

MAIDSTONE DISTRICT CALL CHANGE STRIKING COMPETITION RULES AS AGREED AT QUARTERLY MEETING ON JANUARY 30TH, 2010.

- 1.** The object of the competition is to improve striking in the District through friendly competition between towers of united benefices or teams consisting of three or more members representing such a tower in union with the KCACR. Members may join together to form teams (at the named tower) as long as the above is met.
- 2.** The date and place of the contest shall be decided by the A.D.M.
- 3.** Ringers shall be frequent Sunday Service ringers at the towers or united benefices that they represent. A tower or united benefice may enter any number of bands, but no ringer may represent a tower or united benefice more than once in the competition.
- 4.** Entries must be received by the District Secretary/Competition Secretary at least one week before the competition. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the District Secretary.
- 5.** The test piece shall be the first 100 whole pulls (200 blows) from the first change, with each change called at least by every fifth handstroke. At least four of the bells shall be moved. Excess changes shall not be judged. The test piece may be reduced in the event of a large number of entries.
- 6.** A maximum two minute practice round is allowed after which the bells will be set. Prior to starting the test piece two whole pulls shall be rung on the treble as a signal to the judges.
- 7.** Failure to complete the test piece will result in penalty points being awarded.
- 8.** A maximum ten whole pulls (20 blows) in rounds may be rung before going into the competition piece. These will not be judged.
- 9.** The competition shall be judged by one or two ringers who shall not know the order of ringing, and the decision of the judge(s) shall be final.
- 10.** The judges will satisfy themselves that ringing conditions are satisfactory.
- 11.** A draw for the order of ringing shall be held immediately before the start of the contest. The judges shall not know the order.
- 12.** Any dispute on the interpretation of these rules shall be decided by the District Officers.
- 13.** There may be a steward or stewards in the ringing room to assist in counting and to do anything else needed.
- 14.** There is no express requirement for each change to be called verbally. The use of cards to indicate the changes is permitted. Closed handstroke leading (cartwheeling) will be permitted, provided the band concerned gives notice of this ringing style at the time of entry in accordance with rule 4.
- 15.** "Scratch" bands will be accepted at the discretion of the District Officers. They may be awarded certificates, but will not be eligible to win the trophy.
- 16.** The winning band will hold the trophy for the following year and shall be responsible for its engraving and safe keeping.