



Single Handed Casting Advanced Status Syllabus

Copyright © 2014 APGAI Ireland

Revised 2018

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior permission of APGAI Ireland.

APGAI Ireland – Syllabus for the Advanced Qualification in Single Handed Casting

A. Background information

The following notes are provided as a guide to those members preparing to take APGAI Ireland's Advanced Level Qualification in Single Handed Casting. It must be noted that the Advanced Level Qualification is not available as a stand-alone competence. This qualification is available only to those members of APGAI Ireland who are already recognised as a Qualified-Level Instructor in this discipline within the Association. Only in exceptional circumstances, and at the sole discretion of the APGAI Ireland Management Committee, will any candidate be exempt from this requirement.

B. Introduction

Candidates will be examined on their ability as an Advanced Professional Game Angling Instructor in Advanced Single Handed Casting. In order to be successful at this level, an Instructor must be able to demonstrate an exceptional breadth and depth of knowledge in Single Handed Casting techniques, know the common faults associated with these and know how to correct them. Above all, the Assessors will seek the highest levels of skills in teaching Single Handed Casting.

The Advanced Single Handed Casting Assessment will consist of four parts:

Part 1: A Written Examination

Written questions comprising multiple-choice questions and others that require short sentence type answers or diagrams. (Duration 30 minutes)

Part 2: A Practical Assessment in Single Handed Casting

Candidates will be required to explain & demonstrate their ability to perform all of the casts and techniques listed below as well as to analyse and correct the common faults associated with them.

Part 3: Knots, Entomology and General Theory

Candidates will be asked demonstrate several (but not all) of the commonly used knots listed in Section 10 below, to explain basic entomology as per Section 11 below and to answer questions on General Theory listed in Section 13 below. (Duration 30 minutes)

Part 4: A Teaching Presentation

The candidate will be required to deliver a single session tailored to an Advanced Level client base. Assessors will look for:

- A detailed Lesson Plan
- An in-depth subject knowledge
- Enthusiastic, sympathetic and interesting teaching techniques
- Clear and concise explanations
- Overall presentation (Duration 30 minutes)

The entire Assessment should last for at least 3 hours.

Assessment and Guidance Notes on Individual Units for Advanced Single Handed Casting

- Rod: maximum length 9 ft.
- Line: maximum weight AFTM #7
- Leader: minimum length 8 ft. (with bright yarn attached)

- Candidates may use only one rod and line for the assessment; however, we advise the candidate to bring a spare rod/line as reserve
- The candidate must have a good understanding of the tackle being used. Line profiles must be clearly understood and their uses explained.
- Variations in casting styles are acceptable if the candidate can explain and demonstrate the alternative styles.
- The test may be conducted on grass or water.
- All roll casts must unroll above the water.
- Use a high visibility floating line. It is easier for the Assessors to see and avoids the candidate being asked to repeat the cast.
- Candidates will be given 3 attempts to perform a task and reach the target unless stated otherwise.
- Candidates must be able to explain the correct power application and demonstrate the mechanics of each of the casts below and their uses; explanations must make reference to stance and grip.
- Candidates must be able to explain and demonstrate the common faults associated with each cast and be able to explain and demonstrate the correction of these faults.
- Candidates should perform all casts with ease, with tight loops (2ft. 6ins. to 3 ft.) on both forward and back casts unless instructed to open the loop size.
- Safe practice when teaching and guiding must be fully understood and explained.
- Head and eye protection are essential (e.g. cap and glasses) and must be worn during the Assessment
- Candidates must be appropriately attired (see workshop manual)
- (Candidates are reminded that the above underlined print applies in all the tasks below)

During the practical assessment, the following will apply:

- Measured distances will be from caster's foot to the wool i.e. including the leader
- Casts specified TO a distance means you must shoot line TO that distance
- Casts specified OF a distance means no hauling or shooting line is permitted unless requested.

THE PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT IN SINGLE HANDED CASTING:

- During the Assessment, the Assessors will introduce a split cane or fibreglass fly rod.
- During the Assessment, the Assessors will supply a rod equipped with sink rate 3 line to assess the candidate's ability to demonstrate and teach with sinking lines
- In the Double Haul Assessment, the Assessors will introduce a tip action rod with a shooting head in order to assess the candidate's ability to demonstrate and teach the use of shooting heads.

OVERHEAD CAST

Task 1: Demonstrate a minimum of six overhead casts using one hand (right and left shoulder) OF 45 feet.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 2: From a seated position, demonstrate an overhead cast OF 45 feet.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 3: Demonstrate an overhead cast OF 45 feet, taking wind conditions into account, i.e. side wind (left and right), tail and head wind.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 4: False cast continuously in the vertical plane and at a distance OF 45 feet. Cast tight/open loops on command.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 5: Explain and demonstrate a cast OF 45 feet, shooting line TO 55 feet on command.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 6: During a cast OF 45 ft., explain and demonstrate a tailing loop in the forward cast on command

- Explain and demonstrate the main causes of tailing loops and how to correct them.

Task 7: Explain and demonstrate a cast TO targets at 30, 40 and 55 feet. Start with the middle target, then the farthest and finish with the nearest. (The wool must land within 15 inches of the target.)

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

SIDE CAST

Task 8: Explain and demonstrate a side cast to the right side, false casting 45 feet and shooting TO 55 feet on command. (Side casts are 90° to vertical)

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 9: Explain and demonstrate a side cast to the left side, false casting 45 feet and shooting TO 55 feet on command. (Side casts are 90° to vertical)

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 10: Assessors will provide a rod equipped with a sink-rate 3 fly line (Di3). The candidate will be required to explain and demonstrate sunk-line casting techniques for an overhead cast and a roll cast.

- Explain and demonstrate casts OF 45 feet and shooting TO 55 feet

Task 11: A split cane or fibreglass rod will be introduced to the candidate.

- Explain and demonstrate the different techniques required with this type of equipment to make a cast OF 45 feet and shooting TO 55 feet.

MEND CASTS

Task 12: Explain and demonstrate an aerial mend around a target at 15, 25 and 35 feet (first to the right of, then to the left of targets)

- Leader must straighten on completion of cast.
- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 13: Perform a Reach Cast to the right to a target at a distance OF 45 feet. Then a Reach cast to the left of a target at a distance OF 45 feet.

- The candidate should be able to slip line on reach casts; line should be straight from rod tip to target on completion.
- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

SLACK LINE CASTS

Task 14: Explain and demonstrate a Wiggle Cast, both loose and tight. (Wide wiggles are 30 inches plus and tight wiggles are 20 inches or less)

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it.
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 15: Explain and demonstrate a Parachute/Pile Cast

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

SALT WATER CAST

Task 16: Pick up 45ft. of line and deliver the wool tag TO a target at 180°

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

BELGIAN CAST

Task 17: Perform a Belgian Cast OF 45 feet off chosen shoulder, shooting line TO 55 feet

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

DOUBLE HAUL

Task 18: Explain and demonstrate continuous double haul casting, showing good timing and technique, using a closed stance and casting TO 55 feet. Repeat using an open stance.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 19: Demonstrate a single haul on the back cast only, casting distance OF 55 feet. Repeat with single haul on the forward cast only.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 20: Distance cast - using a double haul technique, cast TO a minimum distance of 80 feet. Cast to be performed in the open stance.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.
- (10% reduction in distance for female candidates)

Task 21: Distance cast on opposite shoulder using double haul. Cast TO a minimum distance of 70 feet.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.
- (10% reduction in distance for female candidates)

Task 22: Saltwater Cast - with fly in hand and 30 feet of line outside the top eye of the rod and 30 feet of fly line held in loops in the line hand, demonstrate a cast TO 60 feet explaining the line management technique. Maximum of 3 false casts.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 23: Assessors will introduce a rod equipped with a shooting head. Explain and demonstrate a distance cast using a shooting head. The candidate will be expected to explain different types of running line and will be expected to understand and explain head length, over-lining and under-lining.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

ROLL CAST

Task 24: Explain and demonstrate a basic static roll cast OF 50 feet over the right shoulder.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 25: Explain and demonstrate a basic static roll cast OF 50 feet over the left shoulder.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 26: Explain and demonstrate roll casting in all winds with reference to safety.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 27: Explain and demonstrate, from the seated position, a roll cast pick-up OF 45 feet.

- Explain the uses and mechanics of the cast and be able to teach it
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

SPEY CASTS

Task 28: Explain and demonstrate a forward Spey cast OF 45 feet shooting TO 55 feet.

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 29: Explain and demonstrate a Single Spey OF 45 feet on the left bank, first with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 30: Explain and demonstrate a Single Spey OF 45 feet on the right bank, first with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 31: Explain and demonstrate a Double Spey OF 45 feet on the left bank, first with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 32: Explain and demonstrate a Double Spey OF 45 feet on the right bank, first with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 33: Explain and demonstrate a Snake Roll OF 45 feet, on the left bank, with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°.

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 34: Explain and demonstrate a Snake Roll OF 45 feet, on the right bank, with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°.

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 35: Explain and demonstrate a Snap-T cast OF 45 feet, on the right bank with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°.

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 36: Explain and demonstrate a Snap-T cast OF 45 feet, on the left bank with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°.

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 37: Explain and demonstrate a Circle 'C' Cast OF 45 feet, on the right bank, with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°.

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 38: Explain and demonstrate a Circle 'C' Cast OF 45 feet, on the left bank, with a change of direction of 45° then a change of 90°.

- Explain the uses of this cast and demonstrate it with particular reference to safety and the relevant parts and rules of Spey casting
- Explain and demonstrate faults associated with the cast.

Task 39: Role Play/Teaching Scenario: the candidate will be given a scenario whereby he/she will be asked to teach a specific cast to one of the Assessors who will undertake the role of a beginner client.

This concludes the Practical Casting Assessment.

9: FAULT RECOGNITION, CAUSES AND CORRECTIONS

During the Practical Assessment session the candidate will be asked to identify and demonstrate faults related to each cast and should be able to explain their cause and appropriate correction. There will also be some questions on this topic in the Written Examination.

10. KNOTS

The candidate should be able to tie the following knots and explain their use:

- Double (Full) blood
- Half-blood/Clinch knot
- Tucked Half-blood/Improved Clinch knot
- Double Grinner
- Single Grinner
- Perfection loop
- Surgeon's knot, Surgeon's loop.
- Turtle knot
- Nail knot
- Needle knot
- Jansik Special

11. ENTOMOLOGY & GENERAL THEORY

These items will be assessed during the Written Examination and also by oral questioning.

READING LIST

The following list, which is not in any particular order, will help you broaden your perspective. It is not possible to emphasize any particular one. Availability alone may be a substantial limitation as some titles are only available second-hand or through Public Libraries. You should focus on those that appeal to you most and appear most helpful.

Title	Author	Publisher
Master the Cast	George V. Roberts Jr.	McGraw-Hill
Nature of Flycasting	Jason Borger	Shadow Caster Press
The Cast	Ed Jaworowaski	Swan Hill Press
Troubleshooting the Cast	Ed Jaworowaski	Stackpole Books
Flycasting Accuracy	Joan Wulff	The Lyons Press
The Essence of Fly Casting	Mel Krieger	Countryman
Flycasting Handbook	Macauley Lord	The Lyons Press
Advanced Fly Casting	Lefty Kreh	The Lyons Press
The Technology of Fly Rods	Don Philips	Frank Amato Publications Inc
Longer Fly Casting	Lefty Kreh	Lyons & Burford
Inshore Flyfishing	Lou Tabory	Lyons & Burford
Spey Casting	Gawesworth	Stackpole Books
Fish On	Floyd Frankie	The Derrydale Press
Two Handed Fly Casting	Al Buhr	Frank Amato Publications Inc
The Pocket Guide to Fishing Knots	Peter Owen	Merlin Unwin Books
Matching the Hatch	Pat O'Reilly	Swan Hill Press
Modern Fly Lines	Bruce Richards	Odysseus Editions Inc
Fly Fishing in Ireland	Peter O'Reilly	Merlin Unwin Books