Friends of the Bellingham Public Library

2nd Annual Friendraising Weekend

“Wicket” Fun Croquet

Bellingham Public Library
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Why?

- Unique fun idea
- Saw other libraries doing mini-golf events
- Need to revitalize Friends fundraising
- Need to increase Friends membership
How?
- Followed Northborough Library’s program
- Borrowed their equipment the first year
- Solicited sponsors for event, scorecard and wickets
- Solicited prizes for raffle drawing

Who?
- Dedicated group of volunteers with time to plan and execute the program
- Library administration and staff cooperation
When?

- First year held in April – conflicted with opening day of youth baseball season, and was 80+ degrees
- This year held last weekend – no schedule conflicts, attendance increased, but still not attended by the number we had hoped
- Will probably continue in March next year but look for adjunct event to increase attendance

Where?

- In the library! That’s what makes it fun!
What?
- Friendraising Weekend
- Book Sale Friday night and Saturday
- “Wicket” Fun Croquet on Sunday
  - 9 hole course in adult area
  - 6 hole course in children’s room

What?
- Purchased plastic golf clubs (for toddler course) and balls at Toys R us
- Constructed wickets
- Borrowed croquet mallets from members of the community
Use unsold books from the book sale for barriers to prevent the balls from going outside the space.

Use the furniture you have to make the course interesting and somewhat challenging!

Constructed wickets out of wood blocks, wire coat hangers and colorful construction paper.

Used carpet remnants to make the starting spots.
Purchased sponsor lawn signs, were able to reuse them the second year when the company’s sponsored a second time.

Children’s of members of the Friends checking out Hole 8 before the event starts!

Trying to figure out hole #9!

Mom waiting her turn with toddler on the children’s course.
The all important – How much?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year One</th>
<th>Year Two</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year One Income for Croquet</td>
<td>$1427.00</td>
<td>$685.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year One Expenses for Croquet**</td>
<td>$1098.36</td>
<td>$323.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profit on Croquet</td>
<td>$328.64</td>
<td>$361.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Booksale Profit</td>
<td>$1312.70</td>
<td>$1264.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 New Members</td>
<td>$130.00</td>
<td>$230.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Weekend Profit</td>
<td>$1771.34</td>
<td>$1856.42</td>
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** many expenses were not incurred the second year (equipment, etc.)

** difference in income is decreased sponsor income

We’re happy to share our experience… pros and cons!

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