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| Scottish Game Angling Instructors Certificate |
| Single Handed Syllabus |
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| **Revised November 2024** |
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**Tackle**

Single handed fly rod with a maximum length of 9’6” rated for a maximum of a #7 line and floating fly line that balances the chosen rod for the purpose of teaching a novice caster. Leader length for assessment must be 9’ minimum and fitted with a wool tag.

Please bring with you any visual aids you may use while teaching.

Suitable clothing for the assessment includes chest waders, jacket, eye protection, and safety equipment etc.

**What you need to know**

Unless stated otherwise, all distances are measured from the reel and do not include the leader. Minimum casting distance for all (Roll, Spey & Overhead) casts when not shooting line is 40’.

A - You will be examined in detail on your knowledge of the mechanics of each cast and your ability to teach in a clear and concise manner including stance, grip, wrist, arm and body movements, the length of stroke, size of arc and correct application of force. You will also be tested on your ability to diagnose faults, clearly demonstrating both the fault itself and its correction. In teaching the casts, assessors will be looking for the use of external cues wherever possible.

B - Casts will normally be carried out on water whilst wading up to thigh depth (and/or off the water at the discretion of the assessors or adverse weather conditions).

C - Casts must be performed with a smooth acceptable, style and consistency that demonstrates excellent line control, good timing and without the appearance of slack line during the casts. Variations in casting style are acceptable provided they are deemed to be teachable and the candidate can demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the alternatives and discuss the merits of each. Loops should be well formed, not open and without tails unless requested by examiners. Anchors must come in straight, tight, and without a crash. Anchors and D loops must be in line with intended target unless requested otherwise.

D - The casts may be performed in any order at the discretion of the assessors or candidate with mutual consent. There will be at least two assessors for every assessment.

**Content:**

**1 a) Safety** – An overview on the dangers associated with angling and the environment, efficient use of safety equipment and best practice.

**b) Tackle** – A description on how the outfit works and the best choices of outfit for certain fishing situations. Ability to describe modern line systems other than those used for the test and their pros & cons is expected.

**2 – Overhead Cast.**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of line outside of the tip unless otherwise stated, clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight. Loops should be well formed, without appearance of slack line and without tailing loops, unless specifically requested. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the cast.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the cast.

B) Pros and cons of this cast.

C) Pick up & lay down over both shoulders.

D) Discuss and demonstrate adjustments for head, tail & side winds.

E) Continuous cycle of 6 false casts using rod hand only over both shoulders and shoot 10’ of line.

F) Continuous cycle of false casts changing from narrow to open loops on command.

G) Demonstrate slow, medium and fast paced false casting whilst maintaining clean loops.

H) Overhead Cast changing plane from vertical to horizontal off both shoulders.

H) Overhead Cast with a 30 degree change of direction.

I) Overhead Cast with a deliberate tail on forward & back casts.

J) Demonstrate common faults and cures.

K) The use of The Triangle Method for teaching overhead casts

**3 – Presentation and Accuracy**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of line outside of the tip unless otherwise stated, clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight. Loops should be well formed, without appearance of slack line and without tailing loops unless specifically requested. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the cast.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Casting to a 36” target at distances of 15’, 30’ & 45’.

B) Reach Cast right.

C) Reach Cast right shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

D) Reach Cast left.

E) Reach Cast left shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

F) Common faults and cures.

**4 – Hauling**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of line outside of the tip unless otherwise stated, clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight. Loops should be well formed, without appearance of slack line and without tailing loops unless specifically requested. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the haul and hauled casts. Distance cast is measured from feet to fly (leader length is included).

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the haul

B) Pros and cons of Single and Double Haul casting.

C) A single haul on an overhead back-cast.

D) A single haul on an overhead forward cast.

E) Continuous double haul casting for 5-6 false casts, closed stance, over both shoulders.

F) Continuous double haul casting for 5-6 false casts, open stance, off both shoulders.

G) A distance cast of a minimum of 70' and 65’ off shoulder.

H) Faults and cures.

I) The use of The Triangle Method in teaching the Double Haul.

**5 - Roll Cast.**

Casts must be performed with clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the cast.

B) Pros and cons of this cast.

C) Static Roll Cast with a minimum of 30’ of fly line outside of the rod tip off both shoulders.

D) Roll cast as above and shoot a minimum of 5’ off both shoulders.

E) Roll cast into headwind.

F) Roll cast with tail wind.

G) Demonstrate common faults and cures.

**6 – Jump Roll Cast (Forward Spey).**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of fly line outside of rod tip with clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight, well-formed D-loops aligned with the target, and straight minimal anchor. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the cast.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the cast.

B) Pros and cons of this cast.

C) Jump Roll cast off both shoulders.

D) Jump Roll Cast shooting a minimum of 10’ of line, off both shoulders.

F) Discuss and demonstrate adjustments for head, tail & side winds.

G) Demonstrate common faults and cures.

**7 – Single Spey Cast.**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of line outside of the tip, clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight, well-formed D-loops aligned with target and straight minimal anchor. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the cast.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the cast.

B) Pros and cons of the cast.

C) Single Spey cast to 45 degrees, and 90 degrees off both shoulders.

D) Single Spey Cast to 45-degrees, and 90 degrees off both shoulders shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

E) Discuss and demonstrate adjustments for head, tail & side winds.

F) Demonstrate common faults and cures.

**8 – Circle Cast.**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of line outside of the tip, clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight, well-formed D-loops aligned with target and straight minimal anchor. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the cast.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the cast.

B) Pros and cons of the cast.

C) Circle cast to 45-degrees over both shoulders.

D) Circle cast to 45-degrees over both shoulders shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

E) Circle cast to 90-degrees over both shoulders.

F) Circle cast to 90-degrees over both shoulders shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

G) Discuss and demonstrate adjustments for head, tail & side winds.

H) Demonstrate common faults and cures.

**9 – Double Spey Cast.**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of line outside of the tip, clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight, well-formed D-loops aligned with target and straight minimal anchor. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the cast.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the cast.

B) Pros and cons of this cast.

C) Double Spey to 45-degrees over both shoulders.

D) Double Spey to 45-degrees over both shoulders shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

E) Double Spey to 90-degrees over both shoulders.

F) Double Spey to 90-degrees over both shoulders shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

G) Discuss and demonstrate adjustments for head, tail & side winds.

H) Demonstrate common faults and cures.

**10 – Snake Roll Cast.**

Casts must be performed with a minimum of 30’ of line outside of the tip, clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air and land straight, well-formed D-loops aligned with target and straight minimal anchor. Discuss mechanics and objectives of the cast.

**Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:**

A) Objectives of the cast.

B) Pros and cons of this cast.

C) Snake Roll to 45-degrees over both shoulders.

D) Snake Roll to 45-degrees over both shoulders shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

E) Snake Roll to 90-degrees over both shoulders.

F) Snake Roll to 90-degrees over both shoulders shooting a minimum of 10’ of line.

G) Discuss and demonstrate adjustments for head, tail & side winds.

H) Demonstrate common faults and cures.