



National Twelve-Bell Striking Contest

Application notes

Welcome to the 2024 contest.

The eliminators will be held at St Stephen's, Bristol; Portsmouth Cathedral; and St Laurence's, Reading on **Saturday 23rd March 2024**.

The final will be at St John the Baptist, Chilcompton on **Saturday 15th June 2024**. Please note that this is the third Saturday in June rather than the more usual fourth Saturday.

The method for the test piece will be the first six leads of Cambridge Surprise Maximus.

The chief judge is Thomas W Griffiths.

Please read these notes (and the Rules available on the contest website) carefully before filling in the online entry form at www.12bell.org.uk.

Please complete the entry form online and pay your entry fee before **5pm on Friday 17th November 2023**.

Criteria for eligibility

Bands must be representative of 'centres at which twelve bell ringing is organised and practised' (rule 4.1) and members of teams must have 'current and regular association with the centre they represent' (rule 4.3). The Committee usually interprets 'current and regular' to mean a minimum of one occasion per month for at least three months prior to application, and can include Sunday service ringing, weekly or monthly practices, and peal attempts. Future changes made to the list of ringers using the 'two week' rule (see below) must also meet these criteria. For ringers who don't meet the defined options, please choose 'other' in the drop-down list and explain your reason in the text box at the foot of the form. The Committee will consider each variation and make a ruling in each case.

The Committee must rely on the goodwill of band organisers if the contest is to flourish. The majority of participants wish the Committee to enforce the spirit of the Rules of the contest so please bear this in mind when selecting your band.

Guidance for entering names

Please enter names in alphabetical order by surname. Names should be entered as they normally appear in peal reports in The Ringing Word. Up to 36 ringers per team are permitted.

Entry fee and payment

The fee for the 2024 contest is **£96** and is payable directly into the bank account numbered 00144601. The branch sort code is 30-98-37. Please include your band name as a reference.

Additions and amendments

Secretary: Elizabeth Evans, secretary@12bell.org.uk 07904641782



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Any additional names and their associations should be notified to the Secretary by amending the online form **at least two weeks before the contest** (the 'two week rule', rule 4.3). On the day of the contest, and before ringing, a committee representative will check the names on the actual band list against the list of names submitted with your entry form (including any approved subsequent additions). Bands including ringers not on their lists will be disqualified.

Seeding

For the 2024 contest, six (6) teams will be seeded.

Practices

Pre-contest practices will be allocated based on band preferences for available slots, using the fair allocation spreadsheet. All available slots will be sent to you at least one week before the draw (which takes place on **Sunday 3rd December 2023**), and you will be asked to return your preferences to the contest secretary within the week following the draw.

Recordings

It is a requirement that recordings of the contest ringing can be made and used by the 12 Bell Contest Committee and its representatives and that you agree to the contest being streamed over the internet. Additionally, photographs taken at the contest may be published in the Ringing World and on social media networks. The entry form requires you and your band to agree to these conditions. Please note that the Committee expects that the strikeometer will be used at all four towers.

If you have any questions at this stage, please contact the Contest Secretary.