
Conducting the St Martin's group

The St Martin's group consists of St Simon's, St Martin's, St Osmund's and Eynesbury. The backwork and structure of all four methods is identical, the only difference is the frontwork. They are all called in the same way.

Calling the St Martin's group

As the bobs in this group are the same as those in Plain Bob Doubles, calling positions will be familiar to anyone who has called Plain Bob Doubles:

- Making long fifths: unaffected
- About to dodge 3-4 down: run in
- About to make 2nds: run out
- About to dodge 3-4 up: make the bob

For a touch of 120 changes, the cycle of calls is also identical to that of Plain Bob Doubles – 'Make, In, Out'.

If calling by where you pass the treble, the calls would be in these positions:

- Treble takes your bell off lead: run out and become third place bell
- Pass treble in 2-3: make the bob and become fourth place bell
- Pass treble in 5ths place at the back: run in and become second place bell

Conducting tips

There are a number of things that can go wrong in this group of methods – ringers leaving the back too early and trying to do the frontwork, ringers not finishing the frontwork and arriving at the back too early or ringers making trips in the frontwork.

Although Eynesbury has the simplest frontwork, it can prove surprisingly challenging for ringers to count the four blows, so watch out for ringers trying to leave the front too early.

St Osmund's wrong dodge and three blows in second can also feel strange, keep an eye on this to ensure ringers do not swap over and end up leaving the front in the wrong order.

These are not the easiest methods to correct in the event of a significant error, and even experienced conductors can struggle to fix things especially if it involves more than one ringer. As with all doubles ringing, the pieces of work come round quickly. If there are suddenly too many bells on the front or back, it may be easier to call for rounds, smile and start again.