International Federation of FLY FISHERS

Globally Conserving, Restoring, Educating Through Fly Fishing

Fly Casting Instructor (CI)

Performance Test -- Evaluation Form

Candidate: _____ Date: _____

Lead Examiner: _____ Venue: _____

What is Expected of Candidates?

The candidate must demonstrate the high standard of performance expected of a Certified Casting Instructor, which would create confidence in students and other instructors. The candidate must attempt all tasks. In order to pass, a candidate must pass all of the Teaching tasks (16-22) and fail no more than two of the first 15 tasks. **The Performance Exam will have an approximate time of two hours in length. It is recommended the teaching tasks (16-22) will take 45 minutes (approximately 7 minutes per task) and the performance tasks 1 hour and 15 minutes.**

Candidates should accomplish most tasks quickly and easily in no more than three attempts, accompanied by good demonstrations and, when requested, clear, concise explanations. Demonstrations must match explanations. **Candidates may be requested to explain and demonstrate how they would teach any of the casts included in this performance test**. Candidates should expect examiners to ask them to expand or give greater detail on any task in order to confirm knowledge or skills.

Loops are expected to have reasonably parallel legs and be approximately 4 ft. (1.22 meters) in width or less unless otherwise requested within a task. The loop size will be measured from the fly leg to the rod leg of the fly line as the nail knot (fly line to leader connection) passes the rod tip, measured approximately 3-4 feet back from the leading edge of the loop . Tailing loops are not acceptable at any time during the performance test, except when requested within a task.

It is recommended that the roll casting tasks take place on water. Candidates are expected to perform all roll casts with a technique suitable for casting on water, regardless of the actual testing surface. When testing is not on water, examiners will make allowances for such things as a leader not straightening or not reaching the required distance. If water is unavailable, a tool may be used to simulate water tension.

When overhead or demonstration cast is specified for the task the pickup cast must be an overhead cast and **shall not** be an elliptical, swing around, "Belgium" or "Gebetsroither" cast.

Prior to the test beginning, the candidate will announce which hand will be the dominant hand for the examiners. All off shoulder cast will be performed off the opposite shoulder using the dominant hand.

All tasks must be performed with the same rod and line except In the event of equipment failure. Replacement equipment must meet the test requirements. When there is a wind, the casting direction will be at the discretion of the candidate. Lengths of line to be cast when specified are measured from the caster to the fly. **Marking the fly line to indicate specific distances required in the accuracy tasks is prohibited.** Hitting a target while executing a task is required only when specifically requested in the task.

Candidate's Equipment:

Rod: 9ft. (2.74 m) rod maximum.	***Rod Length***: _____
Line: 7-wt maximum.	***Line Weight:*** _____
Leader: 7½ ft. (2.3 m) minimum with yarn fly	***Leader Dimensions:*** _____

In all cases, the candidate must demonstrate the good, relaxed form that would be expected of an IFFF Certified Instructor, which would instill confidence in students. This is not a matter of requiring several attempts to accomplish a task.

Recommended scoring:

P = Pass / B = Borderline / F = Fail

B (borderline) can be scored when a task performance is uncertain as a P (pass) or F (fail).

Two B scores is the equivalent to one F (1B=1/2 F). To highlight a level of P (pass) performance for debriefing purpose, P+ or P- can be noted.

Part One: Casting Demonstrations

CONTROL CASTS:

Loop Control – Rod Hand Only

____ 1. Demonstrate a minimum of six false casts with controlled narrow loops on both the forward and back casts at 40 feet (12.2 meters).

Expectations: Narrow loops (4 feet /1.22 meters or less), parallel loop legs, consistent in size and shape front and back. Slow to medium speed.

(____) Tailing loops (____) Loops too wide, more than 4 feet (1.22m) (____) Loop legs out of parallel (____) Loop size inconsistent (____) casting too fast (____) Other

Comments: _____

____ 2. Casting 40 feet (12.2 meters), demonstrate very wide loops on the forward cast on command.

Expectations: On command, the forward loops should exceed the width of the back loops by 3-4 feet (0.91-1.22m) or more. Forward and back loops should be in the same plane.

(____) Tailing loops (____) Wide loop too narrow (____) Wide loop not cast on command (____) Other

Comments: _____

____ 3. Casting 40 feet (12.2 meters), demonstrate a tailing loop on a forward cast. After a series of false casts, the candidate will announce his/her intent to form a tailing loop, which will be formed on the next forward cast.

Expectations: The top leg of the loop clearly crosses the bottom leg and is easily seen. The cast is done at a slow to medium speed. The top leg must cross the bottom leg as a result of concavity of the tip path as opposed to gravity. The tailing loop shall not be caused by a deliberate upward movement of the rod tip on the forward cast.

An examiner may ask a candidate to demonstrate a second manner of causing a tailing loop, if the tailing loop was caused in a manner inconsistent with typical faults that cause tailing loops.

(_____) Did not tail when stated (_____) Speed of cast was too fast (_____) Top leg of the loop did not cross the bottom leg in an easily seen manner (_____) Other

Comments: _____

Line Control

_____ 4. Casting 40 feet (12.2 meters), demonstrate two reach mends to the left. The first reach mend will be made without slipping line. The second reach mend will include slipping line. The candidate may be asked to explain the uses of the casts with and without slipping/shooting line.

Expectations: The final rod position should be at 45 to 90 degrees to the direction of the cast. The line should land in a straight line from the fly to the rod tip. The fly should land near a chosen target.

(_____) Final position of line and leader not straight (nearly straight is the expectation) (_____)Line and leader dragged into position after the line/leader landed on the ground (_____) Could not do the reach mend both ways (_____) Poor explanation (_____) Other

Comments: _____

____ 5. Casting 40 feet (12.2 meters), demonstrate two reach mends to the right. The first reach mend will be made without slipping line. The second reach mend will include slipping line. The candidate may be asked to explain the uses of the casts with and without slipping/shooting line.

Expectations: The final rod position should be at 45 to 90 degrees to the direction of the cast. The line should land in a straight line from the fly to the rod tip. The fly should land in the direction of the cast.

(_____) Final position of line and leader not straight (nearly straight is the expectation) (_____) Line and leader dragged into position at completion of the cast (_____) Could not do the reach mend both ways (_____) Poor explanation (_____) Other

Comments: _____

____ 6. Casting to a distance of 40 feet 12.2 meters), make a series of casts beginning with the rod vertical and progressing to horizontal over a series of 6 to 8 casts. The candidate will make two false casts at each position, using the rod hand only.

Expectations: Candidate should increase line speed from vertical to horizontal while maintaining good loops of a consistent size with no ticking.

(_____) Did not progress from vertical to horizontal (a 90 degree change) (_____) Line speed did not increase significantly as angle changed (_____) Loop size not consistent (_____) Ticked (either ground or water) (_____) Other

Comments: _____

____ 7. Casting 40 feet (12.2 meters), make two slack line presentations with the fly landing at 30 feet (9.1 m). One presentation is to be made as a slack line cast with no aerial mend. The second presentation is to be the result of an aerial mend(s), using the rod hand only.

Expectations: The slack would achieve a drag free drift; the fly and leader must land in front of the fly line and nearly straight.

(___) Did not create slack that would result in a drag free drift (____) Did not create slack in two different ways (____) Fly did not land in front of the fly line and leader

Comments: _____

____ 8. Demonstrate slow, medium and fast false casting at 40 feet (12.2 meters) on command, using the rod hand only.

Expectations: The candidate must maintain consistent loop size and shape as false casting speed changes. There must be a noticeable difference in speed between slow, medium and fast false casting.

(_____) Inconsistent loop size (_____) Not enough change in casting speed between slow, medium and fast false casting (_____) Other

Comments: _____

Roll Casts-Rod Hand Only

_____9. Demonstrate narrow loop and wide loop roll casts at 40 feet (12.2 meters) with the leader straightening.

Expectations: The D loop (the back loop) should be established by slowly dragging the line into position without the fly leaving the water surface; D loop must be positioned behind the caster; the anchor point should be even with or slightly ahead of the caster; the D loop should be static (or stopped) before the forward cast; the narrow roll cast loop should unroll above the water or surface; there should be a distinct difference in the sizes of the narrow and wide loops, which would be easily seen by a student.

(_____) Did not reach the required distance (_____) Leader did not straighten (relatively straight is the expectation) (_____) D loop and/or anchor not properly positioned (_____) Narrow roll cast loop failed to unroll above the water or surface (_____) Rod hand did not pause before forward cast (_____) Wide loops were not distinctly different in size (_____) Other

Comments: _____

____ 10. Demonstrate a roll cast at 40 feet (12.2 meters) over the opposite shoulder with the leader straightening.

Expectations: The D loop (the back loop) should be established by slowly dragging the line into position without the fly leaving the water (surface); D loop must be positioned behind the caster; the anchor point should be even with or slightly ahead of the caster; the D loop should be static (or stopped) before the forward cast; the roll cast loop should be elliptical and unroll above the water or surface; and the rod's tip path must begin and finish over the opposite side of the caster's body.

(_____) Did not reach the required distance (_____) Leader did not straighten (relatively straight is the expectation) (_____) D-loop and/or anchor not properly positioned (_____) Roll cast loop failed to unroll above the water surface (_____) Rod hand did not pause before forward cast (_____) On forward cast, rod tip path did not remain on opposite side of caster's body (_____) Other

Comments: _____

____ 11. Demonstrate a roll cast pick-up at 40 feet (12.2 meters) and explain when this cast might be used.

Expectations: This cast should begin with the fly approximately 40 feet from the candidate; the roll cast should raise the fly from the water/ground; the fly should remain airborne (no ticking) until the completion of the delivery cast.

(_____) Roll cast did not raise the fly from the water/ground (_____) Fly did not remain airborne (_____) Explanation was deficient (_____) Other

Comments: _____

ACCURACY CASTS-ROD HAND ONLY

____ 12. Beginning with the fly in hand, present the fly to targets at 20, 30 and 45 feet (6.1, 9.1, 13.7m). The candidate shall begin this task with the line extended to 55 feet (16.7m) and then strip in the line until only 4 to 5 feet of fly line is beyond the rod tip. The line shall be adjusted during false casting between the targets. Once the desired amount of line is established, the line hand shall cease being used and casting should occur using the rod hand only. If the candidate misses the first target at 20 feet (6.1m), the candidate will strip in the line until 4 to 5 feet (1.2-1.5m) of fly line is beyond the rod tip and begin again with the fly in hand. If the candidate misses the second (30' 9.1m) or third (45' 13.7m) target, the candidate will strip in the line to the previous target. A candidate is allowed three attempts per target. Allowances should be made for adverse conditions.

Expectations: The fly shall land within a 30 inch (76 cm) ring or within 15 inches (38 cm) of the center of a target; loop trajectory should be adjusted as target distance changes; there should be no ticking of the fly before the presentation; the back casts should be approximately 180 degrees from the target. Loop control should be exhibited throughout the task in both forward and back casts.

(___) Fly did not land in the target (___) Did not adjust loop trajectory as distance increased (___) Fly ticked while false casting (___) Back casts not properly aligned (approximately 180 degrees from target) (___) Tailing loops (___) Open loops (___) Loop control demonstrated (___) Other

Comments: _____

_____ 13. Same as above except over opposite shoulder.

(___) Fly did not land in the target (___) Did not adjust loop trajectory as distance increased (___) Fly ticked while false casting (___) Back casts not properly aligned (approximately 180 degrees from target) (___) Tailing loops (___) Open loops (___) Other

Comments: _____

DISTANCE CASTS

_____ 14. Demonstrate continuous double haul casting. Make 6-8 false casts at 50 feet (15.2m).

Expectations: The hauls should be smooth and consistent in length and timing. The hauls should not create slack. The loops should be well formed and not exceed 4 feet (1.22m) in width or less. Forward and back casts should be in the same plane.

(___) Hauling was not smooth (___) Hauling created slack (___) Haul timing is inconsistent (___) Loops exceed four feet in width (___) Forward and back cast trajectory are not on the same plane (___) Tailing loops

Comments: _____

____15. Demonstrate a distance cast to a minimum of 75 feet (22.9 m).

Expectations: The hauls should be smooth and consistent in length and timing. The hauls should not create slack. The loops should be well formed and not exceed 4 feet (1.22m) in width. Forward and back casts should be in the same plane. False casting and shooting of the line are accomplished in a relaxed manner without overpowering. Distance is achieved with the fly landing beyond the fly line.

(____) Tailing loop(s) (____) Did not reach distance (____) Distance achieved but cast was overpowered (____) Hauling ineffective (lacked smoothness, consistency or created slack (____) Fly did not land beyond the fly line (____) Other

Comments: _____

Part Two: Teaching

The following section of the test is used to assess teaching ability. Teaching can be defined as the process of transferring knowledge and skills to another person. This does not limit the candidate from using various teaching methods to connect and transfer knowledge to the student. All teaching should be clear, concise, and organized. Teaching should be at the level specified within each task or as outlined by the lead examiner, which may include teaching an individual or a group of students. Candidates are expected to use a combination of verbal, visual, and kinesthetic teaching techniques. Casting demonstrations should be consistent with explanations. Examiners are to take into account a diversity of teaching methods; looking for key content, mechanics, and intent of each task, rather than focusing too literally on casting terminology as outlined by the IFFF. Explanations should be consistent with good casting mechanics. Candidates must pass all the teaching tasks; consequently, these **tasks are scored Pass or Fail only. The tasks will have an approximate time of 7 minutes per task: well thought out lesson plans are recommended.**

Task 16: Teach a beginning student the Pickup and Laydown (PULD) Cast:

Intent: To determine the candidate's ability to teach the Pickup and Laydown Cast at the level required for success with beginners.

Expectations:

____A.) The candidate should teach the pickup and laydown cast by providing a step-by-step description of the Pickup and lay down cast using the test rod or having the examiner become the student.

Comments:_____

Task 17: Teach a beginning student about loop formation and control:

Intent: To determine the candidate's understanding of and ability to teach loop formation and loop control at the level required for success with beginners.

Expectations:

____ A.) The candidate should describe a loop and teach the basics of loop formation.

____ B.) The candidate must exhibit an understanding of the rod tip path/loop shape relationship and convey this understanding to the student.

____ C.) The candidate is required to correct basic faults related to loop control that commonly occur when teaching students. This must include tailing loops and big loops.

Comments: _____

Task 18: Teach an intermediate caster the cause and correction of tailing loops.

Intent: To determine if the candidate's understanding of tailing loops and his/her ability to teach the cause and correction of tailing loops at the level required for success with intermediate students.

Expectations:

____A.) The candidate will describe a tailing loop and its effects on casting.

____B.) The candidate must exhibit an understanding of the rod tip path/tailing loop relationship and convey this understanding to the student.

____C.) The candidate will explain three common actions by a caster that induce tailing loops, the reason why each tailing loop occurs, and the corrections necessary to eliminate it.

____D.) The candidate will perform a demonstration of a tailing loop and its correction from one of three common actions by a caster that induces tailing loops. The examiner will select the one to be demonstrated.

Comments: _____

Task 19: Teach an intermediate caster the adjustments needed to maintain loop control when changing distance from 30 feet to 50 feet, and the reasons for those adjustments. (Hauling not allowed.)

Intent: To determine the candidates' understanding of and ability to teach adjustments needed for moving from a shorter cast to a longer cast at the level required for success with intermediate casters.

Expectations:
The candidate must exhibit an understanding of

____A.) Rod arc/rod bend/tip path relationship and convey this understanding to the student.

____B.) Line length/stroke length relationship and convey this understanding to the student.

____C.) Line length/pause duration relationship and convey this understanding to the student.

____D.) Applied force and how this should be changed at various distances. The candidate will convey this understanding to the student.

____E.) Loop size should be maintained at approximately 4 ft. (1.21 m) width or less and with a relatively straight fly (upper) leg during the casting demonstration to validate competency with above concepts.

Comments_____

Task 20: Teach the beginning student about good timing as it relates to casting.

Intent: To determine the candidate's understanding of good timing and his/her ability to teach good timing at the level required for success with beginning students.

Expectations:

____A.) The candidate will describe and demonstrate good timing and explain why it is essential to good casting.

____B.) The candidate must exhibit an understanding of the line length/pause duration relationship and convey this understanding to the student.

____C.) The candidate will describe, demonstrate, and teach the correction for the two common examples of bad timing.

Comments_____

Task 21: Demonstrate to an intermediate student how to cast with a head wind and a tail wind. Then demonstrate three methods of casting safely with the wind blowing onto the casting arm side. (Hauling is permitted.)

Intent: The intent of this task is to determine the candidate's ability to demonstrate how to handle wind blowing from three directions at the level required for success with intermediate students.

Expectations:

____A.) The candidate should explain the casting problem presented by each wind direction.

____B.) Explanations should describe how each demonstrated cast solves the problem(s) presented by each wind direction.

____C.) The candidate's explanations and demonstrations should show how the cast should be made.

____D.) The three methods of casting safely with the wind blowing onto the casting side must include a side-arm cast, a cast which places the line over the downwind shoulder, and a continuous tension cast.

Comments:_____

Task 22: Identify and correct three of the casting faults below as selected and performed by the examiner as they relate to a beginning caster. (The candidate's correction process should include both explanation and demonstration of the fault.)

Intent: To determine the candidate's ability to identify and successfully correct faults common to beginning casters through explanation and demonstration.

Expectations:

____A.) The candidate should first identify the fault as performed by the examiner.

____B.) The candidate should then correct the fault through explanation and demonstration.

____C.) Demonstration of the fault by the candidate should clearly and accurately reflect the fault identified.

____D.) All corrective explanations should be based on line/rod/caster relationships.

____E.) The faults selected will be three of the following:

1) Over use of the wrist

2) Poor stop

3) Inappropriate application of force

4) Failure to remove slack

5) Poor tracking

6) Creep.

Comments:_____

Last modified: 12/15/14