

The Essex Association of Change Ringers  
**SOUTHERN DISTRICT CALL CHANGE COMPETITION**

**GENERAL**

1. The competition shall take place at a tower within the District and shall be open to all ringers within the District.
2. The District Master, or a steward appointed by the Master, shall supervise the event. They shall be the only person with the ringers in the ringing room and shall check that the competition test piece is rung correctly in accordance with the rules.
3. The District Officers shall appoint one or two judges to assess the quality of the ringing, give comments and announce the results.
4. A trophy shall be presented to the winning team and shall be held in safekeeping until the next competition. The winning team may have this trophy suitably engraved.
5. If necessary, the District Master or their nominee shall give ruling concerning matters not covered by these rules, and any such decision shall be final.

**TEAMS**

6. In order to encourage less experienced bands to enter, towers which came first or second in the district 6-bell method competition may only enter this Call Change competition if the band contains at least three ringers who did not take part in the 6-bell method competition for the current year.
7. Each team shall be allowed no more than one substitute nominated on the day by the District Officers.
8. Towers with insufficient members under Rule 6 and other than the provision in Rule 7 may join with another tower and enter a joint team.
9. A ringer may only ring in one team. If a last minute substitution is required for another team and there are no spare district ringers available then, in this case, a ringer may ring in another team but only in agreement with the District Officers.

**PRACTICE**

10. Two minutes of practice rounds and changes (not judged) shall be allowed after which the bells must be set.
11. Stopping the practice and restarting is allowed (e.g. to adjust ropes or use a box) - the steward will "stop the clock" at such points and will tell the team how much time remains of the two minutes before the team restarts. Ropes may also be adjusted and boxes changed at the end of the practice time.
12. Following the practice (including any final adjustments) the treble ringer should signal to the judges that the team is about to start the competition test piece by turning the treble over (not judged).

**THE TEST PIECE**

13. The competition shall be rung on 6-bells with a covering tenor. Bona-fide 5-bell towers may ring without a covering tenor if they wish.
14. Each team must ring for 5 minutes (including opening and closing rounds). The Master or steward will announce when 5 minutes has been rung.
15. The test piece must start and end in rounds and contain the following 'named' changes: 142536 (Tittums) and 135246 (Queens). Any sequence of changes between these changes is allowed. The 'named' changes must be rung a minimum of 4 whole pulls, all other changes can be of any length.
16. All closing rounds will be judged. The duration of the closing rounds is at the discretion of the conductor, but must be a minimum of 1 whole pull. Opening rounds will be judged after the 5th whole-pull, i.e., from the 6th whole-pull onwards.
17. If during the first 60 seconds of the test piece, the ringing deteriorates irretrievably and is terminated by the conductor, then at the discretion of the Master or steward, the band may restart the test piece. The ringing should restart from rounds and consist of a further 5 minutes of ringing as specified in rules 14, 15 and 16. Faults shall be marked on the completed piece of ringing only, the aborted attempt not counting towards the final fault total.
18. At the end of the test piece, a team will not be penalised should any bell not be able to stand. However, in the event of two teams tying on faults/points then failure to stand the bells will be taken into account to achieve the final order of teams.