

RULES FOR THE FINAL OF THE SUNDAY SERVICE BAND STRIKING COMPETITION

These rules apply to the final only, giving the opportunity to operate under different rules at Branch level if desired.

A GENERAL RULES

1. This competition is a six bell competition based on Sunday Service bands and will consist of two stages:

Preliminary competitions arranged by each Branch, for towers in the Branch area.

- a) A final competition held between the winners of the Branch competitions. In the event of a Branch not holding a competition the Branch Committee may wish to nominate a tower to take part in the final. In the Final each Branch will be represented by a tower within the area of that Branch.
2. All participants in the competition must be members of the Association.
3. Bands entering the competition will consist of regular Sunday Service ringers of the tower represented. Should this not be possible, one visitor will be allowed to ring, but a penalty will be awarded against any band which includes a visitor.

B RULES RELATING TO RINGING IN THE FINAL

Teams will be allocated a time (20 minutes is allowed per team) before the event and should endeavour to be prompt – reducing their practice time if necessary.

1. Call Changes. The test piece will consist of not less than 240 rows counting from the first call change during which at least two pairs of bells per minute must be changed.
2. Method Ringing. The test piece shall be either:
 - a) 240 doubles (with a cover) – either two 120s rung consecutively or a 240 with each change repeated once, or
 - b) A true touch of 240 changes of minor.
3. On entering the tower each member of the band may try his/her bell for length of rope for a few whole pulls. Bells should be tried individually and in order treble to tenor.
4. A practice piece must be rung and shall consist of up to three minutes ringing. At the end of three minutes, including the opening rounds, the bells must be stood.
5. After a short break the test piece will follow and must be preceded by a period of rounds not exceeding one minute. Marking will commence from the first change after the opening rounds and continue to the end of the test piece, or 240 rows from the beginning of the first call change.
6. A person appointed by the Association Ringing Master or a person appointed by the organiser of the event is to remain in the tower while each band rings. Usually a member of the previous band is asked to remain behind to steward the next band. He/she may advise the band on the time they have available in their ringing.
7. Any person having grounds for complaint about the competition is to communicate this to the organiser who must pass it on to the judge before the result is declared.

C RULES RELATING TO THE JUDGE

1. A judge shall be appointed by the Association Ringing Master or by the organiser of the event and may be offered expenses.
2. A band that includes a visitor will incur a penalty of 15% additional faults.
3. The band with the lowest number of faults after adjustment of visitor's penalties shall be the winner and receive the trophy.

The judge's decision on any matter of dispute shall be final.