

# The East Grinstead and District Guild of Church Bell Ringers

## Rules

### 1. TITLE

The title of the Guild shall be "The East Grinstead and District Guild of Church Bell Ringers".

### 2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Guild shall be:

- (a) to promote and maintain the ringing of Church bells for services,
- (b) to organise practice meetings and thereby cultivate the art of change ringing,
- (c) to promote harmony and fellowship among bell ringers generally.

### 3. AREA OF OPERATION

The activities of the Guild shall take place mainly within the area bounded by a circle of radius 16 miles (25 kilometres) centred on East Grinstead.

### 4. MEMBERSHIP

There shall be one class of membership. Members shall be elected either by resolution at a business meeting of the Guild, or, prior to a peal which is to be rung for the Guild, by resolution of the members of the peal band (provided that the majority of the band are already members of the Guild), or at any other meeting of the Guild by resolution of the members there present. Elections other than at business meetings shall be subject to ratification by resolution of a subsequent business meeting. Any person may be considered for membership of the Guild, regardless of place of residence.

### 5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A general meeting of the Guild shall be held annually (normally in March) to elect a President, Vice Presidents, Officers of the Guild, and to receive reports and transact other relevant business. No business may be transacted unless a quorum of 12 members present.

### 6. OFFICERS

The officers of the Guild shall be a Chairman (who shall chair business meetings of the Guild), Ringing Master (who shall organise ringing at practice and other meetings), Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Central Council representative(s), and 3 committee members. These officers shall form themselves into a committee, of whom 6 shall form a quorum. The powers vested in the committee shall be without limit save that of being within the rules of the Guild. Officers shall be elected annually by resolution of the Annual General Meeting except the Central Council representative(s) who shall be elected triennially. The President and Vice Presidents shall be elected annually by resolution of the Annual General Meeting, and shall be ex officio members of the committee. In the event that one of more of the officers' posts become vacant at any time the Vice Presidents and committee shall ensure, whether by co-opting persons to the committee, or by forming an executive group of not more than 3 persons, or by any other method, that the normal duties of the vacant post or posts are filled by resolution of an Annual General Meeting.

### 7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Each member shall pay the Treasurer annually a subscription as determined from time to time by resolution of the Annual General Meeting of the Guild.

### 8. RULES

No alteration to, addition to, or deletion from these rules shall be made except by special resolution of an Annual General Meeting of the Guild (such resolution requiring a two thirds majority of the members present and voting at that meeting); notice of a motion to amend these rules must be given to the Secretary in writing not less than one month before the Annual General Meeting.

*Dated 12 December 2020 (Incorporates 1995, 2009 and 2020 AGM changes)*