

**Society of Royal Cumberland Youths**  
**Nomination Form for New Members**  
 (Refer to the Guidelines below before completing)

Candidate's Full Name	
Address inc post code	
Telephone Numbers	
Email Address	
Proposer's name/address/email	
Secunder's name/address/email	

<p>Technical skills: method knowledge; conducting ability; striking ability; peal ringing experience.</p>
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<p>Personal statement: ringing history; organising and/or leadership experience; future aspirations; The Society.</p>
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Signature of Candidate
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Date
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Countersigned by parent/guardian (if candidate under 18)
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Return this form to the Secretary, Ms George Unsworth, 66 Montague Road, Cambridge CB4 1BX.

## **Guidelines for Prospective New Members and their proposers/seconders**

We hope that these guidelines will help you and your proposer/seconders to provide information which both support your application for membership and illustrate the standards the Society wishes to promote. You do NOT have to 'tick' every box, but the following may provide some prompts to help you fill in the Nomination Form.

### **Guidelines for applicants on completing the Nomination Form**

Method Knowledge: Your method capability on the number of bells on which you most frequently ring, and any notable ringing achievements to date.

Conducting Ability: If you have had any conducting experience, the level this has been at - local tower, district practices, quarter peals or peals.

Striking Ability: If you've taken part in any striking competitions and at what level

Peal Ringing Experience: Roughly how many peals you have rung and a brief summary of the highlights.

Ringling History: Where you learned to ring, what opportunities you've had and who your mentors are.

Organising and/or Leadership Experience: If you have held any office, taught anyone to ring or otherwise helped to lead other ringers.

Future Aspirations: If you have any particular ringing aspirations - from moving on to x methods in practice through running a local tower to ringing a peal of multi-spliced major.

The Society: We are all proud of our association with the Society and want to encourage you to take as much of an active role in our events as your circumstances allow. It would help us to know what attracted you to the Society and what you are hoping to get from your membership.

### **Guidelines for Proposers/Seconders**

You need to know that there are no trick questions here; neither do we expect any candidate to be able to tick every box. We have, however, spent some time and involved as many members as possible in thinking about how we can both encourage new members to come on board and to make sure that they have a good idea of what to expect from us. Your help is absolutely vital to this process and we very much hope that you will take an active part in encouraging participation in the Society both now and in the future.

We know that some people will find the prospect of attending a Cumberland practice, peal or social event quite daunting unless they are properly introduced and this is one area in which you can particularly help. You might like to think about some of the following:

- it would be enormously helpful if the candidate can attend at least one practice of the Society before they are put up for membership;
- you may think it appropriate for the candidate to be included in a peal which has other Cumberland members in it, again, before the nomination form is submitted;
- encouraging the candidate to attend their nomination meeting and being on hand to introduce them personally to the officers and members is always helpful;
- encouraging the candidate to join in events, particularly in their first year of membership, will always help to make them feel more able to come on their own in future;

- arranging an occasional Cumberland local peal, possibly on peal day, or encouraging *them* to do so will also help.

If you are in *any* doubt about proposing or seconding a candidate, please do not hesitate to talk to one of the officers as soon as possible. We are always happy to give informal guidance if needed.

Once you have gone through the nomination form and procedure with the candidate, they (not you) should fill it in and send it to reach the Secretary at least one month before the business meeting at which they are being proposed for membership. Business meetings are typically held in January, March, May, July and October following Society practices. This gives time for the Secretary to publicise the name of the candidate at a practice within a month of the meeting taking place.

Although it is possible for a candidate to be elected without being present at their nomination meeting, we strongly recommend that they attend along with both their proposer and seconder whenever possible. (The most common exception is when a candidate resides outside the UK.)

The minimum age for membership is 14 though nominations for candidates under 18 must be countersigned by a parent or guardian.

A completed nomination form must be received by the Secretary at least one month before the business meeting at which the candidate is to be proposed for election. Candidates' names will normally be publicised to members at a practice within that month. Proposers must be present at the business meeting. Seconders, if unable to be present, may arrange for another member to act on their behalf or may second their candidate by letter. Special provisions apply where candidates and proposers/seconders are all permanently resident outside the British Isles. Candidates are encouraged to attend their nomination meeting where possible. The lifetime membership fee is £25 payable to the Treasurer once the election process is complete.

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