



**RULES**

OF THE

**ST. MARY'S**

**Society of Change Ringers,**

OF

**SAFFRON WALDEN.**



**RULES**  
**OF THE**  
**St. Mary's Society of Change Ringers,**  
**OF**  
**SAFFRON WALDEN,**

**As revised at a Meeting held at the Club House,  
on Monday, 16th December, 1895.**

1. THAT this Society shall consist of an unlimited number of Members. Any person to be eligible for election shall have rung to the satisfaction of the Members who took part 1008 of Grandsire Triples or Bob Major; until he can do this he shall be styled a Probationer.  
  
Constitution  
of  
Society.
2. His election shall take place at one of the Half-yearly Meetings in January or June.  
  
Time  
of Election  
  
He shall be duly proposed by one Member and seconded by another and must obtain a majority of votes of the Members present.
3. He shall only receive a two-thirds share of monies accruing until in the opinion of the majority of Members he is competent to ring Treble Bob Major and Stedman Triples.  
  
Two-thirds  
share  
till Efficient.

4. The business of the Society shall be carried on by the Master, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Warner, who shall be elected annually at the Half-yearly Meeting in January.  
Officers.
  5. The Master by virtue of his election, shall be a Member of the Society, but shall not incur fines for non-attendance at ringing, but shall be at liberty to attend at the Belfry at any time, and shall preside at all Meetings at which he is present and shall be at liberty to call a Special Meeting if he deem it necessary so to do.  
Master.
  6. The Treasurer shall receive all monies due to the Society and enter the same in a Cash book, which book shall be produced at the Monthly Meetings of the Society. He shall prepare and produce a statement of his Accounts at the Half-yearly Meetings in January and June and the whole or part of the balance then in hand shall be divided among the Members.  
Treasurer.
  7. The Secretary shall take account of and enter all Fines in a book kept by him for that purpose and shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and shall charge for his expenses in relation thereto.  
Secretary.
  8. The Warner shall give due notice to Members when ringing is required for Weddings or other extraordinary occasions and shall charge for his expenses in relation thereto.  
Warner.
- Notice left at a Member's house shall be deemed sufficient.

- Anniversary.
9. The Anniversary Meeting of the Society shall be held on the 27th June in each year, but if the 27th fall on a Sunday, the Anniversary Meeting shall be held on Monday, the 28th June.
- Half-yearly Meetings.
10. The Half-yearly Meetings shall be held, one on the last Tuesday in January, the other on the eve of the Anniversary Meeting, except when the 27th June falls on a Monday, when the Half-yearly Meeting shall be held on Saturday, the 26th of June.
- Monthly Meetings.
11. The Monthly Meetings shall be held on the last Tuesday in each month. No business shall be transacted unless 5 Members be present. In the absence of the Master a Chairman shall be appointed at each Meeting by the members present by vote, and at all Meetings the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- Ring and Dinner on Anniversary.
12. On the 27th of June (being Anniversary Day), ringing shall commence not later than Nine o'clock in the morning. A Dinner shall be provided and the Treasurer shall pay for the Dinner of each Member, but all other refreshments shall be paid by each Member requiring the same.
- Monthly Meeting, 4d.
13. At each Monthly Meeting the Treasurer shall spend 4d. for each Member.

14. When ringing is required for Parochial or Public Occasions, the order for such ringing shall be given to the Warner who shall give notice to the Members, and every Member who does not attend at the appointed time shall forfeit 1/- for the first time of Meeting, and 4d. for each subsequent Meeting and if a Member neglects wholly to attend he shall be fined 1/- for every 20/- received.
- Parochial or Public Ringing.
15. The minimum fee for ringing at a Wedding shall be £2 2s. 0d.
- Weddings.
16. The fee for ringing Muffled Peals must vary according to time of ringing. 2/6 shall be paid for Muffling the Bells. The Secretary or Warner shall arrange all fees when taking an order.
- Muffled Peals.
17. On Christmas Day and Easter Day, ringing and shall commence at Nine o'clock in the morning. Members not attending at that time shall forfeit 6d. each.
- Christmas Day and Easter Day.

Harvest Peal.  
Harvest Festival  
New Year's Eve.  
Eve of  
Anniversary.

A Peal shall also be rung on the first Sunday in Harvest Peal. September (the Harvest Peal), also on the day appointed for the Harvest Festival, also on New Year's New Year's Eve. Eve and on the eve of the Anniversary.

The ringing for the Harvest Peal shall commence immediately after Afternoon Service, for the Harvest Festival at least half-an-hour before the Service, for the eve of the Anniversary at 6.15 p.m., and any Member then absent shall forfeit 6d.

18. On New Year's Eve two Peals shall be rung, the first at 6.30 p.m., and the other at 11.30 p.m. Members absent at 6.30 p.m, shall be fined 6d., and those absent at 11.30 p.m. 1/-.
- New Year's Eve
19. For the purpose of practising Change Ringing, Members shall meet on Tuesday Evenings in the Belfry, at 7 o'clock, or pay a forfeit of 3d., unless prevented by illness, in which case only the forfeit shall be remitted after the ease has been considered at the next Monthly Meeting of the Society and approved by the majority of votes of those present.
- Practice.
20. There shall be ringing on Thursday Evenings when necessary for the instruction of Probationers, at 7.15 p.m. There shall be ringing or chiming on Sundays at 10.30 a.m., 2.30 p.m. and 5.45 p.m., and each Member shall be fined 2d , except when exempted from attendance according to the rota agreed to at the previous Monthly Meeting or an adjournment thereof or if represented by a Deputy being a Member not on the rota.
- Probationers.
21. Any Member absenting himself from the Steeple or who shall not attend for the purpose of ringing for two consecutive months shall cease to be a Member, unless the reason given for non-attendance is considered satisfactory to the majority of the Members at the next Monthly Meeting or an adjournment thereof.
- Fine for Absence

- Social  
Gathering.
22. For social purposes of the Society there shall be spent a portion of the monies received for ringing on days specified in Rule 14 but the sum so spent shall not exceed 5/- in the £, and the monies shall be spent at the Club House unless otherwise agreed by the votes of the majority of Members when considered.
- Bad Conduct.
23. Any Member guilty of bad conduct or using bad language either in the Belfry or at any Meeting shall be fined 6d.
- Alteration of  
Rules.
24. Any Member wishing to alter or add to any of the foregoing Rules must give notice of his wish together with the name of a seconder in writing to the Secretary, at or before the Monthly Meeting next preceding the Half-yearly Meeting in January. The matter shall be discussed at the Half-yearly Meeting and put to the vote and if carried the Secretary shall give notice in writing of the alteration to each Member.

*N.B. - No addition to the Rules or alteration in any Rule can be made without the consent of the Vicar.*