

Junior Bridge Camp 2019 Report

JBC 219

The 2019 South Eastern Counties Junior Bridge Camp, organised by SCCBA, sponsored by Kent and Surrey CBAs, took place at Bowles Activity Centre over two days on 6th and 7th July 2019. Including teachers and helpers, 67 attended in total, of which 41 were juniors. There were no major problems, and the feedback so far on both the venue and the event has been uniformly positive. I set out a sample at the bottom of this report as Appendix B.

Analysis of attendees

Row Labels	Count of First Name
adult	12
Beginner	5
Bronze	7
Gold+	9
Silver	6
teacher	8
U-16	14
staff	6
Grand Total	67

Comments

The formula of this year's event is a winning one and Bowles is an excellent venue. I have already tentatively booked 4-5th July and 17-18th October as possible dates. The food was a vast improvement and with many more helpers the health and safety concerns we had last year were fully addressed. The teaching rooms and most of the accommodation were in one building, which made the event much easier to manage. The activities offered on the Saturday afternoon were enjoyed by all and Bowles staff were helpful in every respect.

This was undoubtedly a successful event, and we need to make sure that is known by as many people as follows.

Finances

The finances came in £340 better than expected, because i) no VAT payable on activities ii) I only used a small part of my contingency allowance. Total cost was £5,340, income from attendees £3,510, sponsorship from Kent CBA, Surrey CBA and EBU £1,180, leaving a shortfall of £650 for Sussex CCBA. Details are in Appendix A.

The Future

I will circulate a separate paper looking at how to build on the success of this event. The immediate decisions to be taken is the date to run it in 2020. There's a lot to be said for not changing a winning formula, but mid October also fills a gap in the calendar, and will make it easier for independent school children to attend. I need to make a decision on this by late August.

Comments most welcome.

William Bourne

26th July 2019

APPENDIX A – FINANCES

JUNIOR BRIDGE CAMP 2019 FINAL ACCOUNTS			
Costs			
Fixed Costs	Projected	Actual	<i>Difference</i>
Activities	840.00	700.00	- 140.00
Room hire	150.00	150.00	-
Prize money	40.00	40.00	-
Refreshments	18.00	12.95	- 5.05
Prizes	150.00	159.63	9.63
Equipment delivery	120.00	140.00	20.00
Contingency	200.00	20.93	- 179.07
Total Fixed Costs		<u>1,223.51</u>	
Variable costs	<i>per unit</i>	Cost	
52 Residential	76.00	3,952.00	
14 extra lunches for non-res	7.50	105.00	
7 extra dinners for non-res	8.50	59.50	
Total variable costs		<u>4,116.50</u>	
TOTAL COSTS (= Fixed + variable)		<u>5,340.01</u>	
Income			
Income from attendees	3,510.00		
Income from sponsorship	1,180.00		
	Kent	500.00	
	Surrey	500.00	
	EBU	180.00	
Total income	4,690.00		
Net Profit without sponsorship	- 650.01		
Shortfall (to be paid by Sussex)	650.01		

APPENDIX B FEEDBACK SAMPLE

It is us who should be thanking you. A very enjoyable weekend and well organised.

Anton and Jessica were so patient and helpful.

Great venue – hope you can book it again next year.

Thank you so much for such an enjoyable time. Maybe to run it over two nights ???
The teaching and food was great and the whole agenda ran very smoothly
Thank you again

Fantastic weekend for all although it was a pity that YOU were having to do so much. Yes, it was pleasing to see happy faces. Very gratifying.

Think September might be a good time during half term. The weather normally holds for that month so the children should be able to get some outdoor activities as well.

The balance was just right. If it became a 2 nighter, it may become expensive for some and the children may find it too much unless they had their circle of friends with them or made a circle of friends.

The venue, its location, food and accommodation was right for such an event. Can't comment on the teaching in the other rooms but overall, it was of a very good standard and easy for the children to follow.

The first paragraph says it all for organisation and arrangements. Well publicised at bridge venues although a couple of friends who were bridge players were unaware of it. Something to do with the busy lives we lead! I was wondering whether it might be a good idea to get it publicised at schools, golf clubs and such like too.

Thank you, everything was organised perfectly and our child really enjoyed it!
We are looking forward to the next event. We appreciate the effort of the teachers and our child was pleased with Anton and Jessica.

Thank you again for a super weekend, as I said you made it look so easy to run and I know it takes a huge amount of work from you.

They are a lovely group of children and a joy to spend time with and it is easy to see why the venue staff found them a pleasure.

He really enjoyed the whole weekend, his comment this morning was that he had a whirl.

- The venue was great and the staff were brilliant. The food was good with plenty of choice and they were generous with it, if we had enough fridge space maybe fruit as well as biscuits for teaching snacks but I know there is a budget as well

- The teaching I saw was brilliant and chatting to a couple of the younger ones they had learned a huge amount in a very short time. My only comment would be around adults sitting in, they were quite vocal both with questions during the class and while making up numbers at the tables telling the children what they should have done
- There was a great choice of activities with great instructors
- The organisation was superb, everything was made easy for us as participants

Thank you so much for the bridge weekend. William had an "awesome " weekend and he said he learnt a lot.

He also enjoyed being able to do something outside bridge. The venue looked fantastic and am keen to visit there another time.

It would be great to know when there are any other junior bridge events. Is there a mailing group we can join or do we keep an eye on the website

Chris really enjoyed the weekend and he tells me the food was much better than the Phasels Wood Activity Centre!

Just a quick email to say thank you for the weekend. Henry enjoyed himself and he tells me he learned a lot. It was a big step for him, he didn't know what to expect, and i think settled down over the weekend and felt he had achieved something. I thought the venue and facilities were great, as were the Bowles staff, and everything seemed to run very smoothly.