

**Proposal Principles for Rule Changes presented to the Association for comment (January 2019) and the proposed modifications, mitigations and clarifications**

**Total 36 Responses**

**Proposal 1:                Agree – 32; Disagree – 4; No view / undecided – 0**

*To remove the need for new members to be elected and instead membership will be confirmed on receipt of a completed application form and payment of subscriptions.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- Sponsors will have to have been a Resident Ringing Member of the Association for at least the preceding two calendar years or an Honorary Life Member.
- We will still have processes for expulsion.

**Proposal 2:                Agree – 35; Disagree – 1; No view / undecided – 0**

*To rewrite the Rules in plain English.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- Any gender non-neutral language shall be removed.

**Proposal 3:                Agree – 34; Disagree – 1; No view / undecided – 1**

*To revise the peal rules so that there is no longer a need to hold elections in the tower. In future it will only be necessary for a majority of a peal band to be Surrey Association members (ie. on 8 bells 5 ringers must be members allowing for a maximum of 3 non members to be in the band). At the same time the wording on composition and compliance will be updated to refer to CCCBR rules.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- None

**Proposal 4:                Agree – 33; Disagree – 1; No view / undecided – 2**

*To remove the restriction on the way subscriptions are collected. The rules currently state that Districts collect subscriptions and make a contribution to the Association from the total receipts. This prevents us from adopting a centralised system of subscription collection. The proposal is to change the rule so that the principle of sharing the total subscriptions between the Districts and Association is protected without imposing a specific way of organising this.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- The change in rules permits subscriptions to be collected in any way required. It is not proposing that all subscriptions shall be collected centrally.
- It will be made clear in rules that the method of collection of subscriptions shall be agreed by the General Committee appropriate to the type of membership and processes available at the time.

**Proposal 5:                    Agree – 35; Disagree – 1; No view / undecided – 0**

*The new rules will incorporate a clearer definition of the membership grades, benefits and subscription rates, perhaps in a table. This basic information is currently very difficult to elicit from the existing rules.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- None

**Proposal 6:                    Agree – 26; Disagree – 8; No view / undecided – 2**

*It is proposed to introduce an 'Associate' grade of membership to encompass non-ringing and unattached members.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- Associate Member grade is not being taken forward
- Types of members proposed to be:
  - Resident Ringer (Adult and Student) – Full and Concession fees; Voting rights. Membership to include lapsed ringers, and may be either attached or unattached.
  - Honorary Life Member – No fees; Voting rights
  - Non-resident ringing members – (initial fee, no voting rights)

**Proposal 7:                    Agree – 30; Disagree – 5; No view / undecided – 1**

*Changes in the state pension age have made the current senior concession qualifying age of 60 obsolete but introducing changes to this is fraught with problems. The proposal is to remove the senior concession entirely and reducing the standard adult subscription to £5 to negate the financial impact of this change on individuals.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- Affect on fees is approximately £800 to the Association as a whole.
- The Senior member grade will be removed

**Proposal 8:                    Agree – 35; Disagree – 0; No view / undecided – 1**

*The wording of the rule for expulsion of members will be simplified although the process will not be changed.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- None

**Proposal 9:                    Agree – 28; Disagree – 8; No view / undecided – 0**

*Honorary life membership is offered to members completing at least 30 years (cumulative) as a resident ringing member or for 'service to the Ringing Exercise' or 'service to the Association'. In practice 'service to the Ringing Exercise' and 'service to the Association' have never been used so these will be removed leaving '30 years cumulative service' as the only qualifying criteria for Honorary life membership.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- None

**Proposal 10:            Agree – 30; Disagree – 6; No view / undecided – 2**

*The need for a member to give written notice to change their District affiliation will be changed to simply 'give notice'.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- 'Notification to be given in writing' will be retained and deemed to include emails.

**Proposal 11:            Agree – 36; Disagree – 0; No view / undecided – 0**

*Rule 15 deals with transitional arrangements at the time of current rules were adopted 40 years ago. This rule is redundant and will be removed entirely.*

**Proposed modifications / mitigations / clarifications:**

- None