

**The 2009 “Mitchell Billiards Cup” Australian Junior Teams Championship, and the Australian Junior Championships. At Kings Entertainment Centre, Dingley Village, Melbourne Victoria.**

What a wonderful venue for such an occasion, thank you to the management at Kings!

Being my first Junior Championships I was unsure what to expect, I was certainly not disappointed on the first day when all the juniors, parents and team managers presented themselves. The competitors were all very well presented, both in their dress and the manner in which they approached the sport.

As the week developed and the competition started to develop the more skilful players, the eventual champions in all grades, and the teams started to shine through. While there were many players that were obviously not going to qualify, all continued to try. What more can a tournament organiser/director wish for?

To the parents and team managers “Thank you” everyone pitched in and assisted in refereeing and anything else I needed. I congratulate everyone involved in making this week of junior competition a successful one. To John Ivett and the referees that assisted every day, well done.

Congratulations to the Champions, commiserations to those that did not win. I sincerely hope that you all enjoyed your stay with us.

I found the week tiring yet rewarding, I would enjoy the opportunity to do this again. Having completed my first junior championships, the next will be immeasurably better. If everyone is agreeable, an application to the ABSC for this event to be held here next year will be lodged as soon as possible. Planning will need to begin as soon as possible. Things that need to be in place for next years event like, sponsorship, state grants, etc. must be researched and published well before the end of 2009. This should make 2010 a far bigger and better event.

Sincerely Yours

Alan Croft, VBSA Board Member, Tournament Organiser and Tournament Director.

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