

The Guild of Railway Ringers

Rules:

1. NAME:

The Guild shall be called "The Guild of Railway Ringers"

2. OBJECTS:

To advance and improve the art and exercise of bell ringing in the service of the church and to promote harmony and fellowship among ringers especially in the railway industry.

3. CONSTITUTION:

(a) Any ringer who is an active or retired employee, spouse, widower or dependent of an active or retired employee of a public or private company or a railway industry contractor. "Employee" means either a paid employee or volunteer. Ringing friends of members may also be elected to membership

When a member is proposed for election at a meeting or prior to a peal attempt, it shall be the responsibility of the proposer to satisfy the meeting that the new member fulfils the foregoing requirements.

(b) Honorary Life Members may be elected in recognition of service to the Guild and/or representing the rail industry in the ringing community.

Honorary Life Members can only be proposed at an AGM by an elected officer and elected by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at the AGM.

4 SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions shall be determined by ordinary resolution (a simple majority) at an Annual General Meeting to take effect from the commencement of the following calendar year.

Members under the age of 16 or aged 65 or over shall only be required to pay a subscription of half the normal rate.

Members who allow their subscriptions to fall more than two years in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned from the Guild.

5 ADMINISTRATION:

The administration of the association shall be in the hands of:

- a. A Chairman or Chairwoman who shall chair all meetings of the Guild or Standing Committee and is not entitled to vote except as a casting vote;
- b. Honorary Secretary
- c. Honorary Treasurer

The above officers shall form a standing committee, which shall meet as necessary to administer the affairs of the Guild.

Additionally, an Independent Examiner shall be elected. This will not form part of the standing committee.

6. MEETINGS:

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held. The date, time and place of the AGM shall be determined if possible at the previous AGM. The purpose of the AGM shall be the election of officers , determination of the subscription, transaction of any other pertinent business and united practice for the improvement of bell ringing.

Other gatherings of the Guild shall be held as considered appropriate.

7. FUNDS:

All funds shall be banked in the name of the Guild and operated by the Honorary Treasurer, who shall present a statement of accounts at the AGM.

8. PEALS :

Peal shall be rung in accordance with the rules of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

Members may be elected prior to a peal attempt provided at least 75% of the ringers present are existing members. Such elections are subject to ratification at the first business meeting following the attempt. The member proposing such new members shall be responsible for ensuring the payment of the new members' subscription, whether or not the peal attempt is successful.

9. AMENDMENT OF RULES:

These rules shall only be altered by motion at an AGM. Notice of motion must be received by the Honorary Secretary at least four weeks prior to the AGM. The motion will only be carried by a two thirds majority of members present.

These rules were agreed at the 2017 AGM in London on 22nd July.

Chris Mew

Secretary

24th July 2017