

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
S.E. REGION - CONSTITUTION

1. The Organisation shall be called "South East Region" of Handbell Ringers of Great Britain.
2. The object of the Region shall be the encouragement of the art of handbell tune ringing.
3. Any person being a member of the National Society and wishing to be a member of the South East Region shall be deemed a member of that Region.
4.
 - a. The management of the Region is to be entrusted to a committee consisting of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer plus not more than eight committee members to be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
 - b. Officers and committee members shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election up to a maximum period of six and four years respectively and will then be ineligible for the same post for the period of one year. NB. There is an informal agreement that the Chairman will only stand for 3 years.
 - c. The committee shall consist of not less than four officers plus not more than eight members of the Region (excluding co-opted and ex-officio members).
 - d. The duly elected Regional Committee shall be deemed to be a special sub-committee of the Executive Committee and members of the Executive Committee resident or active in the Region shall be ex-officio members of the Regional Committee.
 - e. The Region shall each year select two of its members to serve on the Executive Committee as Regional representatives. Such Regional representatives, if not also elected members of the Regional Committee, shall be ex-officio members of that committee.
 - f. The Officers of the National Society, if members of the Region, and not already elected to the Regional Committee, shall be ex-officio members of the committee.
 - g. Co-opted members of the committee shall not exceed one-third of the elected members.
 - h. At least two weeks notice of all meetings of the Region shall be given to all members of the region. (Notice to the correspondent of a registered team to be given adequate time to give notice to all members of that team.
 - i. A two-thirds majority of Regional members present and voting shall be necessary to repeal or make any amendment to this constitution or any part thereof.
 - j. The Treasurer of the Regional Committee shall have the annual Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet audited by some competent person (whether or not professionally qualified) who is not a member of the Regional Committee and shall forward a copy of such audited account to the Executive Committee within two weeks of the general meeting at which they were adopted or passed.
 - k. The Secretary of the Regional Committee shall forward a signed copy of the minutes of each general meeting of the Region to the Executive Committee within two weeks of such meeting.
5. Any subsequent amendments to this constitution shall be subject to ratification by the Executive Committee as provided by Rule 33 of the National Society.
6. The Region shall be self-financing. As well as raising money by the staging of Regional events, it shall have the power, subject to the approval of its members in general

meeting, to levy a regional subscription from its members. Notwithstanding the above, the Region shall be entitled at any time to make application to the Executive Committee for a loan of an ex-gratia payment from national funds for any particular purpose and the Executive Committee may in its absolute discretion grant or refuse such application or may grant it in part only or upon such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

7. An Annual General Meeting of the Region shall be held in each year upon a date and at a time and place to be fixed by the committee provided that no more than fifteen months shall elapse between one meeting and the next. Notice of an Annual General Meeting shall be published in the immediately preceding edition of the regional newsletter and providing the publication date satisfies sub-clause 4(h) hereof it shall be deemed good notice to all members. At the Annual General Meeting the following business shall be transacted:
 - a. To receive reports from the committee and the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Region.
8. Any member desirous of moving any resolution at the Annual General Meeting shall give notice thereof to the Secretary not less than one month before the date of such meeting. Nominations for the election of Officers shall be made to the Secretary not less than one month before the date of such meeting. In the event of no nominations being received for any post, the present incumbent of that post (being willing to stand) shall be declared to be re-elected. If unwilling to stand, nominations may be accepted from the floor. All notices of nominations may be accepted from the floor. All notices of nominations and formal motions shall be in writing and sponsored by at least two members.
9. No business shall be transacted at any annual general meeting unless a quorum of members is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as herein otherwise provided.
 - a. For motions proposing any repeal, addition to, or amendment of the rules, twenty members personally present shall be a quorum.
 - b. For any other business five members personally present shall be a quorum.
10. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum of members is not present, the meeting is to be adjourned and reconvened on a different day.
11. Every member of the Region shall have the right to attend general meetings of the Region and have the right to vote thereto. Every member of the Region entitled to vote shall have one vote and no more upon every motion and in case of an equality of votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second and casting vote.
12. The S.E. Region is a division of the National Society and the rules of the National Society (including any subsequent amendments thereto) shall be deemed to be incorporated in this constitution and that so far as there is any inconsistency between the National Society's rules and this constitution the National Society's rules shall prevail.

Last amendment date: October 1999