

# THE CARLISLE DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

## GUILD STRIKING COMPETITION RULES

1. Bands shall comprise people who normally ring together on Sundays or practice night. Separate rules cater for Young Ringers' Bands. All bands are expected to ring something of a similar complexity to what they would normally ring together. It is expected that the Call Change band contains at least one ringer that has not rung a quarter peal (on any working bell, including the treble).
2. Only members of the competing band shall be in the ringing chamber during each test piece, unless a Call Change band requests help with timing (but no further help is allowed).
3. Each ringer shall only ring for a maximum of two competing bands. No two bands shall have more than three ringers the same.
4. There will be a separate prize awarded to Call Change and Method Ringing bands.
5. A practice of about three minutes may be rung immediately prior to the test piece.
6. The test piece must be announced by ringing the tenor alone for three whole pulls. A team that fails to do this runs the risk of their test piece not being marked, and hence being disqualified.
7. The test piece for Call Changes will consist of exactly (to the nearest completed row) five minutes' ringing on 6 bells starting when the bells move away from rounds. It must consist of at least 8 unique changes and involve at least one other bell leading apart from the treble. The test piece can be preceded by up to one minute of rounds which will not be marked. The judge will decide on the appropriate penalty if a band does not ring for long enough. Any ringing over five minutes will not be marked.
8. The test piece for Method Ringing must consist of at least 120 changes of any change ringing method or principle. Marking of the test piece will commence when the first change is made and will finish at the completion of the row when bells come back into rounds. The test piece can be preceded by up to one minute of rounds which will not be marked. Any ringing over 120 changes will not be marked.
9. An entry fee of £5.00 per band shall be paid to the treasurer before the competition. A list of ringers, stating which bells they are to ring, together with what they will be ringing, is requested so that certificates can be prepared.
10. Depending on the number of teams already entered, at the discretion of the Branch Ringing Master, other teams may be formed on a "scratch" basis and should be clearly entered as such. These would not need to fulfil the eligibility criteria in the rules, but would not be able to win either of the awarded prizes.
11. The Branch Ringing Master will be in overall charge, in consultation with other Guild Officers present. In the absence of the Branch Ringing Master, Guild Officers present should decide who will take charge.

### YOUNG RINGERS BAND(S)

1. We will allow one or more bands of Young Guild members to ring in the Striking Competition.
2. Junior members of the Carlisle Diocesan Guild are encouraged to join together to form one or more bands to ring in Striking Competition.
3. Junior members may also ring in other bands, but not more than three bands in total.
4. They will be encouraged to organise the band themselves, but may call upon others to help as needed or to complete the band.
5. Suitable, unbiased adult supervision will be provided in the tower.
6. The band will enter the competition on the basis of a 'scratch' band. The ringing will be judged together with all the entries but would not be eligible to win any prizes which are awarded for the inter-tower competition.
7. Guild rules 5 to 11 above apply to all bands entering the competition.