including Ray White Trophy) was held on 26th October, with participation increasing from 2019's event. This is a super way to integrate youngsters with adult learners and the general feedback from all who participated was resoundingly positive. Given this, we will continue to run this in parallel with the Kent Congress.

Yours in Bridge

Anton