Dear Village Ringer Audition Candidate,

I'm so pleased of your interest in *Village Ringers*. We strive to be an EXCELLENT group of handbell professionals. We work hard at our rehearsals, but have fun at the same time.

Our by-laws state our purpose as follows:

The objectives of *Village Ringers* are to:

- Attract and challenge intermediate to advanced handbell ringers through the rehearsal and performance of quality music.
- To expand the public appreciation of and interest in handbell music through engaging performances.
- To provide education to the greater community on the art of handbell ringing.
- To encourage public appreciation of and interest in handbell music.
- To have fun!

Your audition for the 2024 Christmas Concert will take place at 1:00 on September 9, 2024 at New Covenant United Methodist Church (3470 Woodridge Dr.) This is the same location where our weekly rehearsals are held – each Monday from 1:00-3:00 pm.

Your judges will be current Board Members and ringers, Amy Cornwall Robinson and Emily Spann, and me. We will determine the audition results, as required by our By-Laws.

Attached please find the following documents for your review (these can be found on our website, www.VillageRingers.com on the membership Page).

- 1) The *Village Ringers* Member Contract <u>If you are accepted as a Village Ringer, you will be required to agree to this contract.</u>
- 2) The *Village Ringers* Audition Sheet. <u>This is strictly for your information</u>. It gives you an idea of what the judges will be assessing you on.

Here's what you can expect on your audition day: There will be some simple warmup exercises, then you'll be asked to sight-read at least 2 pieces. Initially, I'll try to place you in your preferred position, or close as you can get. You'll play one of the pieces in at least 2 different positions – perhaps even reading both bass and treble clef. Please remember that, occasionally, you are called on to play in different positions in *Village Ringers*, and it's important that you're willing to challenge yourself in this way.

Once the auditions are complete, and the judges have deliberated, you will be notified the next day of the results.

Village Ringers has two main concerts – a Christmas Concert (usually early December) and a Spring Concert (usually early April). There are occasional ringing

opportunities that present themselves, but agreed on by the entire group prior to acceptance. Rehearsals take place each Monday from 1:00-3:00 at New Covenant United Methodist Church. Rehearsals begin the second Monday in September through the December concert.. You are expected to be at all rehearsals.

I'm excited for the audition process, and I look forward to our judges, once again, putting together a terrific team of musicians! In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me at bonniefisher53@gmail.com or 614-565-0953.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Fisher Director, *Village Ringers*

VILLAGE RINGERS

Member Contract

l,	, am auditioning for a position in the <i>Village Ringers</i>
handbell	ensemble.
	nitial each item below to indicate your agreement to the following ship rules as set forth by the Village Ringers, Inc. By-Laws, Section 5:
	1. Members will be selected by an impartial judge(s), along with a majority vote of the handbell ringer members of the Board, based on auditions, which will be held at least once per year. Board decisions on membership are final and not subject to any appeal authority.
	2. Membership is open to all qualified handbell ringers. All prospective members are required to audition annually for membership.
	3. Members are to be Villages Residents however, up to five (5) members may be non-residents. You must be able to faithfully attend rehearsals currently being held each Monday at New Covenant United Methodist Church, from 1:00-3:00 pm. Our winter/Christmas "segment" is from the last Monday in August through the 2 nd week in December. The spring "segment" is from the first Monday in January through the 2 nd or 3 rd week in April.
	4. Persons will be admitted to membership if they meet the criteria established by the Music Director and/or Executive Committee. Failure to continue to demonstrate an adequate skill level shall be grounds for dismissal. New members will be accepted after auditions are held each spring (dates to be determined) or when positions become available.
	5. The Secretary of Village Ringers will keep a record of attendance. Attendance for all rehearsals and performances is mandatory unless prior agreement has been approved by the Music Director. Excessive absences during the season will be grounds for dismissal. The Music Director must be notified of anticipated absences. Substitutes for performances or rehearsals may be made at the discretion of the Music Director and/or Board.
	6. All members are expected to arrive early to rehearsals and performances in order to assist in setup and to be in position to ring at the scheduled start time. Excessive tardiness shall be grounds for dismissal.

	Applicant Accepted Applicant Denied					
Do not writ	e below this line. This se	ection for Administrative Board use only.				
Bonnie Fisl	her, Music Director	Date				
		//				
Applicant N	Jame	// Date				
\$35.00 per p music). Che Cornwall Ro weeks of Se	performance segment (Wir cks made payable to "Villa bbinson. Fees may change	er, I will pay Membership Dues in the amount of other and Spring - all to be used for the purchase of age Ringers, Inc." and given to Treasurer, Amy from year to year, and will be due the first two weeks of January. NOTE: Substitutes are not				
Yes I am willing the Ringers.	No to serve as a substitute rin	ger, if not selected as a Ringer for the Village				
	9. Each member will abide by the bylaws and other regulations and policies adopted by the organization. The President of the organization we ensure that various duties required by the organization are equally divide among the membership.					
	performance segments (inger must take a leave of absence for one of the winter or spring), it is understood that, when he/she may or may not play, depending on part				
	collected within the first 2 and spring). Members will be kept reason performance segment (W	Il be determined by the Board of Directors and 2 weeks of each performance segment (winter ill be required to purchase performance attire. nable. Currently our dues are \$35.00 per Vinter – dues collected the first two weeks of es collected the first two weeks of January).				

VILLAGE RINGERS Audition Sheet

Name of Auditioner Date/Time Preferred Ringing Position									
Score on a Scale of 1-10 (10) being ex	cellent/s	skilled)						
Category	<u>Score</u>		Comments	<u>s</u>					
Sight-reading									
Sight-reading in another position									
Control of Bell Damping, Circular Motion									
Knowledge and Use of Special Techniques - Mallets, Echo, Mart, etc.									
Performance Presence – Looking Up, Confidence, Smiling, etc.									
Other General Comments									
TOTAL SCORE									
I RECOMMEND THIS CANDIDATE Yes No									
IF YES RECOMMENDED POSITION									