



8-BELL STRIKING COMPETITION RULES

1. There shall be one team from each branch, the selection of which shall be the responsibility of the Ringing Master of that branch. In addition, up to two youth teams from the diocese, consisting of ringers under the age of 21, may enter.
2. All branch band members shall be members of that branch, or regularly ring for Sunday services within that branch. If possible, no person shall ring for more than one branch.
3. Each branch Ringing Master and youth team leader shall inform the Guild Master, of their intention to compete by Saturday of the week previous to the competition. The order in which bands ring shall be determined by a draw. The Guild Ringing Master will inform all Branch Ringing Masters of the outcome thereafter.
4. Bands may ring Call Changes, or any Triples or Major method. If Call Changes are rung, there shall be at least one change of lead bell.
5. The test piece shall be a minimum of 160 changes and a maximum of 224 rows long. If Call Changes are rung there must be at least 160 rows following the first called change. If a method is rung only the first 160 rows will be marked. If Call Changes are rung the 160 rows following the first called change will be marked.
6. Each band shall signal the start of the test piece by first ringing 2 whole pulls on the tenor alone.
7. A maximum of 5 minutes practice ringing shall be allowed by each band prior to the test piece - this shall NOT include rounds before the test piece. A steward shall be available (if required by the band) to keep time within the ringing chamber for the practice.
8. The method of judging shall be decided upon by the judge(s) whose decision will be final.