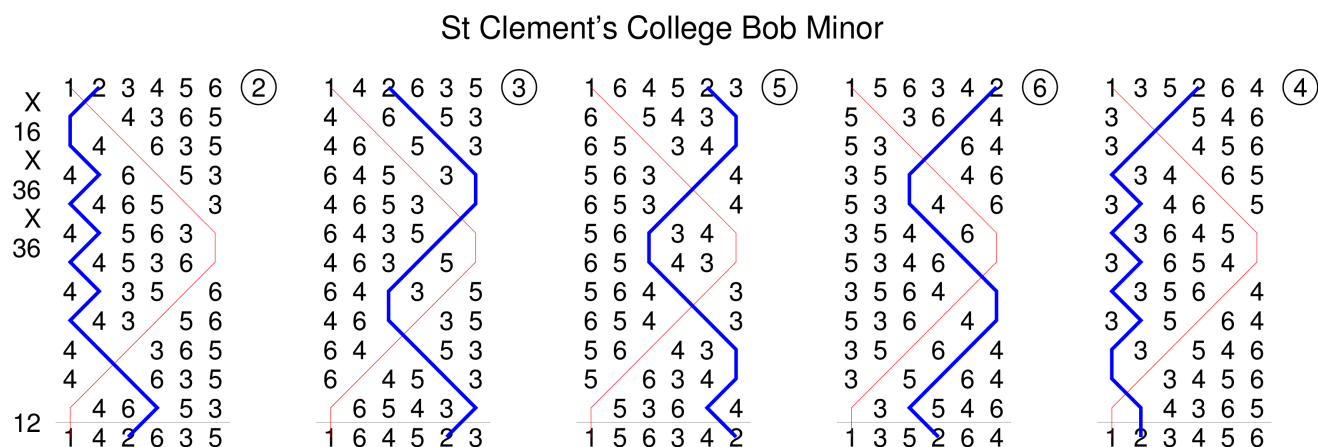
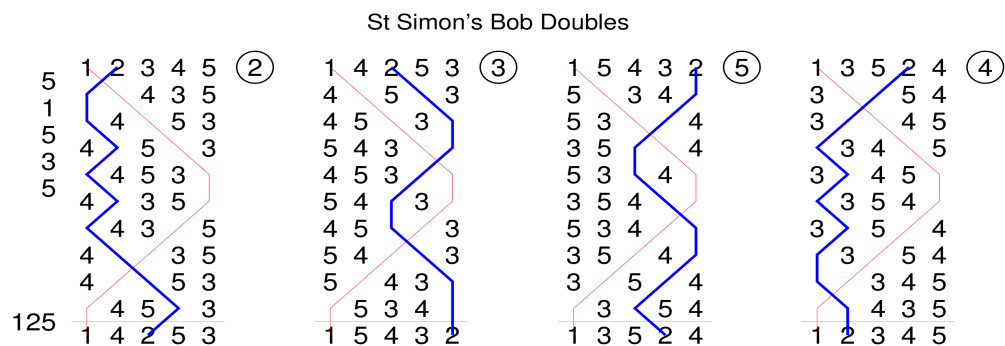


St Clement's College Bob and College Bob Minor

St Clement's is one of the essential social methods that ought to be in any ringer's repertoire; I've come across it at tower practices in Dorset, Wirral and Wiltshire. Campanophile records 200 quarter peals in the last year over the country, although only 8 were in Essex and 5 of those were at Mistley.

I'm going to assume a good working knowledge of St Simon's Bob Doubles, and St Clement's is often referred to as St Simon's on 6. Here are both for comparison.



The first thing to note is the front work: St Clement's 2nds place bell starts by leading, followed by 3 dodges to St Simon's 2. At the end of the lead, dodge 34 up exactly as in St Simon's.

Looking at the work at the lead in St Simon's, we have:
34 up, long 5ths, 34 down, 2nds

In St Clement's, the work is:
34 up, 56 up, 56 down, 34 down, 2nds.

In other words, St Clement's extends St Simon's the same way Plain Bob Minor extends Plain Bob Doubles.

As in St Simon's, when the treble moves from 2nds to 3rds place, another bell comes in to the front; the two bells on the front are now locked in place, resigned to dodging until the treble comes back from 3rds to 2nds place, releasing one of the bells from the front. A consequence of this is that when a bell has moved off the front work, whenever it hunts in from the back it can only come as far as 3rds place, until it can replace the treble coming off the front.

Interestingly, the treble passing rules are the same as in Plain Bob Minor:

2nds place on the way out	Make 2nds
3rd place on the way out	Dodge 34 up
4ths place on the way out	Dodge 56 up
5ths place on the way out	Dodge 56 down
6ths place on the way out	Dodge 34 down

The key difference from Bob Minor is that the work is done in the reverse order:

Plain Bob Minor:	34 down; 56 down; 56 up; 34 up; 2nds
St Clement's Minor:	34 up; 56 up; 56 down; 34 down; 2nds

One point to note is that when the treble leads, it is the bell in 2nds that makes the place. This means that St Clement's is classified as a Seconds Place method. The reason for mentioning this will become clear when we talk about College Bob.

Bobs and Singles

Exactly the same as Plain Bob Minor: 2nds place runs out to 3rds place, the bell dodging 34 up makes the bob (ie makes places in 4ths), and the bell that would have dodged 34 down runs in to 2nds place. In a single, the bell that makes 3rds avoids all the front work, and repeats all the back work.

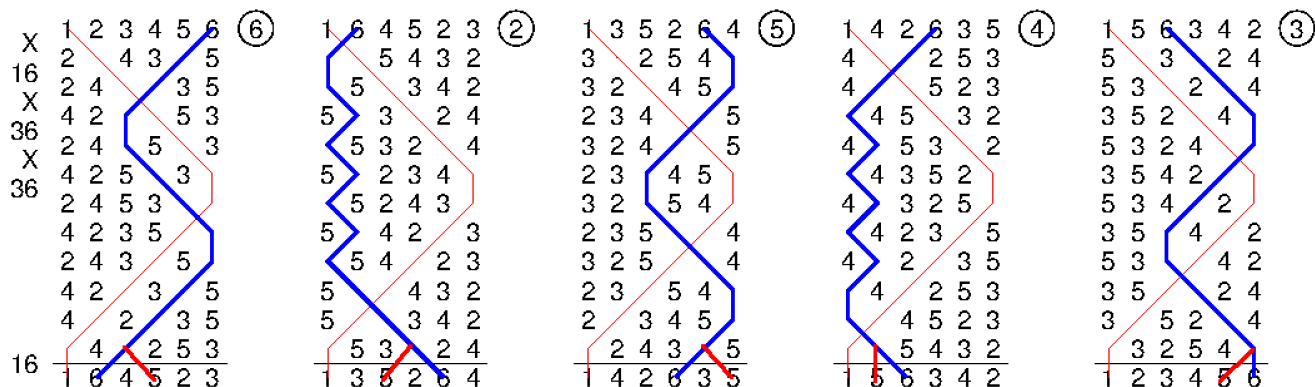
Touches

Some of the standard Plain Bob Minor touches work, but there are different touches too ...

48	[pB] x 2	Best called from the 4 who makes the bob twice
60	[B] x 5	5 consecutive bobs
96	[SB] x 4	Best called from the 4, making 2nds at the Single
96	[pBpS] x 2	Best called from the 4 who makes the bob 4 times
108	[SSp] x 3	Most easily called from the 6
120	[BBppp] x 2	Call Bob when the 6 is dodging 56 up or down
120	[BBBpp] x 2	Call Bob when the 6 is NOT dodging 56 up or down
120	[BBBBS] x 2	
144	[BBSppp] x 2	

This diagram may help show what is happening; if you can see this in colour, the red deviation at the lead shows what would have happened in St Clement's.

College Bob Minor



Take each bell in turn.

6ths place	In St Clements, you would dodge 34 down at the lead, but in College Bob run in 32 to 2nds place, and then take the treble off the lead
2nds place	Lead and triple dodge, run out; in St Clement's you would dodge 34 up, but instead run out 45 to 5ths place
5ths place	5ths place starts in the middle of St Clement's 'dodge 56 up and lie', so the next piece of work in St Clement's would be to dodge 56 down, but instead of dodging, run in 54 to become 4ths place bell
4ths place	4ths place bell runs in to the front and triple dodges before leading full; the treble takes you off and instead of making seconds (St Clement's), run out 23 (remember that the bell in 6ths is making places)
3rds place	3rds place starts in the middle of St Clement's '34 up dodge'. The next piece of work would be to dodge 56 up. However, instead of dodging 56 up, make places in 6ths instead

It is nowhere near as popular as St Clement's; Campanophile shows few quarters scored in it.

How To Ring It

Views differ! Some people learn it as a new method; personally I have enough trouble keeping one method in my head without cluttering it up with a second! Instead I learn one method thoroughly, knowing the starts of all the bells, what to do when I pass the treble and where the lead is. Specifically in St Clement's I learn where the dodge at the lead is. Ringing it, as I come to the lead dodge, I am reminding myself 'run in|out', and then pick the work up from the place bell I become. If you haven't tried the 'skip the dodge' technique yet, give it a go. And if you doubt that this is a common technique, ask experienced ringers you know what they do.

A number of people do not come across 6ths place methods until they learn Cambridge and are introduced to Primrose, but there are other 2nds place | 6ths place partnerships: here are a few

2nds place method	6ths place partner
St Clement's College Bob	College Bob
Double Oxford	London Bob
Single Oxford	Single Court
Hereward Bob	Double Court
Cambridge Surprise Minor	Primrose Surprise Minor
Ipswich Surprise Minor	Norfolk Surprise Minor

Now, for each of those pairings, I only know the Blue Line for one of them; the other I work out 'on the fly' from the 6ths place | 2nds place rule. I was introduced to Double Court early on, so think of Hereward as 2nds place Double Court, but think of London Bob as 6ths place Double Oxford.

Bobs and Singles

Being a 6ths place method, the Bobs and Singles are subtly different from St Clement's.

The Bob is exactly the same as in St Clement's:

The bell in 2 runs out to 3rds place

The bell in 3 runs in to 2nds place

The bell in 4 makes the Bob (makes 4ths)

The bell in 5 dodges in 65 ending in 5ths place [unlike the plain course where it makes places in 6ths]

The bell in 6 dodges in 65 ending in 6ths place [unlike the plain course where it runs in to 4ths place]

The Single is the same as the Bob for the bells in 2, 3 and 4

The bell in 5 makes places in 6ths, ie is unaffected

The bell in 6 has the hard time; instead of running in 54, it makes places in 5ths **and goes back out**

Touches

48	[S] x 4	4 consecutive singles
48	[SBSp]	
60	[B] x 5	5 consecutive bobs
108	[pBp] x 3	
120	[BppBp] x 2	Call Bob when the 6 is running in or out normally
120	[pBpBB] x 2	Call Bob when the 6 is NOT running in or out normally
120	[BBBBS] x 2	
144	[SB] x 6	

Can We Make It Harder?

Always! Remember I said that two bells were locked on the front until the treble came down to release one? Well, in St Clement's the bells dodge three times, but as the song goes: "It ain't necessarily so". The bells can do a mixture of places and dodges, and 7 out of the 8 theoretically-possible combinations are recognised by the Central Council; these are:

St Clement's College Bob Minor
Buxton Bob Minor
Childwall Bob Minor
Lakesend Bob Minor
Badgeworth Bob Minor
Hempsted Bob Minor
Armitage-is-the-name Bob Minor

If you fancy having a look at them, point your browser to <http://www.boojum.org.uk/cgi-bin/line.pl> and type the name in.

Other than the front work, the rest of the method is identical, and responds to the same calls.

If we include converting from a 2nds place to 6ths place method, we get

2nds Place	6ths Place
St Clement's College Bob	College Bob
Buxton Bob	Rodbourne Bob
Childwall Bob	Wavertree Bob
Lakesend Bob	Wimbotsham Place
Badgeworth Bob	Elmore Bob
Hempsted	Leckhampton Place
Armitage-is-the-name	Slaidburn Bob

An alternative approach is to change the 34 dodge in St Clement's to making places, and this changes the method to St Nicholas College Bob, and, yes, you have all the variety of front work available too. Unfortunately this trick doesn't work with College Bob, but these are enough methods to be getting on with.