

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF BELLRINGERS

Thomas Cooper Striking Competition

RULES: Change Ringing Competition

1. The Competition is open to bands representing the districts of The Guild. Each district may enter more than one band, but it will be at the discretion of the committee as to whether the second band will be accepted should the total number of entries exceed 8 (ie. One per district).
2. Each ringer shall be a paid up ringing member of The Guild.
3. No ringer shall ring in more than one band in the Change Ringing section, but up to two ringers per district may ring in both the Change Ringing and Call Change section.
4. Entries shall be sent in writing or via email by the specified date (2nd March) to the Competition Secretary.
5. All ringers must be present for the official draw at the start of the competition.
6. **The test piece will be 120 changes of any Doubles method.** Judging will start immediately on going into changes and will end upon completion of the touch (ie. the rounds before and after will not be judged).
7. The start of the test piece is to be signalled to the judge by two whole pulls on the treble.
8. Each band will be allowed up to five minutes of practice ringing.
9. The total time taken up by each band shall not exceed 15 minutes.
10. The decision of the committee regarding the interpretation of the rules is final.
11. Conductors are responsible for the band complying with the above rules. Non-compliance may lead to disqualification.
12. The winners of the competition shall hold the Thomas Cooper Trophy for the ensuing twelve months and must return the trophy in time for the next competition.

RULES: Call-Change Competition:

1. The Competition is open to bands representing the districts of The Guild. Each district may enter more than one band, but it will be at the discretion of the committee as to whether the second band will be accepted should the total number of entries exceed 8 (ie. One per district).
2. Each ringer shall be a paid up ringing member of The Guild, and bands should include at least two ringers who have been ringing for less than three years.
3. No ringer shall ring in more than one band in the Call Change section, but up to two ringers per district may ring in both the Change Ringing and Call Change sections.
4. Entries shall be sent in writing or via email by the specified date (2nd March) to the Competition Secretary.
5. All ringers must be present for the official draw at the start of the competition.
6. Each band will be allowed up to five minutes of practice ringing.
7. The start of the test piece is to be signalled to the judge by two whole pulls on the treble.
8. Judging will commence after ten whole pulls and will continue for the next 120 rows – there is no requirement to be back in rounds by the end of the judging period.
9. **The call-change sequence must include Queens (135246), Kings (531246), Tittums (142536) and backwards rounds (543216).**
10. The total time taken up by each band shall not exceed 15 minutes.
11. The decision of the committee regarding the interpretation of the rules is final.
12. Conductors are responsible for the band complying with the above rules. Non-compliance may lead to disqualification.
13. The winners of the competition shall hold the Call Change Trophy for the ensuing twelve months and must return the trophy in time for the next competition.

RULES: Novice Rounds Challenge

The aim of the Novice Rounds Challenge is to encourage new ringers to develop their engagement with the Guild and to aspire to good striking. It is hoped that the Challenge will encourage networking and sharing good practice amongst developing bands, learners and teachers of ringing.

1. The Novice Rounds Challenge is open to any tower/cluster band from within the HDGB. The band does not need to represent a district and a tower/cluster band may enter independently of the district if they so wish.
2. Each band must have at least one novice ringer **who would not be able to compete in the method section of the competition**. The novice does not need to be a current member of the Guild.
3. Each band will be entitled to a two minute practice, then a test piece comprising three minutes of rounds only. The first minute will not be judged. The steward will signal when the three minutes have elapsed. Any ringing after the minutes will not be judged, nor will failing to set a bell be regarded as a fault.
4. The number of teams entering the Challenge shall be at the discretion of the Committee should the number of teams exceed six (roughly 10 minutes in the tower per team).