IFFF Fly Tying Group Fly Tying Skills Awards Program
Silver Award Evaluation Criteria
Guidelines for Evaluations

Following are aspects of each fly to consider when evaluating the required evaluation flies.

**Overall Appearance and Proportions** – *Do the flies meet the below criteria?*
**Consistency** – *Do all flies look alike?*
**Materials** – *Have they used all the correct specified materials?*

**Ginger Quill - Dry Fly**

- **Tail** -
  - Is it equal to Shank Length
  - Is it too thin or too thick?
  - Is on top of the hook?
  - Is it stiff enough to support fly in 3 point stance?

- **Body** –
  - Is it ¾ Shank Length,
  - Quill Body - Should have no gaps, underbody not showing through,
  - It should not be tapered nor should there be a visible lump or bump at the wing tie-in position

- **Wing** -
  - Quill sections should be equal in width to the gap of the hook at the widest part and equal to the length of the hook shank
  - Are they oriented correctly - Tips forward
  - Are they centered on the hook
  - Are they divided by approximately 30 degrees?

- **Hackle** –
  - Is it 1.5 x gape in length
  - Just short of the wing tips.
  - Evenly distributed behind and in front of the wing

- **Head** –
  - Equal to hook eye or less.
  - Is the head too bulky or crowd the eye of the hook?
  - Are there trapped hackle fibers visible?
Does the fly sit with the 3 point stance with tail tip, bottom of hook, and hackle tips supporting the fly?

The Blue Charm Hair Wing - Salmon/Steelhead Fly

- **Tip** -
  - Is it on the shank directly above the halfway position between the hook point and the barb point?
  - Are the turns the same number on all flies?

- **Tag** –
  - Is it in the proper position? Is it too long? too short?
  - It should have a slight taper
  - Smooth with no fraying, lumps, bumps, or twists.

- **Tail** -
  - Does it extend about ½ gap behind the bend of the hook?
  - Does it curve upwards to about a gap or 1½ gap above the shank?
  - Does it lie in the plane of the hook?
  - Is on top of the hook?

- **Body** -
  - It should have a slight taper or cigar shape.
  - Smooth with no fraying, lumps, bumps, or twists.

- **Rib** –
  - Is there 5 evenly spaced turns
  - Ribbing should start and stop on the bottom of the hook.
  - Are they parallel on both sides?

- **Throat hackle** –
  - Does it almost touch the hook point?
  - Is it folded back under the shank and point toward the hook point

- **Wing** –
  - Is it to the tip of the tail?
  - It should have a slight taper

- **Head** –
  - Equal to hook eye or less.
  - Is the head too bulky or crowd the eye of the hook?

Lefty’s Deceiver – Salt Water Fly

- **Streamer Tail/Body** -
  - Does it extend past the mounting position one hook shank length
  - All feathers should be the same width and curvature
o Were the correct numbers of hackle used?
o Are the Krystal Flash ends cut at varying lengths with longest just short of hackle tips? Are they even on both sides?
o Grizzly hackle may be slightly shorter than white hackles.
o Are the hackles too narrow or too wide?
o Are the tips flared inward?

- **Thread under body** –
o Is it smooth with no, lumps, bumps, or twists?

- **Buck Tail Wing** –
o Are all three lengths equal to the distance from hook eye to mid-way on the paired hackles with some hairs just short of the hackle tips?
o Is there too little or too much Buck Tail?
o Is the buck tail past the a length equal to the distance from hook eye to mid-way on the paired hackles

- **Streamer Throat** –
o Krystal Flash equal to length that extends halfway to hook point

- **Eyes** –
o Are they firmly attached?
o Are they correctly located between hook eye and wing

**Parachute Adams - Dry Fly**

- **Tail** -
o Is it equal to Shank Length
o Is it too thin or too thick?
o Is on top of the hook?
o Are the fiber colors mixed?

- **Body** –
o Is it $\frac{3}{4}$ Shank Length,
o Is it too thin or too thick?
o Is it slightly tapered?
o Does the dubbing cover the shank under the post? Is the dubbing carried in front of the post as directed?

- **Wing** -
o Is the Parachute Wing Posts the proper diameter and height
o Is it in the proper location?
o Are the tips even?
o Is it upright or is it leaning?

- **Hackle** –
o Is it one hook size larger than the hook used?
Is the Hackle shiny side up?
Are the two hackle colors evenly distributed?

- **Head** –
  - Equal to hook eye or less.

**The Bead Head Prince Nymph**

- **Tail** -
  - Are the tail biots forming a “V”?
  - Are they about ½ shank length?
- **Body** –
  - Is it evenly wrapped? No spacing between wraps.
  - Is it slightly tapered?
- **Rib** –
  - Are the turns evenly spaced and the same on all flies?
  - Ribbing should start and stop on the bottom of the hook.
  - Are they parallel on both sides?
- **Hackle** –
  - Is it 1.5 x gape in length
  - Does the hackle slope to the rear with the shiny side out?
  - Are the hackles pulled down and distributed evenly below the shank.
- **Biot Wing** –
  - The Biots should form a "V" over the back and the tips should reach to the end of the body.
  - Does the wing form an angle close to 30°
- **BEAD HEAD**
  - Is there excessive wiggle in the bead on the hook shank?
- **HEAD**
  - Behind the bead is the width equal to hook eye or less.

**Troth Elk Hair Caddis - Dry Fly**

- **Body** –
  - Is the body larger at the rear and tapers smaller in front?
- **Hackle** –
  - Is it 1.5 x gape in length
  - Is the Hackle shiny forward?
  - Is the spacing even?
- **Rib** –
  - Are there two turns of ribbing tying of the hackle stem in the rear?
  - Are the turns evenly spaced and crossing over the stem?
• **Elk Hair Wing** –
  o Is the wing the length of the hook, including the bend?
  o Does it sit on top "ONLY"?
  o Does the wing form the desired tent over the body?
  o Is there a distinct segmentation (about a ½ eye width)?

**Head** –
  o Are the butts of the wing cut at an angle close to the line of the wing?