



THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH

BELL RINGERS

UK Registered Charity No. 270036

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

**Registered Small Societies Motion
(for consideration at the Council's Meeting on 5th September 2020)**

SECOND (FINAL) EDITION

25TH JULY 2020

Registered Small Societies Motion

Supporting Statement

- a) This Motion enables the Council to make better provision for smaller ringing societies (membership below 75), without disturbing the existing structure of affiliation. In doing so, the Council becomes stronger by virtue of having a broader and more diverse membership, which more accurately reflects the state of ringing. The Church of England values the Council's role in promoting a network of strong, interconnected societies.
- b) This is achieved via a **Register of Small Societies** to which smaller societies may belong. A rigorous admissions policy (set out in the Standing Orders) ensures societies registering are fit for inclusion and have the overwhelming support of Affiliated Societies.
- c) Registering will enable Smaller societies to:
 - Strengthen connections with the Council and larger guilds.
 - Influence debate
 - Demonstrate adherence to best practices (eg. safeguarding)
 - Benefit from stronger support in the event of unforeseen problems.
- d) Registering will also be open to any Affiliated Society in danger of losing their affiliation through declining numbers, connecting them with the Council until their membership revives.
- e) Each Registered Small Society may appoint a non-voting Member to take part in Council Meetings, meaning the Council's accountability to existing Affiliated Societies remains undiluted.

Rule Amendments

That with effect from the close of the 123rd Council Meeting on 5th September 2020:

1. Rule 1.1 (Definitions) is amended as follows to define a Registered Small Society, its Annual Subscription and Society Contacts:

- 1.1. The following new definitions are **INSERTED**:

<i>Registered Small Society</i>	A bell ringing society which appears on the Council's Register of Small Societies in accordance with Rule 4.
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<i>Small Society Representative</i>	A non-voting member appointed to represent a Registered Small Society in accordance with Rules 5.7 and 5.8.
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- 1.2. The following existing definition is **REPLACED** as shown below:

<i>Annual Subscription</i>	A subscription defined by Rules 4.10 or 4.11.
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- 1.3. The following existing definition is **REPLACED** as shown below:

<i>Society Contact</i>	The contact of an Affiliated Society or Registered Small Society, whose details have been notified by that society to the Secretary, and to whom notices to that society in connection with the Council's business shall be sent.
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2. To set out the terms governing the admission of Registered Small Societies, the following rules are **INSERTED** after Rule 4.4 (and subsequent rules re-numbered accordingly):

Registered Small Societies

- 4.5 Subject to Rule 4.8 any bell ringing society whose application has been approved under Rules 4.6 and 4.7 shall be listed on the Council's Register of Small Societies.

- 4.6 Applications from smaller bell ringing societies to become Registered Small Societies shall be made to the Secretary accompanied by a certificate signed by at least two of the society's officers confirming that:
- a) its Society Membership is less than 75 (25 in the case of societies operating wholly outside the British Isles);
 - b) its purpose is to promote the ringing of bells by a group or association of bell ringers; and
 - c) it undertakes to abide by the Council's Rules and Decisions.
- 4.7 A bell ringing society making an application under Rule 4.6 shall be entered on the Council's Register of Small Societies on such date as the Executive shall determine provided that the society's application has been approved in accordance with the Standing Orders.
- 4.8 A society shall be removed from the Register of Small Societies if:
- a) it becomes an Affiliated Society; or
 - b) its Society Membership rises above 100; or
 - c) any Annual Subscription due under Rule 4.11 is more than 12 months in arrears; or
 - d) a Motion to remove the society's registration is agreed by a majority of Representative Members present and voting at a Council Meeting; or
 - e) a decision to remove the society's registration is made by the Executive in accordance with the Standing Orders; or
 - f) a request to remove the society's registration is given to the Secretary by at least two of the society's officers.
- 4.9 An Executive Decision made in accordance with Rule 4.8e) shall cease to have effect unless ratified by Resolution at the first Council Meeting thereafter.

3. *To provide for the additional Rules shown above, the reference to "Rule 4.5" in existing Rule 4.4 b) is **AMENDED** to "Rule 4.10".*

4. *To empower the Council to set an Annual Subscription for Registered Small Societies, the following new rule is **INSERTED** before Rule 5:*

- 4.11 Where determined by the Standing Orders, each Registered Small Society shall pay an annual subscription, which shall become due on 1st January and shall be of such sum as may be stated by the Standing Orders in relation to that society's registration.

5. *To permit one person from each Registered Small Society to participate in Council Meetings (in a non-voting capacity), the line “Small Society Representatives;” is **INSERTED** after Rule 5.1a) so that Rule 5.1 reads as follows:*

- 5.1 The Council shall consist of the following members:
- a) Representative Members;
 - b) Small Society Representatives;
 - c) Individual Members enrolled or appointed as may be determined by the Standing Orders; and
 - d) the Council’s Trustees, Stewards and Workgroup Leaders, who shall be ex-officio members.

6. *To set out the arrangements by which representatives of Registered Small Societies are appointed and retire, the following rules are **INSERTED** after Rule 5.6 (and subsequent rules renumbered accordingly):*

Small Society Representatives

- 5.7 Each Registered Small Society shall be entitled to send one Small Society Representative to attend each Council Meeting provided that no later than six weeks before that meeting’s date:
- a) where determined by the Standing Orders, that society’s Annual Subscription for the year in which the Council Meeting takes place has been received by the Treasurer; and
 - b) its Society Membership has been notified to the Secretary.

- 5.8 Subject to Rule 5.7:
- a) a Registered Small Society may register or amend the name and contact details of its Small Society Representative at any time by giving notice to the Secretary; and
 - b) each Small Society Representative shall be deemed appointed from the point at which their name is confirmed in accordance with these Rules, and shall remain appointed until the Registered Society notifies the Secretary of a change.

7. *As a Registered Small Society may not also be an Affiliated Society the line “it becomes a Registered Small Society; or” is **INSERTED** after Rule 4.4a) so that Rule 4.4 reads as follows:*

- 4.4 A society shall cease to be an Affiliated Society if:
- a) its Society Membership falls below 50 (25 in the case of societies operating wholly outside the British Isles); or
 - b) it becomes a Registered Small Society; or
 - c) its Annual Subscription under Rule 4.10 is more than 12 months in arrears; or
 - d) a Motion for disaffiliation is agreed by no less than two-thirds of Representative Members present and voting at a Council Meeting; or
 - e) notice of disaffiliation is given to the Secretary by at least two of the society’s officers.

Annual Subscription for Registered Small Societies

That in accordance with Rule 7.13 and with effect from the close of the 123rd Council Meeting on 5th September 2020, the Council APPROVES an Annual Subscription of £20 for each Registered Small Society.

Admission Criteria for Registered Small Societies

That the Council NOTES the detailed admission criteria for Registered Small Societies, approved by the Executive on 26th July 2020 and published in Edition 4 of the Standing Orders, which following approval of this Motion will become effective on 1st November 2020.