Proposed KCACR Canterbury District Striking Competition Rule Changes

The District Committee proposes these two changes to the District Striking Competition rules (method ringing competition). Both rule change proposals bring the District Competition rules into line with the rules of the Association 6-bell Method Competition, which the District Competition acts as a qualifying competition for.

Proposal A

Change Rule 12 to match the Association 6-bell Method Competition rules, thus avoiding bands being disqualified for failing to complete test pieces.

Current wording:
"Any band failing to complete the test piece shall be disqualified."

Proposed wording:
"If the test piece fires out, the band may decide to withdraw, but they may if they wish start again. In that event, the faults incurred in the first attempt will be added to any which occur in the second attempt."

Proposal B

Amend Rule 4 by removing the words "Sunday service", thus matching the rule as worded in the Association 6-bell Method Competition rules.

Current wording:
"All members taking part shall be members of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers and regular Sunday service ringers at the tower they represent."

Proposed amended wording:
"All members taking part shall be members of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers and regular ringers at the tower they represent."

The full current rules of the District Striking Competition are printed on the following two pages:

KCACR Canterbury District Striking Competition Rules

(Adopted at the ADM in October 1990, amended at the ADM in October 1999 and further amended in October 2006).

1. The competition shall be held annually within the District at a location and on a date to be decided by the District Committee and shall be subject to the following rules.

2. The Competition shall be organised by the Assistant District Secretary in consultation with the District Committee.

3. The object of the competition is to improve the standard of striking through friendly competition between bands representing towers in the District in union with the Kent County Association of Change Ringers.

4. All members taking part shall be members of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers and regular Sunday service ringers at the tower they represent.

5. Bands shall be named on the entry form provided by the Assistant District Secretary, although not necessarily in the order of ringing in the test piece.

6. No ringer may ring more than once or represent more than one tower in the same competition.

7. A draw for the order of the bands competing shall be made by the leaders of each band before the competition, bands to be known by numbers only not by name. No two bands shall be in the ringing chamber at the same time. A steward shall be in the tower for the better observance of these rules and shall see that the bells are raised and rung beforehand.

8. Each band shall be allowed one continuous period of two minutes for a trial round of changes at the end of which the bells shall be set. A whole pull is to be rung on the treble to indicate to the judge(s) that the band is ready and the test piece will then commence and continue to its end without break.

9. Subject to any alteration arising from the application of rule 10 the test piece shall consist of either 240 changes of doubles on five or six bells or 240 changes of minor or, if the band entered is incapable of ringing changes (to a reasonable standard to be determined by the District Committee), the equivalent length of call changes, in which case there must be at least 24 different changes at regular intervals with at least five working bells.

10. The competition organiser may halve the length of the test piece stated in rule 9 if a) More than 8 teams have entered the competition or b) The competition is unduly delayed. In event that the test piece length is altered due to a delay after the competition has started then the bands that have rung the full length shall only be judged on the first 120 changes of their test piece and any marked rounds. Any band ringing call changes shall only be required to have 12 different changes at regular intervals with at least five working bells.

11. The first 10 whole pulls of rounds in the test piece shall not be marked. All faults in subsequent rounds and changes shall be penalised and the competition judged on the total number of faults recorded subject to any adjustment allowed under rule 10.

12. Any band failing to complete the test piece shall be disqualified.

13. There shall be one or two judges, preferably independent of the District, who shall know only the numbers of the bands competing. Their decision shall be final, subject to the observance of these rules, and the judge(s) shall give the results and comments at the meeting following the competition.

14. The Frank Knight Cup will be awarded, with a certificate, to the winning tower, who will be responsible for its safe keeping. It shall be returned in a clean condition to the Honorary District Secretary before the next competition or after a period of one year if no competition is held within that period.

15. The decision of the District Committee as to the interpretation and observance of these rules shall be final and binding on all parties. Such decisions shall be by a simple majority of the Committee present and voting.