

Rules of the 8-bell striking competition for the Don Exell Trophy

Eligibility

Towers may combine to form a team and have a team name. No ringer may ring in more than 2 teams except as follows: if a team meets short due to illness, or other circumstances, a maximum of one ringer may be drafted in from another team.

Format

Teams may choose to ring either Call Changes or Triples or Major. The Don Exell Trophy will be awarded to the team with the best performance.

Call Changes

Call changes shall be a minimum of 6 minutes (from the first change after rounds to the last backstroke before rounds at the end). The test piece shall start and end in rounds and include at least two of the following Queens (13572468), Tittums (15263748) and Whittingtons (12753468). The test piece will be marked from the first change after rounds to the last whole pull at the end. Rounds before and after the test piece will not be marked, nor will the Stand. Any test piece under the minimum of 6 minutes shall incur additional faults. Teams may choose to have a conductor call their piece, as well as someone to time the test piece, from outside of the circle, if desired.

Method

This shall be 168 changes of Triples or 160 changes of Major. This can be either a touch or several plain courses. Teams may also ring Plain Hunt Triples or Major. Rows will be marked from the first change to the first row of rounds at the end (inclusive). Round before and after the test piece will not be marked (note that the row when the method comes into rounds is part of the test piece). Teams may choose to have a conductor call their piece from outside of the circle, if desired.

Starting signal

The signal for the start of the test piece shall be two whole pulls on the treble.

General

Ringers may adjust their ropes individually and then each team will be allocated 5 minutes practice, during which they must, practice their test piece, give the starting signal and then ring their test piece

The Judge's decision is final.

April 2024