

Proposed Surrey Association Rule changes – For Annual General Meeting 11th May 2019

Proposed – Chris Baldwin, Seconder – Martin Crick Proposal 1 – Rule Changes

Note the layout, structure and wording of the new rules is intentionally very different to the current rules to improve clarity and readability.

Summary and other Specific Proposals

- Rules 1 – 4 are unchanged
- Rules 6 – 19 will be repealed entirely and replaced with the new rules 6 – 11 described below (Proposals 1 b-g). Note that the new rules have been simplified and condensed so numbers 12 to 19 are no longer required.

Proposal 1a (i) to (vi)

- All rules 5 and from 20 onwards remain unchanged except for:
 - (i) **Rule 5** is amended to change the word 'Ordinary' to 'Special' ie a 75% majority is required to change number of Districts and boundaries instead of just 50%.
 - (ii) **Rule 22** 2nd sentence is amended to apply gender neutral language. Revised wording is:
"They may not hold an office which confers membership of the General Committee."
 - (iii) **Rule 26** 3rd sentence is amended to change the word 'attached' in the third sentence to 'affiliated' and apply gender neutral language. Revised wording is:
*"A Resident Ringing Member is only eligible as a District Officer for the District to which **they are affiliated** for the time being."*
 - (iv) **Rule 44** is amended to remove reference to election of members. New wording is:
44 No notice need be given of motions for the adoption of minutes, reports or accounts.
 - (v) **Rule 45 and 45A** are amended to introduce proposals relating to formation of peal bands and the recognition of peals. New wording is:
45 A peal can be recognised as having been rung for the Association provided that the majority of the band are members of the Association (eg. on 8 bells 5 ringers must be members allowing for a maximum of 3 non members to be in the band) and the composition meets the standard accepted by the CCCBR.
 - (vi) On the adoption of the Rule changes within Proposal 1, the Rules shall be renumbered sequentially.
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Proposed new membership rules to be numbered 6 - 11

Proposal 1b

Rule 6 – Types of Membership

The types of membership recognised by the Association are detailed in the table below.

Membership	Qualifying criteria	Subscription	Affiliation	Voting Rights*
Resident Ringing Member	A ringer (or lapsed ringer) resident in or ringing frequently for Sunday Service within	Annually renewable at the		

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- Adult	the County and meeting one of the following criteria: An adult who does not fall under other Resident Ringer categories.	rate below Full	District	Yes
- Student	A young ringer who has not yet reached their 18 th birthday at the 1 st Jan or is still in full time education. Note: Resident Ringing Members may be attached or unattached to a tower, but shall be affiliated to a District.	Student Concession	District	Yes
Honorary Life Member	Awarded on the achievement of thirty years as a Resident Ringing Member. The total of thirty years membership does not need to be accumulated in a single continuous period.	Exempt	District or Association	Yes
Non-Resident Ringing Member	A ringer who is not resident and does not ring frequently for Sunday Service within the County.	Single payment on first joining as a member	Association	No

- All Members eligible to vote shall receive a copy of the Association Annual Report.

Proposal 1c

Rule 7 – Joining the Association

- (i) A new member satisfying the criteria for membership can join the Association on completion of a membership form with sponsor and on payment of the current year's subscription.
- (ii) All new members must agree to be bound by the Rules of the Association and have their application sponsored. Sponsors must have been a Resident Ringing Member of the Association for at least the preceding two calendar years, or be an Honorary Life Member.
- (iii) Resident Ringing Members shall be affiliated with the District in which they are resident or most frequently ring. New members eligible for more than one District may choose their affiliation by writing to the relevant District Secretary.
- (iv) Although common it is not necessary to be attached to a tower to be a member of the Association. Ringers who are unattached to a tower but otherwise qualify as a Resident Ringing Member may join the Association and choose their affiliation to a District.
- (v) An existing Resident Ringing Member may choose to change their District affiliation provided they qualify by residency or place of ringing by notifying, in writing, both District Secretaries.
- (vi) A ringer who is not resident in the County or is not a frequent Sunday Service ringer in the County may join as a Non-Resident Member, on completion of a membership form with sponsor and on payment of the subscription.

Proposal 1d

Rule 8 – Subscriptions

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- (i) The subscription and concession rates shall be kept under review by the General Committee and set by a Special Resolution of the Association for the following year.
- (ii) The methods of payment and collection of subscriptions shall be agreed by the General Committee and be appropriate to the type of membership, affiliation and processes available for collection at the time.
- (iii) The total subscription raised each year shall be shared between the Association and the Districts. The basis on which subscriptions are shared shall be determined by a Special Resolution of the General Committee. The percentage of subscriptions received in each year by District Secretaries that is determined from time to time by the General Committee shall be remitted to the General Secretary out of the funds of the Districts by 31st December in each year.
- (iv) Annually renewable memberships shall be continuous with all subscriptions becoming due on 1st January each year.
- (v) The subscription of any annually renewable membership commencing on or after 1st October shall run to 31st December of the following year.
- (vi) A member resigning or being expelled before their subscription is paid shall not be liable for that year's subscription. Once paid no refunds shall be given for resigning or expelled members.

Proposal 1e

Rule 9 – Conduct of Members

- (i) Members eligible to vote may only do so in person at a meeting of the Association.
- (ii) Members with voting rights will be eligible to vote at all meetings of the Association and at meetings of the District to which they are affiliated. Honorary Life Members may vote at all meetings of the Association and at any District meeting regardless of their affiliation.

Proposal 1f

Rule 10 – Leaving the Association

Membership of the Association shall cease if a member dies, resigns, lapses or is expelled.

- (i) **Resigns** by notifying the District or General Secretary they no longer wish to be a member of the Association.
- (ii) **Lapses** by failing to pay their subscription renewal within 12 months of the date it became due.
- (iii) **Expulsion** on completion of the process for expulsion of a member (see below).
- (iv) A Resident Ringing Member who moves away from or ceases to ring within the County may transfer their membership to a Non-Resident Ringing Member upon notification, in writing, to the General Secretary or the appropriate District Secretary.

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Proposal 1g

Rule 11 - Expulsion of a Member

- (i) The General Committee shall consider any case for expulsion of a member and may, after an Ordinary Resolution, invite a member to resign within a given time period.
- (ii) If no such resignation is received within the time given the General Secretary shall organise an Extraordinary meeting of the Association and propose a motion for Special Resolution at that meeting for the expulsion of the member.
- (iii) The member has the right to be informed of any complaint against them and be invited to speak at any meeting where a proposal has been made to expel them.

Proposal 2 – Subscription Rates

The new subscription rates shall be:

Membership	Subscription Type	Rate	Collected
Resident Ringing Member			
- Adult	Full	£5	Annually
- Student	Student Concession	£3	Annually
Honorary Life Member	Not Applicable	Exempt	Not Applicable
Non Resident Ringing Member	Non-Resident	£5	Single payment on first joining or exempt if transferring from Resident Ringing Member

Proposal 3 – Transition Arrangements

The following adopted Rules and Proposals shall come into effect immediately following the Association AGM 2019:

- All adopted Rule Changes in Proposal 1 above except:
 - Existing members shall retain their existing membership type until December 31st 2019.
 - New members joining before October 1st 2019 shall join subject to the existing membership types, which they shall retain until December 31st 2019, and rates.
 - New members joining on or after October 2019 shall join subject to the new membership types and rates.

The following adopted Rules and Proposals shall come into effect on 1st January 2020:

- Proposal 2 Subscription Rates above for existing members
- Outstanding subscriptions of existing members shall be paid at the existing rates as they were due on 1st January 2019.