



Promoting musical excellence
through the medium of handbells

Dear Ringer,

Thank you for your interest in ringing with Bells of the Lakes. This letter will give you some information about the interview process and schedule.

Attached you will find the following:

1. **Application:** This will help us to get to know you and give us an idea of your ringing abilities prior to the audition.
2. **Calendar:** Our current rehearsal and performances are attached or on our website: www.bellsofthelakes.org.
3. **Responsibilities of Membership:** All members of the ensemble are required to sign and return this form to the manager of Bells of the Lakes.

As a prospective ringer, your handbells skills and your musicianship will be important. Also important, are your attitude, attendance and preparation.

There will be 2 parts to the audition process.

Individual Audition: **A)** Musicianship, technical ability and flexibility will be assessed. You will be asked to demonstrate sight reading ability, perform bell Techniques (weaving, four in hand (optional), etc.), read and execute rhythmic passages, etc. **B)** You will meet with the Bells of the Lakes Chair and Manager to discuss Ringer Responsibilities, calendar, etc. Please bring your calendar to this meeting and be prepared to discuss schedules.

Group Audition: You will be observed as you relate to the entire ensemble. Focus will be on your ability to play individual parts correctly while interacting with the director and listening to the overall group for a “musical” performance. Dynamics, bringing out melody, phrasing will all be included.

We all want to achieve the highest goals but we do make mistakes as ringers. We help each other to learn and grow through the process of getting ready for concerts, etc.

Contact me for an Individual Audition time as listed and if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jan Rasmussen
Manager, Bells of the Lakes