

The Loop



International Journal of Professional Fly Casting Instructors

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

All correspondence, preferably by e-mail, to be addressed to
theloop@fedflyfishers.org.

Submit article in unformatted word file. Have your article on one page (about 600 words) or two pages (1200 words), not more than three pages (1800 words without graphics). If possible include a passport type photo of yourself.

Supply following information at head of article:

Title of article

Author's name, CI/MCI/THCI/CBOG

Author's contact phone number & e-mail address

For pictures, supply captions and suggest placements.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Introducing the Editorial Board



I was appointed by the Chair, CBOG to put together an interim Editorial Board. As Editor, my aim is to have *The Loop* provide informative and/or interesting reading. If this journal proves informative, I hope that you would have picked up a pearl or two with each issue. If it makes for interesting reading I hope that you would be looking forward to be invigorated by each new issue.

Associate editors



David Lambert: The first person I invited to join the Board is David. I needed to learn the editor's craft. David is the pro. Notwithstanding his involvement with other magazines and journals as editor and contributor, he agreed to find time for *The Loop*. David is a published author and has either edited or written for the following: Grays Sporting, Fly Fishing in Salt Water, Saltwater Fly Fishing, American Angler, Fly Tyer and others, plus non-fishing magazines, e.g. Southern Living, Florida Wildlife. David is our line editor.



John Bilotta: Next I invited John to come aboard. He had expressed to me the desire to be more involved with IFFF committee work. John is particularly industrious and earnest. He is our public relations man. He is the one tugging your sleeve, asking when he may expect your forthcoming article for *The Loop*. He also browses the internet and study groups for relevant items to keep our issues current.



Carl McNeil: I approached Carl circumspectly to join the Board and was very pleased when he accepted quickly. Carl is busy as an internet entrepreneur, photographer and videographer. We will remember his New Zealand production company's film "Once In A Blue Moon" shown at the IFFF Annual Meeting this past year. Carl is our graphics specialist.

[Lester Rosenthal joined our Board for a couple of weeks but regrettably had to resign for personal reasons.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bob Eck, IFFF member:

I was most grateful when the Board decided to open *The Loop* to members, and not just limit access to certified casting instructors. I had the opportunity to access and read *The Loop* over the last few months, but recently I was denied access again. Did the Board reverse their ruling?

[Editor: The Executive Committee of the Casting Board of Governors did reverse the ruling. It is possible that the full board CBOG may ratify a decision that is more inclusive.]

Gordy Hill, CBOG:

Allow me to congratulate all of you for having turned out an outstanding issue of *The Loop*.

Steve Hollensed, CBOG:

You and your editorial team are doing a great job! I am already anticipating future issues. *The Loop* is subtitled ..."International Journal of Professional Fly Casting Instructors." This is the perfect subtitle.

Wirianto Ng, CI, Indonesia:

The beautiful creature you pictured in *The Loop* Dec 2012 is a Malaysian Red Mahseer (scientific name: *Tor tambroides*). The locals



call it "Kelah" (in Peninsular Malaysia), "Emparaw" (in Sarawak), "Pelian" (in Sabah) and "Jurung" (in Indonesia).

Kelah is considered one of Asia's prime sport fishes, famous with its strong fighting power. It can grow very big. Kelah prefers highly oxygenated water, especially large rivers with rocky, sandy and leafy bottom. Due to river pollution, illegal logging, netting, poisoning and even dynamiting, this beauty is in danger and is hard to find in the wild nowadays. It is the most expensive freshwater fish on the restaurant menu. It costs USD\$200 per kg to have it served in Indonesia. The meat is soft; people also consume the scales. Kelah feed on jungle fruits, aquatic insects (adult and nymph) and crustaceans. Mature Kelah may feed on small baitfish. Patterns such as stonefly nymph, woolly bugger and flying ant are proven to be effective.

David Diaz, CBOG:

The reception of *The Loop* issue that is now out has been uniformly positive. To the appreciation that others have voiced, I want to add mine. Thank all of you for the work. And it fits perfectly with our goal of high quality everywhere in the CICP.

Djordje Andjelkovic, MCI, THCI, Serbia:

Is it possible to include FFF Code of Angling Ethics in the instructor exam, oral or written? I find that a lot of instructors do not know this. If an instructor does not follow the Code is he in danger of losing his FFF credentials? Also what should an instructor do if he sees another instructor violating this Code?

[Editor: The International Committee recently requested that the Ethics Committee put out a Code of Ethics for Instructors and a Code of Ethics for Examiners. We hope to publish these in the near future.]

The Loop invites comments and constructive criticisms. Editing of your letter may be expected. Discourteous remarks go to the waste basket.

WHAT IS CASTING STROKE?

Soon S. Lee, CBOG, THCI

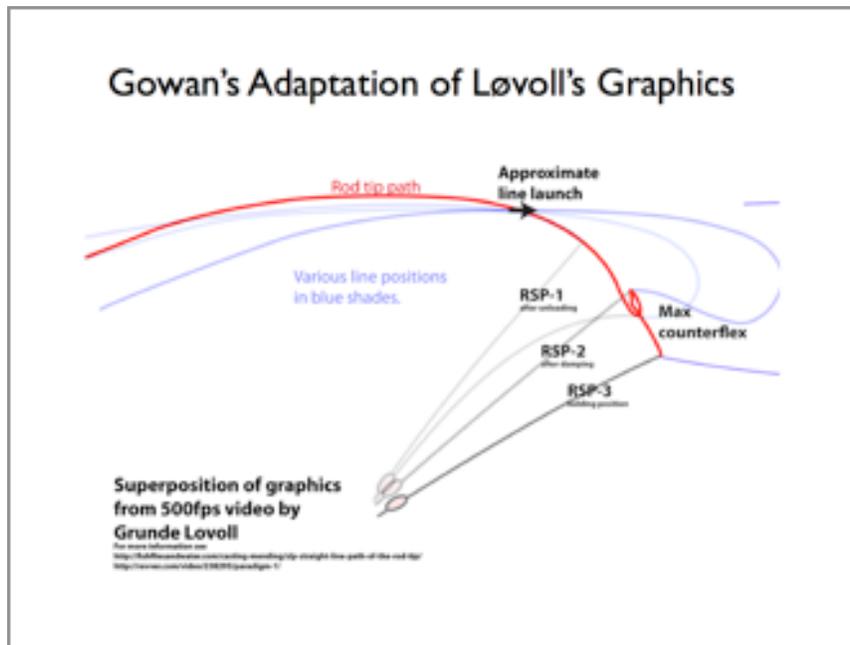


In a previous article we discussed various loop types in fly casting (“A Maze Of Loops” in *The Loop* Dec 2012). We noted that loops are characterized by the profile of their upper legs. We looked into how these loops formed in relation to rod tip paths. We should now look into how these loops form in relation to casting stroke.

A major objective of casting stroke is to produce straight line path of rod tip (SLP) so that a straight fly line may be effectively thrown to target. To help explain this the adjacent illustration is instructive. Here Ally Gowan superimposes graphics from Grunde Løvoll’s video record of a fly cast.

There are four rod positions depicted in black. Rod tip path is in red. Blue lines illustrate loops in relation to the last three sequential rod positions: Max counterflex, RSP-2 and RSP-3. Max counterflex represents the point where the unloading rod tip comes to a halt. Following this, rod tip rebounds to a rod straight position RSP-2. As the loop develops it commonly weighs on the rod tip so that its final holding position is represented by RSP-3. This illustration shows that loop has not formed yet at RSP-1 such that fly line in tow (which would be blue) is hidden by the red of rod tip path.

In the simplest sense, casting stroke is how we wield a fly rod in fly casting. This can result in just moving fly line, or more purposefully launching fly line, or even more calculatedly throwing a fly loop, or most specifically of all delivering a fly to a target. In the first instance moving the fly line without sense of purpose may not be fly casting at all, while the last example is overly specific because casting stroke would not apply unless a fly is delivered to the target. Casting stroke is currently recognized to be the motion of a fly rod until a loop is formed. Casting stroke would then end at Max counterflex. Some authors are less unequivocal and suggest that casting stroke ends when loop is forming, somewhere between RSP-1 and Max counterflex.



What is “casting stroke”?

Regardless, loop formation as a prerequisite for casting stroke causes a lot of confusion and contradiction in discussions on casting mechanics (see appendix ☆).

The author feels that a more reasonable definition would be this: casting stroke launches fly line (that is, casting stroke ends when fly line launches).

It would seem natural to consider that casting stroke begins at the start of the stroke. Yet this is also ground for argument because it involves the definitions of creep and drag. We will defer this debate on when exactly casting stroke begins to another occasion.

Launch and follow through

In baseball the pitcher winds up, accelerates his ball-in-hand toward the plate, and then lets the ball go. After the ball is launched, the pitcher's arm continues as a follow through before coming to a halt. This follow through does not affect the flight of the launched ball.

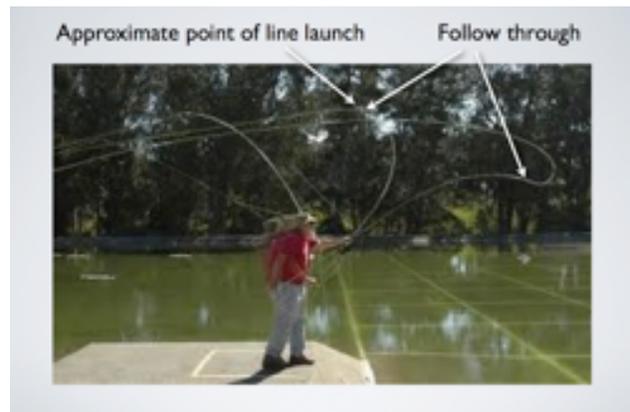
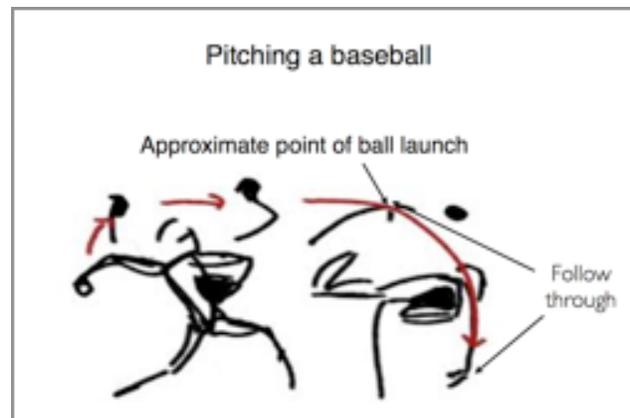
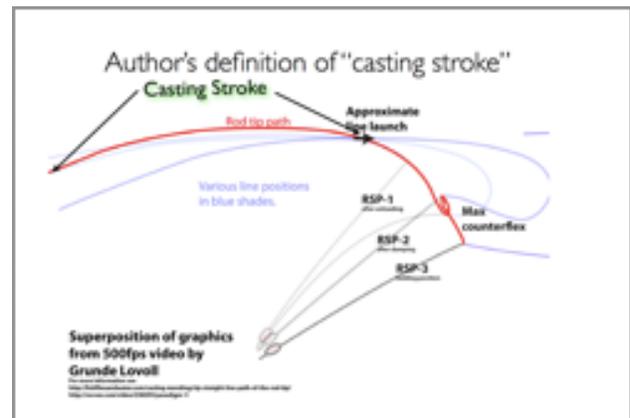
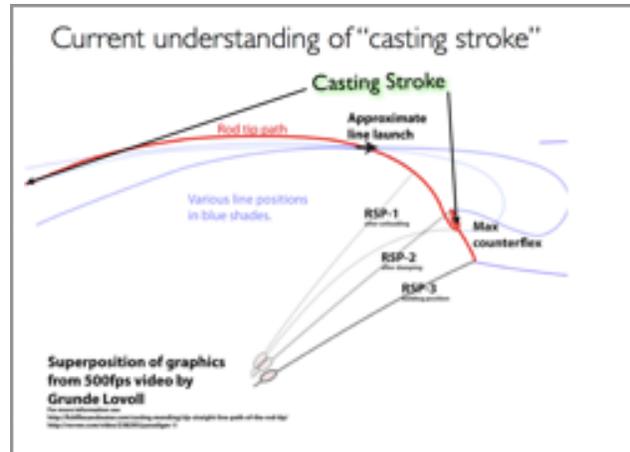
In fly casting the caster winds up by removing slack, accelerates the loaded rod toward the target, and then stops the rod to let the line go. After line is launched the rod tip continues as a follow through before rod tip comes to a halt. This follow through does not affect the flight of the launched line (unless the caster plays havoc with the rod after line launch, such as in mending).

SLP and upper leg

In baseball the ball is a conveniently packaged projectile for launching toward the plate. Fly line however is not launched as a ball of yarn.

Loading phase: In casting stroke, the preliminary rod motion to remove slack is mostly by translation (linear motion, in contrast to rotational motion). The fly line once taut exerts its maximum weight on the rod. The rod becomes optimally loaded.

Acceleration phase: When optimal rod loading is sensed by the caster he accelerates the rod tip, largely by rotational movement at the rod butt. Smooth, continuous acceleration keeps rod tip traveling in straight line path (SLP), towing



the straightened fly line following behind. SLP is an important concept in fly casting. We need SLP to launch an energized straight upper leg.

Launching straight upper leg

Unlike in baseball where the pitcher lets the energized ball go by releasing his grip, in fly casting the caster lets the energized fly line go by stopping the rod. Rod tip unbends (counterflexes). Rod tip deviates from its SLP, in effect decelerating in the direction of SLP. The energized straight line following behind overtakes the rod tip. The line launches as straight upper leg.

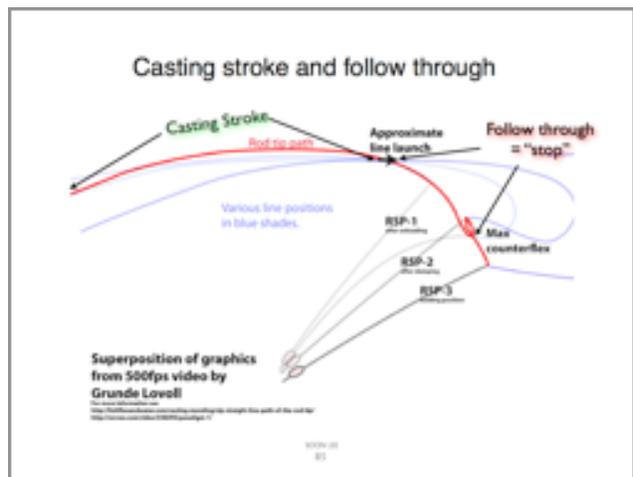
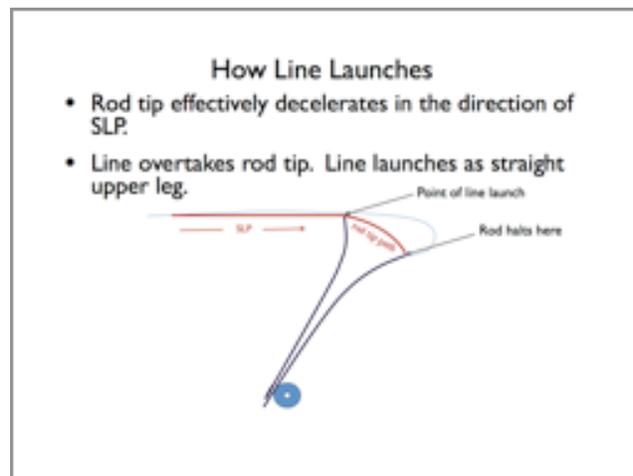
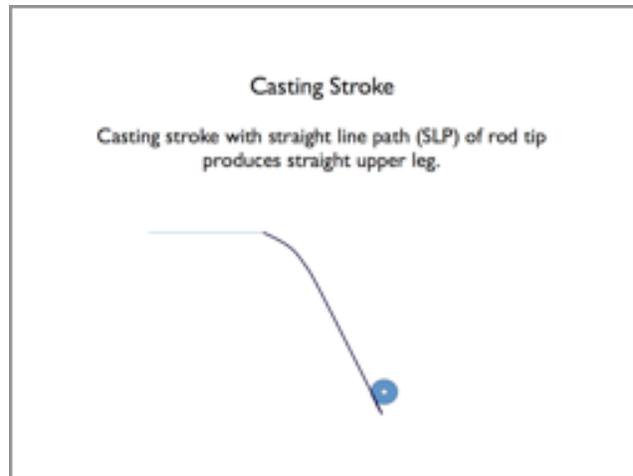
Follow through = “stop”

In baseball the ball launches free after it is let go. However in fly casting after we stop the rod to let the line go, one end of the launched line stays “tethered” to the rod tip. Loop is compelled to form while the upper leg unrolls toward the target.

There is more to discuss about “stop” but suffice it to say here that how far rod tip halts below SLP during “stop” potentially determines the size of the loop. A loop of 12”, or 24”, or 36” all vary because of their “stop.” In addition the speed (reflecting the energy) invested in the upper leg plays a secondary role to keep the lower leg taut and close.

SUMMARY

(a) Casting stroke should just represent the action that launches fly line. A loop with straight upper leg can only form when an energized straight line is launched. Launching a straight line requires SLP. SLP is an important concept in fly casting. Casting stroke governs profile of upper leg. (b) “Stop”: the follow through of rod tip after line launch serves a separate function and should be excluded from the defining parameters of casting stroke. “Stop” governs loop size and shape.

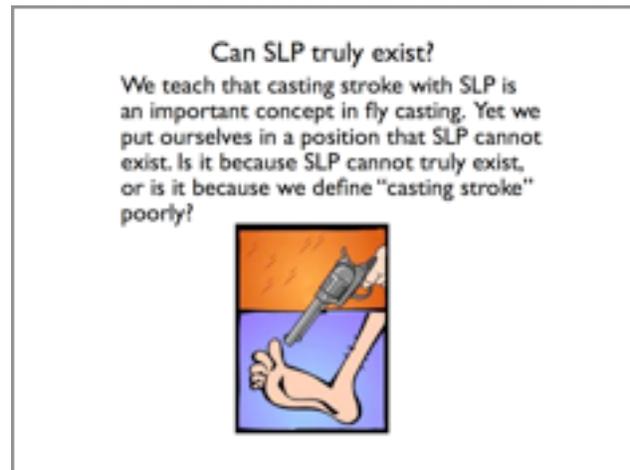


APPENDIX: ☆ How does defining casting stroke to end with loop formation cause confusion?

- 1) We teach rather plainly that casting stroke with SLP results in tight loop (narrow true loop). This is not exactly correct because SLP itself cannot dictate loop size. What we mean, without saying it, is that in tight loop the convex tip path of the follow through is minuscule and may be ignored. The author would argue that it is precisely the minuscule, brisk nature of the “stop” that is the reason for the loop to be narrow. To be correct, tight loop is the result of casting stroke with SLP coupled with a brisk “stop.”
- 2) We teach rather plainly that casting stroke with convex tip path results in wide loop. This is not exactly correct because wide loop also has straight upper leg which of necessity cannot be produced by convex tip path. If the student follows such instruction to the letter, he ends up throwing non-loop. What we mean, without saying it, is that the SLP of wide loop is taken for granted and that large loop size is the result of the convex tip path of a large “stop.” To be correct, wide loop is the result of casting stroke with SLP coupled with a large “stop.” (Open loop is the result of a brief ascending SLP followed by a large “stop” redirecting the large loop toward the target).
- 3) We teach that casting stroke with SLP is important in the launching of straight upper leg. Then we turn around and proclaim that SLP cannot actually exist because casting stroke always ends with convex tip path. The author is absolutely unable to reconcile teaching a student how casting stroke with SLP is important in fly casting and then apologizing that SLP cannot exist because of the way casting stroke is defined.
- 4) There is the odd contention that casting stroke with pure SLP cannot exist because it will only produce line collision: to throw a loop rod tip must end in a convex flourish.

It would seem that we create a poor definition and we now hope to explain our way out of its contradictions. Indeed we do need the convex flourish, but this flourish needs not be part of casting stroke.

- 5) We observe that in video studies, rod tip path has a convex lean, even before line launch. The author would remind all that gravity plays a constant role in fly casting. The caster is guided in his casting effort by the straight upper leg that he sees in front of him. His casting stroke may have a convex lean, but the Gowan-Løvoll illustration clearly shows that with time, as rod tip moves to Max counterflex and RSP-2, fly line destined to be upper leg becomes straight horizontally.



- 6) We should note that if casting stroke only applies when loop is formed, then non-loop is not thrown by casting stroke. The under-powered curve cast is thrown, not by casting stroke, but by some other maneuver yet to be named. The author anticipates though the argument that there is no such thing as a non-loop. Any line that is launched may be considered a legitimate product of casting stroke. If this is the argument why does casting stroke need to be defined to specifically end when loop is formed? Couldn't casting stroke just as well be defined to end when line launches, and set us free from the contradictions enumerated above? Let Liberty Bell ring!

MY THCI JOURNEY

Through the Tyrannies of Distance and Isolation

Bintoro Tedjosiswoyo CI, THCI



Most fly fishermen in Australia are single-handed casters and I was one of them. Then I saw an old English salmon fishing video and I became fascinated with the two-handed cast. Something about Spey casting touched my heart. Since Australia had no certified two-handed casting instructors (THCI) and at that time had only two MCIs, I began teaching myself. I bought a Sage Ille 7136 Traditional to learn with.

I watched Simon Gawesworth's first "how to" Spey-casting DVD, *International Spey Casting* to help me learn. From this, through trial and error and self-diagnosis, I managed to pick-up the basics of Spey casting.

After I gained my CI in 2008, when most of my contemporaries were pursuing their MCI certification, I decided to pursue my passion —the THCI. But I needed to upgrade my equipment. I settled on a 14-ft, 8/9-wt rod and I started practicing seriously. My goal was training to cast with my left hand, since I'm a strong right-handed caster.

The tyrannies of distance and isolation played a big part in my THCI preparation. My biggest problem was knowing if what I was doing was correct. I could only ask fellow CI/ MCIs to tell me how my loop or D-loop looked.

Later I bought Simon Gawesworth's and Al Buhr's books. By this time more DVDs and Spey casting clips had become available on YouTube. Dana's Speypages forum (speypages.com) broke my isolation and was my only link to the global Spey community.

I attended a mini-conclave in Tasmania organized by Peter Hayes MCI (recently appointed as CBOG). I took my Spey rod with me. To my surprise a few attendees were interested in Spey casting. Peter was kind enough to let me help some of the attendees

with their Spey casting. This was my first taste of teaching Spey casting. Later in the same year, Peter allowed me to run the Spey casting workshops during the Sydney and Melbourne conclaves.

I read books, watched DVDs and YouTube, but I still felt something was missing in my THCI-test preparation. During an FFF Test event in Jindabyne, Australia, I spoke to Soon Lee about my interest in THCI test. He recommended that I join Capt. Kirk's THCI Study Group. The group held a discussion solely about the test with people who aspire to get their THCI certification. Often I was just a listener, since I didn't have confidence in answering Kirk's quizzes. I'm forever grateful to Kirk and to the group for their contributions.

By 2010 I could spot casting faults and suggest fixes much quicker than in previous conclaves and I conducted the Spey casting workshop at the Melbourne Conclave. I felt more confident with my instructing and doing the workshop gave me valuable teaching experience.

By this time, although my casting was much better, I was still struggling to consistently make the distance task on the test, particularly with my weaker-hand cast. After I read Soon Lee's THCI Journey in *The Loop* newsletter, in which he mentioned that every extra foot of rod will add extra 10 feet of distance, and Aaron Reimer's post on what rods and lines to use for the THCI Test at speypages.com, I was convinced that I had to upgrade my rod to a 15-footer. I was very impressed with Scott's McKenzie rod, so I contacted them directly and bought the DTX 15-ft, 10-wt, which I initially lined with Nextcast WA 9/10; later I used Ballistic Vector 9/10. With this rod and line combination I began to intensify my practice, putting in the

hours, but also practicing with a purpose. There is a river and two lakes with wadeable shores near where I live, so I could practice on both still and moving waters.

Weekends I practiced for 1-½ hours in the morning and sometimes half-an-hour at dusk. In Summer I often practiced after work for an hour, or until my wife called and said my dinner was getting cold.

The First THCI Test

Malaysia – Fly fishing gained popularity in a big way in this far corner of the world. In 2011, a group of Malaysian fly fishers sat for their casting instructor tests. They had previously attended casting workshops conducted by Peter Hayes. In addition Soon Lee coached them through mock CI and MCI tests a few weeks before their exams. Leadership was provided by CK Ling who would pursue his MCI. Ling invited me to test for the THCI. 18 CCI, 3 MCI and 1 THCI candidates from Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Australia were tested. All passed their tests except me. The

experiences made me better prepared for my next test, though.

I was happy with my McKenzie rod but I was concerned about testing with just one rod, so I acquired O-Rex Accipiter 15-ft, 9/10-wt as a backup. Although the action is slightly different from the McKenzie, I could do all the test tasks comfortably. The rod performed brilliantly with the 'sink tip' set up, too. I used SA Skagit 600-gr and Rio 15' 150-gr Type 6 sink tip.

Southern Hemisphere winters bring shorter days and unfriendly weather, so it was surreal practicing in the middle of the winter for a test in a tropical country. I intensified my practice routine on weekends and I was often on the lake practicing by 6 a.m. before work.

During this time I partially tore my shoulder tendon. I had intensive physiotherapy treatments and exercises. My physiotherapist introduced me to Kinesiology tape for my shoulder. This brightly colored tape worked wonders. Without it I couldn't have continued my test preparations.



My Spey casting workshop at the Melbourne Conclave

The Second THCI Test

In early 2012 I tested for the THCI again at the International Fly Fishing Festival in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. I was better prepared this time and I got to Kuala Lumpur two days early to practice and acclimate. Kuala Lumpur is tropical, with an average temperature of 90°F (32°C), and it's very humid—a big change from the cold Melbourne weather. The venue for the test was the a lake adjacent to a disused crocodile farm. Ling told me my THCI examiner would be Soon Lee. Also testing were three MCI and six CI candidates from Malaysia, Indonesia and Taiwan.

Finally the test day came. In general I performed most of the casting tasks adequately and could answer most of the questions, though I struggled with a few.

This test went quicker than my first, although it took nearly four hours. At the end, I waited as Soon discussed the test with the observer, Tony Wee CI. Finally Soon approached me and discussed my paper and my performance, explaining what I had done in the test. At the end he shook my hand and offered his congratulations, as did Tony Wee and another CI who was present. I became

quite emotional. Finally—all my hard work was rewarded.

Having already taken one THCI test helped me greatly. I knew what to expect and I knew what my examiners expected of me. My teaching experience was also a great help when it came to identifying casting faults.

Gaining my THCI is a significant milestone in my life. A fellow instructor quietly told me that I was the first THCI in the Southern Hemisphere. That was very special. When the euphoria of passing the test is gone, it is the friendship and the camaraderie I experienced along the way that is most precious.

I hope my story provides encouragement to casters who prepare alone the THCI exam, no matter where they are from. It might require extra commitment and perseverance, but it can be done.

By the way, if you are wondering about my unusual name, I was born on the island of Java, Indonesia, and have been living in Australia since 1978 and I'm a very proud Australian.



My practice river, just a few minutes from work.



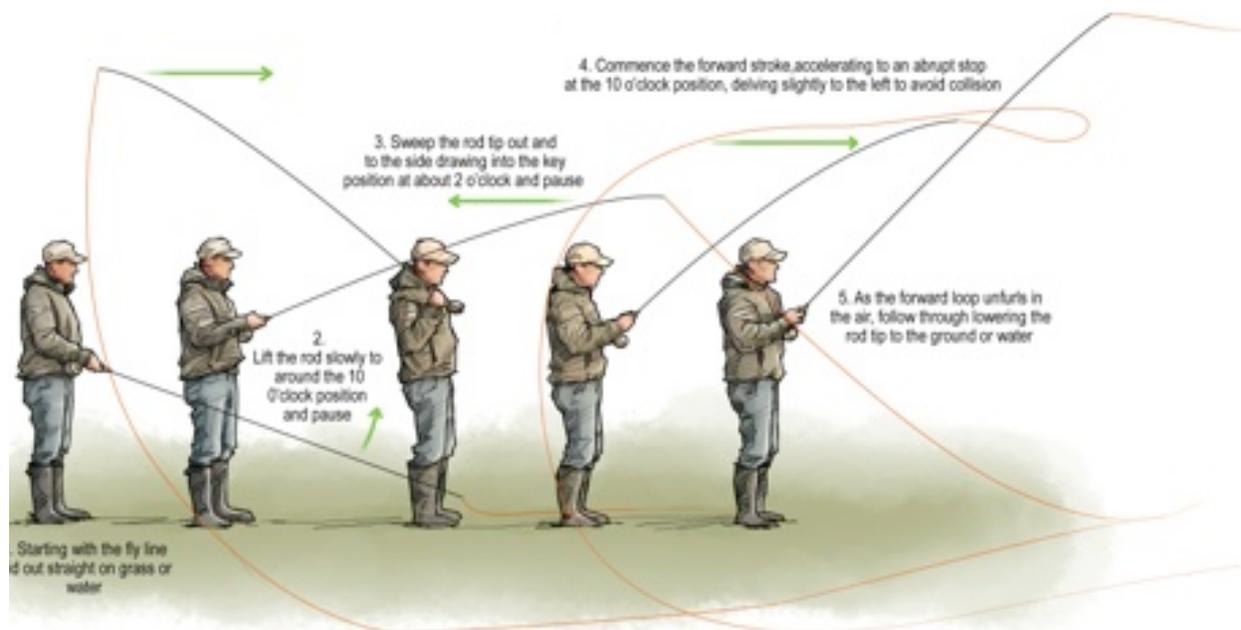
THE BASIC ROLL CAST

***Importance and Uses of
Leslie Holmes MCI, THCI***



The basic roll cast is a fundamental cast for the fly fisher & caster although it is often overlooked by many fly anglers who generally focus on overhead casting techniques. By taking the time to understand and learn this basic cast the fly fisher will have a number of new tools in his fly fishing tool box. These will enable him to cover most eventualities. Below are a number of reasons for using this foundation cast, which will help the fly fisher fish and cast more effectively:

1. Safety (the fly does not travel behind the caster, good in exceptionally windy conditions).
2. Line management (elimination of slack line).
3. Retrieve a sink tip, sunk line or heavy fly.
4. Foundation for all water bourn anchor casts (it is the delivery on Double Spey, Snap C, Snap T, Snap Z & Circle Spey).
5. Can be used to fish the fly all the way to bank.
6. Can be used to set the hook in a fish.
7. Recover a fly from a snag.
8. Forward stroke of an over head cast (i.e. delivery stroke).
9. The basis for understanding all Spey related casts (e.g. loop formation, anchor or line stick & the 180 degree rule).
10. Can be used in a combination cast (roll cast pickup).



(Illustration Copyright Joe Mahler 2013)



An Aussie Saltwater Primer

Australian MCI Peter Morse runs us through an incredible selection of species caught on fly from his home continent (layout courtesy Carl McNeil)

Brassy trevally are one of the most prolific of the trevally tribe. Often mistakenly identified as G.T.'s (Giant Trevally) they grow nowhere near as large but pound for pound are every bit as tough. This fish was caught along a remote beach in Arnhem Land as it cruised the shoreline harassing baitfish. (Peter Morse pictured)

“There’s a lot to fly-fishing in

Australia, a lot of coastline, a lot of rivers, a lot of fish species, a lot of environments, a lot of sunburn and line burns, crocodiles and best of all a lot of fish in a lot of open space.”

Although not common at this size, giant herring (or ladyfish) can grow to more than 20 lbs. in Australian waters. These are one of the most prized of the lightweight inshore pelagic. At this size they’re often encountered around bait schools and are very difficult to stay connected to as they leap wildly and make long powerful runs.



In some years juvenile black marlin up to around 60 lbs. can be prolific as they migrate in shoals down the east coast. They stay right inshore and in places you can sight cast to free swimmers along the beaches. Black marlin are the dominant billfish species in Australian waters.

Catching at least one Giant Trevally, or GT is on the bucket list of most fly fishers. Brutally powerful and stubborn they demand relentless pressure to bring them boat side. Diana Rudolph caught this great fish out on the Barrier Reef after it was teased up using a hookless popper.



Longtail tuna are a true thunnus species that grow to around 60lbs. A crucial species for fly fishermen in Australia, they are an inshore species that frequents shallow bays and coastal waters. At times they can be very difficult, sometimes stupid, but they always fight right to the end. Your casting needs to be long and accurate and most importantly your retrieve fast with a double hand strip usually the best presentation. They have a complex range of behavior that is determined by the baitfish they're feeding on.

“The coastline of Australia is approximately 33,000 kilometers long.”

Golden trevally are the backbone of tropical flats fishing in Australia. They tail furiously on some flats, at times they can be as fussy as a permit and they can be delightfully stupid as well. Best flies are Clouser minnows but crabs and bottom dwelling crustacean style flies are effective when they're being recalcitrant.





Fingermark bream, or golden snapper are a highly prized fish. Late in the year they come out of the deeper water and form large aggregations over inshore reefs. Another of those fish that requires 'give no line' tactics, others will follow up a hooked fish and sessions can go on for an hour or more. These are one of the very best eating fish.

“Barras hit the fly like a hammer blow and are very good jumpers.”



Barramundi are without doubt the premier sportfish of northern Australia. A catadromous species they spend much of their lives in freshwater lagoons and mangrove tidal creeks and river systems where they move constantly with the tide as it moves the baitfish. These are a fly casters fish, you need a good repertoire of casting skills to deal with currents and sinking flies and lines to get the fly in the right zone. They live in and around structure, they cruise the flats in places, and can even be caught on ocean beaches. They are a very special fish.

Mackerel tuna (or kawa kawa in the IGFA book) are similar to the false albacore of the US east coast. They eat small baits best represented by surf candies. They are also a very popular inshore tuna.



“The narrow barred mackerel is also known as a Spanish mackerel locally and these grow to 100lbs.”

Spanish mackerel (narrow barred mackerel) have wicked teeth. They are the largest of the 7 mackerel species found around the continent. Although like the king mackerel in appearance these are a white fleshed fish that are commercially important. Wire bite tippets are crucial but they are very sharp eyed so bites drop away once you rig with wire. It's a two edged sword, but sometimes 80lb fluorocarbon can be effective as a bite tippet – you get more bites and you'll land a few, but you'll still get bitten off regularly.





Bludger trevally are another of the trevally gang. These are a deeper water fish that often feed on the surface almost like tuna, also sipping small baitfish down weed lines where you can sight cast to them.

“Saltwater fly fishing in this part of the world is in its relative infancy. Once it was all about bluewater fish and barramundi, now the flats play a significant role and along that huge tropical coastline new fisheries are being discovered almost daily. From a flats perspective much of it is unexplored, much of it is very remote, towns and infrastructure don’t exist for many miles of coastline, its is a huge and exciting frontier full of different fish.”



After my brother and I became good fishermen, we realized that our father was not a great fly caster, but he was accurate and stylish and wore a glove on his casting hand, As he buttoned on his glove in preparation to giving us a lesson, he would say, “It is an art that is performed on a four-count rhythm between ten and two o’clock.”

Norman MacLean, in *A River Runs Through It*

Clocks are for keeping time, they’re not much help in fly castin’

Lefty Kreh in *Fly Casting With Lefty Kreh*

DMAIC: A Teaching Methodology

Jeff Wagner, CBOG

The greatest strength of any organization comes from the talents of its individual members. Often this means applying skill sets from varied backgrounds toward a common goal to achieve a singular purpose. For the FFF we are hugely blessed by the diversity of skill sets our members possess. It never ceases to amaze me when I learn of skilled backgrounds that are being put to use.

My skill sets are still growing. I seem to have missed the train that delivered expertise in one area and instead became a jack of many. Over the last couple of years I have been a part of process improvement teams that utilize Lean Six Sigma and recently became a Black Belt in this skill. It seems like another badge I can wear (literally) to extoll my virtues as a nerd.

For those not familiar with Six Sigma or Lean Six Sigma, it is, (in its simplest form), applying the scientific method to a given business or manufacturing process. The goal is to define a problem, measure the process, analyze the data and the process, improve the process and then control the process after the change. These five steps of Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, and Control (DMAIC) are well established among major organizations and is often the leading methodology to direct their change.

So what is the application to casting? It seems strange I know. But, as you think about everything you do, absolutely everything, is a process. Teaching fly casting included. When you begin to think of something as a process it is much easier to define, measure, analyze, improve and control. It also becomes a communication tool that simplifies and shortens the learning curve for the student and makes it easier for the educator to follow a systematic approach to teaching.

Lets look at DMAIC in terms of teaching and in this case teaching fly casting. I will present each phase of DMAIC in fly casting and then an example of practical application.

Define: Define what the student is looking for. One of the most important aspects of teaching is to understand your customers requirements. What are their expectations? This only takes one question: "What do you hope to learn today"? By doing that you put them in place to explain what they are looking for and show an interest in them. It is a simple step but it is a requirement to an effective lesson (or class).

- In this cast let's say the student wants to cast 60' with hauling for a upcoming Bonefish trip to the Florida Keys.

Measure: Simply, measure it. Find a way to measure the progress. Use a tape measure, a video camera, photography, a casting log,... whatever it might be. It is important to track their progress. But, more importantly measuring will also help fix the problem

- We measure the student and they currently are casting 45' with a single haul in the back cast but a very ineffective haul in the forward cast.

Analyze: This is the stage to determine what is going on in the cast. What are you seeing? Measure the distance. Video-tape the cast. It is also a great time to incorporate the 6-step method of fault diagnosis and problem solving. It is critical that your analysis is made clear to student, your customer, and that you document your findings.

- In this case we use the 6-step method and start by having the candidate watch the fly line as a large wide open loop forms, then to watch the tip of the rod as it follows an arcing or doming path, then to watch the hands. At this point we bring to the attention of the student to several faults:
 - o The hand is slowly accelerating
 - o The wrist is moving over a range greater than 45 degrees
 - o The haul in the forward cast is mis-timed and is introducing slack into the system.

Improve: Now is the time to help the student improve. As with most teaching it is critical to help the student understand the cast. If they want to know some physics and a greater level of detail, take the time to explain. If that is not the case and they don't care about the details, help them to learn the actions. Explain changes you want to make to the cast in a way they can understand. Most importantly in this step: use the way the student moves. Don't try to get a caster to cast like you or anyone else. Be a student of Biomechanics. Learn how people move and how to identify those movements. Then, and only then, should you help someone change their casting style.

- In this case we will take several actions in a progressive approach over several lessons. Small chunks, don't fix everything at once.
- - o First, casting single handed only work on firming the wrist. Wrist movement is a style but we will work to have the student be a more efficient caster and use the larger muscle groups in the arm, shoulder, and torso.
 - o Second, work toward a smooth, but an effective maximum acceleration for the distance being cast. Do this through a variety of methods to help the student learn the acceleration
 - o The miss-timed haul might be an easy fix. Overweight the line on the rod (put an 8 wt on the 5 or 6wt they are using). But, first, have the student pantomime the haul with you for several minutes. Do several reps of several minutes each time. Start slow and increase speed. Then add the rod and make only the forward stroke, then only the back stroke and then put them together.

Control: This is an often overlooked component of teaching fly casting. It is absolutely critical that you give your student a prescription for success. This step is all about helping them be successful long term when you are not there. Give practice exercises they can do at the park. Put together a practice plan they can follow for several months. Monitor it with them. And very important measure the progress and compare it to the measure phase. You should be seeing significant improvement. If not you have a quantifiable way to answer either yes or no. If no go back to analyze and do the process again. If yes, make sure it is a great enough improvement that matches the student's expectations determined in the Define phase.

This phase is even more critical for those with some sort of injury. (A recent rotator cuff surgery or something similar is an example). Start slow, make expectations reasonable and put together

a long-term practice plan that could even be approved by their doctor. Again, this will help them monitor their success

- In this case we will
 - o Put together a 3 month practice schedule leading up 5 days before the trip, at which time we will ask they take a break so they are fully recovered before the trip
 - o They will cast 5 days a week: 2 times a day for 15 minutes a day and 2 times per week for 1 hour or more to help build endurance
 - o Casts should be a combination of distance and accuracy
 - o Time in each session will be split between
 - Single hand casting to build control in the casting hand
 - Slowly increasing the casting speed single handed to improve control, combat wind, and get the fly to the fish quickly
 - Work on the haul: first week casting with the rod over-weighted. Then back to a line that matches the rod. Then to a standard haul occasionally working on only forward or only back-cast and then putting it together.
 - For the last 6 weeks it would be putting it all together and having a follow-up session to salt water quick cast and line control
 - Then student works on starting with short line and quickly extending the line to a target in as few as false casts as possible.

Using the DMAIC method is easy, reproducible and very effective. While it works and is applied most often in business, why not try it in fly-casting. You will be pleased at the results, and so will your student.

The Loop is adopting a two-column layout. Some write-ups may not copy well in two columns (such as the photo essay by Peter Morse and the article above by Jeff Wagner). The Editorial Board requests that authors keep the new layout in mind when submitting future articles.



Give me mine angle; we'll off to the river; there—
My music playing far off—I will betray
Tawny-finn'd fishes; my bended hook shall pierce
Their slimy jaws; and, as I draw them up,
I'll think them every one an Antony,
And say, "Ah, ha!" you're caught.

William Shakespeare, from *Antony and Cleopatra*

Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in I drink at it;
but while I drink I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is,
its thin current slides away, but eternity remains.
I would drink deeper; fish in the sky, where the bottom is pebbly with stars.

Henry David Thoreau, in *Walden*

VELCRO® TROUT

A teaching aid of cardboard and Velcro

Trent Jones, CI

Casting instructors are always on the lookout for new tools to teach casting—but we're always critical of new ideas and tools, too. So when I was at the annual Orvis fly fishing managers meeting last April and was told we would be using a "Velcro trout" to aide in our teaching of FF101 classes, I counted myself among the 50 or more instructors who issued a collective sigh at the news. Really? We are going to turn our passion for fly fishing and teaching into a carnival game of casting at a cardboard fish covered in Velcro.

But then a funny thing happened. As the Velcro trout were being laid out, the grumbling fishing managers started casting at the Velcro trout as if they were a 36" taimen. The grumbling stopped and the showmanship and fun began. My immediate thought was that this will help in our efforts to teach large groups of people. Not only does the Velcro trout force a caster's concentration on accuracy, it is a challenge that people will focus on.

And they have fun while doing it. This quality alone buys a large-group instructor time to finish with one student and start with another. The Velcro trout keeps students on task without letting them get annoyed that the instructor is not with them at that particular moment. Another plus of using the Velcro trout in group settings is that you can very quickly tell who needs help and can allocate your time accordingly and address students in a more efficient order.

From a casting perspective the Velcro trout is useful because it can be easily moved to varying distances from the student, which is a great way to introduce casting trajectory to both novice and advanced anglers. Often you can expose a weakness in a cast as you

move the Velcro trout further away from the caster. It also keeps the student engaged, focused on a target, not on you inspecting their cast. Hula-hoops are good for basic accuracy, but when I am on the water I am not casting at Hula-hoops. I am casting to a fish that is oriented in relationship to a current, holding in a feeding lane. That fact is much easier to explain to students when you can point at the Velcro trout's mouth and say to get this fish to take your offering you need to land the fly at point A, and let the current take your offering to point B. In short the Velcro trout creates a more accurate and visual learning experience. When I cover reach mends with students using the Velcro trout, I get an immediate response on how they have encountered drift problems on the river.

So, the Velcro trout clearly has merit when it comes to teaching people to cast, and certainly while teaching groups. But, I believe the greatest strength of the Velcro trout lies in its ability to teach people how to fish. The first two years I taught at the Orvis FF101 courses I noticed two things at the end of class. People wanted to know "what to do when a fish strikes and what to do after the fish is hooked. Neither of these really qualify as casting questions; they are fishing questions. As we noticed the trend in these questions we adapted our teaching to address hooking and fighting fish. It was adequate but not great. Once we inserted the Velcro trout the problem was solved. Students inherently hooked the fish, and after a few "hook ups," learned how much pressure they could apply while stripping in a Velcro trout before it came loose.

As instructors and stewards of fly fishing I believe we have a responsibility to pass on

some conservation know-how. When a student lands their first Velcro trout, it is a great time to discuss catch-and-release, debarbing hooks, and safe handling of fish. Let

us not only use the Velcro trout to teach people to become better casters. Let us use it to teach them how to fish responsibly in the fisheries we love so much.



Photo credit: Dan Davala

Build a hardy Velcro trout from foam board and adhesive-backed Velcro®, both available at most office supply stores. Select any color you like, but white gives you the most liberty for coloring your fish, and 3/16-inch is good thickness.

Draw the shape of a fish and cut it from the foam using a razor knife or utility knife. The author prefers a 24-inch cutout. Color it in any fashion, suggestive or imitative. After your fish is colored, cover it in clear packing tape to make it more durable against

wetness. Lastly, liberally stick strips of the adhesive-backed Velcro to the fish. Use either only hook-side or loop-side for the trout. Use the other side to create a small fly that will 'stick' to the fish when accurately thrown to it. Velcro trout flies are small, 3/4-inch strips of Velcro, taped around a loop at the end of the leader.

(Editor's note: For a more durable Velcro trout, use corrugated 'sign' plastic, available from DIY Depot or other stores. This is the same plastic most realty companies use as 'for sale' signs. Price? Blank white, 14 in.x 18 in., \$4 at Home Depot.)

THE POKE: A Whimsical Look

Soon S. Lee, CBOG, THCI



At the beginning, classic two-handed Spey casting was either Single Spey or Double Spey. Then the Gawesworth father and son duo in UK introduced a cast now labeled a Snake Roll. Not to be outdone, a group of Pacific Northwest steelheaders popularized a cast presently called by haphazard names such as Snap-T, Snap-C, or Snap-Z. In this fraternity of Skagit casters, there was one Carl Perry who improvised a maneuver dubbed a “poke.” Whether this was his deliberate attempt to invent a variant cast or it was an improvisation on his part to salvage his troubled Single Spey is beside the point.

Perry Poke

In the mundane humdrum discipline of dynamic roll casting, the fly line is set as a water-borne anchor. This anchor, even if moderately crooked, may be drawn straight during D-loop formation before forward delivery. In contrast, in the Single Spey, the caster lifts his line off the dangle and sets an air-borne anchor fleetingly kissing the water during D-loop formation and forward delivery. It is important that this splash-and-go air-borne anchor be straight when it lands momentarily on the water.

Single Spey is cursed by a proclivity toward an L-shaped anchor for right-angled change of direction. Such an anchor causes fly line to wag in the air like a happy dog’s tail during forward delivery, resulting in a loopy loop. While on the river, if the reader should hear a slightly sanguineous sigh (such as “Oh bloody hell...”), it will more often than not be some Spey fisher’s vocal accompaniment to a bloody L.

What Perry likely did when he was faced with a poor anchor while casting Single Spey was to forego his forward delivery and instead unload fly line in the spot where his anchor should be. Using this new, now water-

borne, anchor he was able to continue with D-loop and forward delivery to throw a respectable loop.■ In effect this dumping of fly line, this poke, changes an awkward fickle air-borne anchor into a steady dependable water-borne anchor. Such a remedial practice should not be regarded as an inspiration limited only to Spey fishers: after all newspapers are full of notices of notables forgoing high-maintenance spouses for forgiving ones.

Triple Spey

Double Spey utilizes a water-borne anchor. Faced with a poorly placed anchor, a restless caster who cannot wait for the line to return to dangle so as to begin Double Spey anew (there are a surprisingly large number of these, considering that fishing is reputed to be a sport for the patient) can re-set the anchor with a poke. As far as I know, there was only one occasion when an aborted Double Spey with an added poke was described. The cast was titled Triple Spey.❖

With line at the dangle, Single Spey makes one upstream sweep to position an upstream anchor. With Double Spey there is an initial upstream sweep followed by a second sweep downstream to position a downstream anchor. There is no third sweep to justify the term Triple Spey. This may be the reason why I have not come across this term being used again....except for the one occasion when my neighbor took his three bitches to the veterinarian.

Tongariro Roll

It is on the Tongariro River, North Island, New Zealand that exponents of the Tongariro Roll may be found. First let me make clear that Tongariro Roll applies only to single-handed casting. There are now several videos of this cast on YouTube.◆ The earlier videos show right-handed casters casting off the right

bank exclusively. As the entire cast unfolds, Tongariro Roll proves to be Double Spey with a poke appended. This means that Tongariro Roll is the same cast as Triple Spey for two-hand rodders.

More recent videos show casting off the left bank. Here the dangled fly is dragged or flipped upstream in one or two attempts before a poke is applied. These demonstrations are reminiscent of Perry Poke except that the fly is not lifted cleanly off the dangle. (MCI candidates note: this failure to lift the fly off the water or off the lawn in the demonstration of a Single Spey is a common reason for failing the task in the exam.) A valid contention is that this cast off the left bank is different from the cast off the right bank (just as Perry Poke is different from Triple Spey).

There is good reason to be fussy here to avoid future confusion. Does the term Tongariro Roll apply to the entire cast, or does it apply basically to the poke? If it applies to, as they say, the whole enchilada, this cast off the left bank needs a different name (how about something equally mellifluous, multi-syllabic and tongue-taxing such as Rotoroa Roll?) If not, then Tongariro Roll is to single-hand rodders what the poke is to two-hand rodders.

Wombat

The Snap-T (or Snap-C, Snap Z, Circle Spey or C-Spey) is utilized to bring line from downstream dangle to place a water-borne anchor upstream of the fly caster. If the snap produces a less than desirable anchor, the impatient fly fisher can similarly perform a poke to re-set his anchor. This hybrid Snap-T plus poke cast has been called a Wombat by the aforementioned group of Northwest steelheaders. Wombat is the nickname of another member of the group.★ Perry Poke is designated using a steelheader's proper family name while Wombat is expropriated from a nickname...your guess is as good as mine as to which of them, Perry or Wombat,

masters the greater collective affection amongst the members of the group.

Snake Poke?

Snake Roll shares similar casting mechanics with the poke. In both casts the rod tip scribes an oval path to set the anchor. It is obvious that the Snake Roll oval is closer to circular and more emphatic whereas the poke oval is flatter and almost apologetic. The critical, decisive difference of course is that the anchor of a Snake Roll is air-borne and the anchor of the poke is water-borne.

A Snake Roll attempting a 45° change of direction is prone to produce a curved anchor. To convert this poor air-borne anchor to a water-borne anchor with a poke would seem a reasonable proposition. Yet I can find no written reference of an aborted Snake Roll revived by a poke. I am thinking if I were to routinely supplement my Snake Roll with a poke my fishing buddies may be alert enough to take the hint and start calling this, in the manner of Perry Poke, the Lee Poke...such is the fantasy.

Or maybe not. In Chinese, Lee Poke would mean "Grandma Lee's Lesson." I am not ready to suffer the indignity of answering to calls for Grandma Lee, either here or in China. What we truly need is a name that relates better to the cast, a name that has a thoroughly logical basis for its creation. We should call it...Snake Poke...of course...this being the Year of the Snake...

A final thought: for your dotting, understanding, non-fishing spouse who stumbles upon this journal on your desk and takes a stealthy glance, I hope the subtitles of this article do not change his/her faith in the wholesomeness of your favorite sport.

- Ed Ward, Rio's Modern Spey Casting (video)
- ❖ Dana Sturn, Speypages.
- ◆ Herb Spannagl, Tongariro Roll YouTube links:
<http://youtu.be/yb8fpxh4KA>
http://youtu.be/Rv_7PBtKKkc
- ★ George Cook, Rio's Modern Spey Casting (video)

CICP ACTIVITIES

IFFF Certifications in Malaysia, September 2012

C K Ling, MCI

IFFF MALAYSIA 2012 was the first fly fishing and fly tying event to be organized in Asia. It was organized by a group of enthusiastic fly fishermen and women under the umbrella of United Fly Anglers Organization of Malaysia. The main event had fly exhibits, fly casting demos, tackle and travel exhibition, talks on fishing destinations, conservation, fish

species and tying techniques.

Three days prior to the main event we had FFF casting instructor certification testing. There was one successful THCI candidate. We had three MCI candidates, unfortunately none passed. There were five CCI candidates with two passes. All in all it was an enjoyable occasion meeting up with old friends and making new ones.



Malaysian CI Dron Lee at the vise



Taiwanese CI Wesley Tso at his vise



Governor Bill Higashi and his groupies

IFFF in Kilsheelan, Ireland, September 2012

Carl Zarelli, MCI, THCI

Without a doubt Tipperary, Ireland, is quite a long way from Washington state. But when I heard that an IFFF/GAIA (Game Angling Instructors' Association) event was to take place I thought this was a great opportunity to take a trip and take a test. The event was held at Kilsheelan Castle, just outside of Clonmel, the county town of South Tipperary.

The name Clonmel means "honey meadow" and for many of us it was just that— a place where two world-class organizations came together and shared their ideas and talents to further the education, promotion, and expansion of the sport of fly fishing.

The IFFF event in Kilsheelan was set against the backdrop of an Irish castle on a 2,500 acre estate on the river Suir. The river Suir's potential as a game angling destination was showcased to a highly targeted audience of British, European and American angling specialists. This event was in the making for almost three years and was organized by Philip Maher, GAIA/IFFF, and Rick Williams, BOG.

Philip assembled a team of the brightest and best from GAIA and from the Angling Council of Ireland to deliver the event. Philip is an engineer by education and you could see the effects of an engineer's hand in the organization of the event. Most everything fell into place.

Workshops and casting demonstrations were the order of the day for those not directly involved in the assessments. Topics included Fly Casting Styles around the World,

Assessments Techniques for FFF CI's, Two Handed Casting, Long Line French Style Nymphing, and dry fly tactics for educated trout in quality waters like the Suir.

This was my first international event and I wanted to see firsthand if some of the stories that I had heard over the years were true. The event certainly did not disappoint me or anyone I spoke to. The camaraderie was very obvious. The event was attended by BOG members Jim Valle, Rick Williams, William van der Vorst and Lasse Karlsson. In addition, GAIA/APGAI had a number of members who attended and were examined for IFFF certifications.

I can certainly say without reservation that the IFFF/ GAIA members were well prepared, as their high success rate in examinations will attest to. The members from this area take their casting seriously and it shows. The pass rate was in the 80 percentile. This is certainly a tribute to their hard work and dedication to the sport of Fly Fishing.

I looked at this event as an experience in cross training. The GAIA/IFFF members were involved in examining all levels of single-hand and two-hand casting and their professional approach to examining was very obvious. Demonstrations were put on by several individuals from GAIA /IFFF. I even had a chance to spend some time with Robert Gillespie, whose casting I have admired for several years.

Representatives of both GAIA and the IFFF commented on the value for both organisations in developing existing relationships and our common bond. Both groups are characterised by their strong commitment to promoting the highest standards of instruction and of technical excellence in fly casting. However, each group brings different strengths and traditions to the table. A closer relationship with better communication will allow each organisation to benefit from the complementary talents of the other.

The open day on Saturday, Sept. 16, offered a golden opportunity to those who attended to benefit from free instruction from World Class Instructors – a great day to end a great Casting Event.

Philip Maher, Rick Williams and Jim Valle contributed to this article.



Motley group of fly casters in Ireland



10,000 New Fly Fishers Can't Be Wrong!

Dan Davala, MCI

Last year nearly 10,000 people across the country experienced fly fishing for the first time at a free Orvis Fly Fishing 101 class. In many locations, IFFF Certified Casting Instructors and MCIs either assisted teaching, or led the classes with great results! If you were one of the instructors who helped us make this program the tremendous success that it was, I wish to personally thank you and extend my great appreciation for the time and talent you provided. The overall quality of these

classes was enhanced by your participation, and ultimately our students received the greatest benefit.

To clarify, these classes are not intended to be an all encompassing fly fishing school. The curriculum is carefully designed to provide people a hands-on opportunity try fly fishing in a way that is simple, fun, and accessible. One of the major goals of the program is to break down some of the common barriers and stigmas that people

feel are prohibitive to getting started.

Fly Fishing 101 covers basic gear and assembly, knots and rigging, fly types and selection, and solid fundamentals of fly casting. Those who complete the FF 101 lesson are then offered a free FF 201 class, during which instructors help students apply their new skills by taking them fishing on local water thus connecting them to the resource. Most of the students who attend a FFF 201 class take up the sport and stick with it!

While 2012 marked the third year of Orvis Fly Fishing 101, it was only the second year that we actively sought assistance from the IFFF, and CICP involvement was way up this time around! This improvement was thanks in large part to the role CBOG David Diaz played by serving as the IFFF representative to Orvis and establishing a board of FF101 “program managers” on which I was proud to serve. Fellow MCIs Eric Cook and Tim Lawson rounded out our team. Together, we were able to personally contact interested members of the CICP and connect them to their nearest FF101 teaching opportunity. And while we were thrilled with the results an outcome of our efforts, still only 10 percent of certified instructors responded to the call and volunteered to help. I can only imagine what it would look like if we double that next year.

Why help Orvis? As both an MCI and a full-time Orvis Fishing Manager, I feel uniquely qualified to answer that question. Simply put, you are not helping just Orvis! First and foremost, you are helping the students. These are students you would never have reached or influenced had they not signed up for the Orvis class. You are helping the Federation of Fly Fishers by being an ambassador of the organization, and of the CICP, which gives these new students a reason to want to get involved and stay involved. Over 1500 students redeemed their free IFFF trial membership in 2012, and that is with only 100 Certified Instructors participating. In the long view, you are

helping the IFFF CICP retain and grow its relevance in the world of fly fishing.

As other companies see the benefit of our involvement and support of this program, they are more likely to create their own and reach out to us for help as well. Cabelas is a great example of this. In 2012, they launched their own introductory fly fishing course and are also seeking help from the CICP to make it the best it can be. Other companies are sure to follow suit. Helping with any of these programs helps our fish and our waters, since the simple act of creating a new fly fisher nearly always results in a new advocate for conservation – a large focus of the IFFF. And last but not least, you are helping yourself! It is seldom possible to teach without learning, and teaching large groups consistently over a period of time improves your skill set in a way that little else can. You simply cannot buy, read, or study this kind of experience. Master candidates should certainly take note and get involved, even if for that reason alone.

This year, Orvis will once again hold Fly Fishing 101 and 201 classes at all Orvis retail stores and participating independent dealers, with a goal of reaching another 10,000 students. And once again, the Federation of Fly Fishers will support this program by offering a FREE one-year trial membership to all students, and by encouraging our vast body of Certified Casting Instructors to help facilitate the program. You can rest assured that we will be contacting you again in the near future and encouraging your participation. But don't wait for us! Take the time and initiative now to establish or re-establish your relationship with your local Orvis company store or independent Orvis dealer. Talk to the store manager or fishing manager and make sure they have your contact information on file for the upcoming 2013 Fly Fishing 101 season. With your help, it is bound to be better than ever!

WHAT'S NEW

iPad App 'Ubersense' Excels as Video Capture and Edit Tool for Casting Instructors ***Fraser Perry, CI***

Ubersense is an app for **iPad** that allows casters and casting instructors to record, analyse and share videos of fly casting. It is used primarily as a coaching tool to assist students in improving their technique.

Ubersense has many tools for teaching and coaching fly casting. On the most basic level, video capture and instant replay functions can be used to show students noticeable aspects of their casting stroke, such as loop shapes and tracking. These can be seen even more clearly using the variable speed playback, slowing playback right down frame by frame. The video can easily be fast forwarded or rewound by swiping across the screen.

At the advanced level, *Ubersense* provides a set of tracking, measurement and comparison tools that can be used to analyse more subtle aspects of fly casting. The tracking tools can be used to lock onto any object, such as the rod tip or hand, and follow its movement. These tools clearly show the different hand paths when swooping and thrusting. The measurement tools can be used to precisely measure the size of casting arcs and the length of tip paths, a valuable feature when comparing different distance-casting styles. The measurement tools can also be used to calculate and compare loops sizes. The comparison tools consist of simultaneous playback of two videos side by side or overlaid over each other with variable transparency.

Videos can be edited, annotated and shared in a variety of ways, including by removing segments. Typed notes and audio recordings also can be attached to the video, allowing instructors to embed detailed feedback into the video. The video can then be uploaded the *Ubersense's* cloud server, where it can be viewed by those with a link. *Ubersense* also integrates with Facebook, where videos can be shared and casters can be tagged. In this way, *Ubersense* is a fantastic way for fly casting instructors to use video analysis to collaborate and share their expertise with students and other instructors, particularly those who are geographically separated.

The *Ubersense* app is currently free on the Apple Store for both iPad and iPhone. It is both a powerful and useful app for fly casters and casting instructors alike, particularly at the advanced level.

Get Ubersense here: [https://
itunes.apple.com/app/video-coach-
ubersense/id470428362?mt=8](https://itunes.apple.com/app/video-coach-ubersense/id470428362?mt=8)

[Editor's Note: Use the Android operating system? Try *Coaches Eye*, an app that is very similar to Ubersense and has been tested by members of Gordy Hill's Master Study Group. Get it here: [https://
play.google.com/store/apps/details?
id=com.techsmith.apps.coachseye](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.techsmith.apps.coachseye)]

ROD WITH “FLOATING” GRIP



Theory and practice: You've probably heard it before: "The power potential is located in the rod's butt section." This axiom is often repeated by casting instructors and fly fishing experts - and is based on the physics around the transmission of force.

In the cast, the fly rod's blank is charged with energy. On traditional rods the handle is glued to the blank precisely where the power potential is greatest. And a handle that is glued with hardening adhesive prevents the blank from loading to its full potential.

This simple fact was the starting point for ArcticSilver's product development. We wanted to create a rod that could take full advantage of the blank's power potential. On ArcticSilver's Free-Flex® rods the handle is not glued to the blanks. Instead, the blank is fixed only to the reel seat, allowing the rod to bend freely within a hollow handle. This solution gives you more feeling and better transmission of energy.

For more information: <http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/265518>



Fly-fishing is the most fun you can have standing up.

Arnold Gingrich, founder of *Esquire Magazine*, fisherman

Fishing is such great fun, I have often felt, that it really ought to be done in bed.

Robert Traver, author, *Michigan Supreme Court Justice*, fisherman

Fly fishing is like sex, everyone thinks there is more than there is, and that everyone is getting more than their share.

Henry Kanemoto, author and fly tier

Hell, if I'd jumped on all the dames I'm supposed to have jumped on, I'd have had no time to go fishing.

Clark Gable, actor

BULLETIN BOARD

CASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARDS

It is time to be thinking about and submitting your nominations for the 2013 CBOG Awards. The following awards are provided:

- Lifetime Achievement in Fly Casting
- Instruction
- Mel Krieger Fly Casting Instructor
- Governor's Pin
- Governor's Mentoring

To learn more about the criteria of the awards and the nomination process go to the FFF Website. < [fedflyfishers.org/ History and Governance/ Casting Board awards](http://fedflyfishers.org/HistoryandGovernance/CastingBoardawards)>

Or go to: <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Casting/HistoryGovernance/CastingBOGAwards.aspx>

Don Simonson
Chair, Awards Committee

GALLERY



Fishing with guile and patience: [click here](#) (via Craig Buckbee)

NEW IFFF CERTIFIED CASTING INSTRUCTORS

May 2012 thru Dec 2012

CI

Garry Hambly – Australia
Cesar Acosta – Belize
Selma Aissiou – QC, Canada
Sabrina Barnes – QC, Canada
Peter Charles – ON, Canada
Joannie DeLasablonniere – QC, Canada
Pierre-Luc Witzig – QC, Canada
Tamai Hideki – Japan
Naoki Ikeda – Japan
Tetsuya Katsumura – Japan
Tetsu Shionoya – Japan
Tadashi Takahashi – Japan
Daisaku Takahashi – Japan
Junpei Takasu – Japan
Rensuke Tanida – Japan
Yuichi Taniguchi – Japan
Kenji Watanabe – Japan
Boon Sai Lee – Japan
Eddie Lim – Malaysia
Syed Syahrulazman – Malaysia
Ricky Ehan – New Zealand
Nigel Greatrix – New Zealand
Daniel Isbister – New Zealand
Murray Lauder – New Zealand
Matthew Miles – New Zealand
John Roche – New Zealand
Craig Smith – New Zealand
Zoran Djukic – Serbia
Milan (Senna) Popovic – Serbia
Ivan Ranjelovic – Serbia
Kim Chul Oh – South Korea
Soonsup Kim – South Korea
Robert Hansson – Sweden
Liu Yao Chang – Taiwan
Ho Kai Hsuan – Taiwan
Chu (Ken) Hua-Chun – Taiwan
Wei-Nong Sung – Taiwan

Brian Szukala – United Kingdom
Michael Bantam – Boise, ID
Mike Carpenter – Rochester, MN
Bryant Dunn – Ketchum, ID
Ted Fauceglia – Sharpsville, PA
Daniel Field – Carlsbad, CA
Richard Hilles – Irvine, CA
Eric Jackson – Dallas, TX
David Kolesar – Brookline, NH
Thatcher Marsted – Ketchum, ID
Ron Nimitz – Wayne, PA
Andy Payne – Houston, TX
Lawrence Piper – Jacksonville, FL
Edward Tamson - Naples, FL
James Gruetzman – Keizer, OR
Langston White – Alexandria, VA

MCI

Milan Kupesanin – Croatia
Akos Szmurtni – Hungary
Der Casey – Ireland
Stener Skogmo – Norway
Chris Aldred – United Kingdom
Brian McGlashan – United Kingdom
Alun Rees – United Kingdom
Frank Williams – United Kingdom
Sydney Smith – Gulfport, MS
Piotr Talma – United Kingdom

THCI

Bintoro Tedjosiswoyo – Australia
Lasse Karlsson – Denmark
William van der Vorst – Netherlands
Chris Aldred – United Kingdom
Bryan Martin – United Kingdom
Alun Rees – United Kingdom
Mark Roberts – United Kingdom
John Symonds – United Kingdom
Pat O’oTole – United Kingdom