

AAPGAI SINGLE HAND ADVANCED ASSESSMENT

The logo for AAPGAI features the acronym 'AAPGAI' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic element consisting of a curved line that starts below the 'A', arches over the 'P', 'G', and 'A', and then extends into a long, thin arrowhead pointing to the right.

GENERAL

1. Candidates must have read and understood the requirements of the Single Hand Advanced syllabus prior to assessment. It is advised that candidates prepare fully for this demanding assessment. Access to workshops and a mentoring scheme is available through AAPGAI. Candidates must submit a CV prior to assessment (Page 2 of the [Assessment Application Form](#)).

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

2. At least one balanced, single-handed outfit of your choice that is appropriate for teaching purposes and suitable for river fishing for trout. The maximum rod length is 9ft 6in and the maximum line rating is AFTM 7. The fly line should carry a 9ft tapered leader with a tag of wool or similar material.
3. You may use two setups for the casting assessment: one for the Spey casting section and one for the overhead section. This can either be one rod and two different floating lines, or two completely separate outfits.
4. You will also require a removable sinking tip or a floating line with an integrated sinking tip. The minimum tip length is 7ft and the minimum sink rate is 2in per second.
5. We strongly advise that you carry a spare outfit.
6. Any visual aids you may wish to use for the teaching process as part of your assessment.
7. Suitable clothing for the assessment (e.g. chest waders, jacket, eye protection, safety equipment).

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

8. All casts to have a minimum of 30ft of fly line outside the rod tip except when shooting line.
9. You will be examined in detail on your knowledge of the mechanics of each cast (e.g. stance and grip, wrist, arm and body movements, the arc of the rod and correct power application) and your ability to teach in a clear and concise manner. You will also be tested on your ability to diagnose and correct faults.
10. Casts must be performed with a smooth, acceptable and consistent style that demonstrates excellent line control and timing, and which does not result in the appearance of slack line during the casts.
11. All distances are measured from the rod tip to the end of the fly-line and do not include the length of the leader.
12. Variations in casting style are acceptable provided the candidate can demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the alternatives and discuss the merits of each.
13. Casts will normally be carried out on water whilst wading up to thigh depth (and/or off the water at the discretion of the assessors or during adverse weather conditions).
14. The tests may be performed in any order at the discretion of the Assessors or candidate by mutual consent.
15. There will be a minimum of two qualified assessors for every assessment.

16. Candidates should dress accordingly as if you were meeting clients for tuition.
17. There will be a 1-hour written examination on general knowledge of game angling.
18. There will be a 3-hour practical assessment.
19. There will be a 20-minute presentation workshop in which you will teach, in depth, a cast of your choice before an audience. This will be followed by a 30-45 minute interview and debrief.

TEST CONTENT

SAFETY

20. Detailed explanations on organising and safety measures adopted for taking two or more people on a river for the first time. Explanations of life saving and wading equipment commonly used, and the protection of clients. Knowledge of risk assessment of the environment you may find yourself in.

TACKLE

21. An in-depth discussion of fly rods, fly lines and leader designs for different applications. A good overall understanding of how it all works is required.

ROLL CAST

22. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:
 - (a) Objectives of the Roll Cast.
 - (b) Pros and cons of the Roll Cast.
 - (c) A 30ft basic roll cast in which the leader straightens completely, using only one hand, off both shoulders.
 - (d) A roll cast with head, tail and side winds. Explain rod position and use of hauling into a headwind.
 - (e) A 'shooting roll cast' using a haul, to a minimum of 40ft.
 - (f) Faults and cures.
23. Casts to be performed with clean efficient loops that unroll completely in the air. The line must land near straight on delivery and in line with the intended target.

JUMP ROLL CAST

24. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:
 - (a) Objectives of the Jump Roll Cast.
 - (b) The pros and cons of the Jump Roll cast.
 - (c) A 30ft jump roll cast without shooting line, off both shoulders.

- (d) A jump roll cast, shooting line to a minimum of 40ft, off both shoulders and without a haul.
- (e) A jump roll cast, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders and using a haul.
- (f) Faults and cures.

25. Casts must be performed with a minimal anchor aligned with the direction of the cast. Loops must be clean, efficient and unroll completely in the air. The land must land near straight on delivery and in line with the intended target.

SINGLE SPEY CAST

26. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:

- (a) Objectives of the Single Spey Cast.
- (b) The pros and cons of the Single Spey Cast.
- (c) A 30ft Single Spey Cast to 45 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (d) A Single Spey Cast to 45 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders.
- (e) A 30ft Single Spey Cast to 90 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (f) A Single Spey Cast to 90 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders.
- (g) Faults and cures.

27. Casts must be performed with a minimal anchor aligned with the direction of the cast. Loops must be clean, efficient and unroll completely in the air. The land must land near straight on delivery and in line with the intended target.

CIRCLE AND SNAP T CASTS

28. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:

- (a) Objectives of these casts.
- (b) The pros and cons of these casts.
- (c) 30ft Circle and Snap T Casts to 45 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (d) Circle and Snap T Casts to 45 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders.
- (e) 30ft Circle and Snap T Casts to 90 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (f) Circle and Snap T Casts to 90 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders.
- (g) Faults and cures.

29. Casts must be performed with a minimal anchor aligned with the direction of the cast. Loops must be clean, efficient and unroll completely in the air. The land must land near straight on delivery and in line with the intended target.

DOUBLE SPEY CAST

30. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:

- (a) Objectives of the Double Spey Cast.
- (b) The pros and cons of the Double Spey Cast.
- (c) A 30ft Double Spey Cast to 45 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (d) A Double Spey Cast to 45 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45', off both shoulders.
- (e) A 30ft Double Spey Cast to 90 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (f) A Double Spey Cast to 90 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders.
- (g) Faults and cures.

31. Casts must be performed with a minimal anchor aligned with the direction of the cast. Loops must be clean, efficient and unroll completely in the air. The land must land near straight on delivery and in line with the intended target.

SNAKE ROLL CAST

32. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:

- (a) Objectives of the Snake Roll Cast.
- (b) The pros and cons of the Snake Roll Cast.
- (c) A 30ft Snake Roll Cast to 45 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (d) A Snake Roll Cast to 45 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders.
- (e) A 30ft Snake Roll Cast to 90 degrees, without shooting line, off both shoulders.
- (f) A Snake Roll Cast to 90 degrees, shooting line to a minimum of 45ft, off both shoulders.
- (g) Faults and cures.

33. Casts must be performed with a minimal anchor aligned with the direction of the cast. Loops must be clean, efficient and unroll completely in the air. The land must land near straight on delivery and in line with the intended target.

OVERHEAD CAST

34. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:

- (a) Objectives of the Overhead Cast.
- (b) The pros and cons of overhead casting.
- (c) 6 false casts, 30ft (minimum) to 35ft (maximum) with one hand, showing narrow loops, off both shoulders.
- (d) 6 false casts, 30ft (minimum) to 35ft (maximum) with one hand, changing from narrow to open loops on command, off both shoulders.
- (e) 6 false casts, 30ft (minimum) with one hand, in different planes from vertical to horizontal off both shoulders.

- (f) 30ft (minimum) overhead cast into a head wind, with one hand, off both shoulders.
- (g) 30ft (minimum) overhead cast with a tail wind, with one hand, off both shoulders.
- (h) 30ft (minimum) overhead cast with one hand, shooting line to a minimum of 40ft, off both shoulders.
- (i) 30ft (minimum) overhead cast with one hand, with a 30-degree change of direction, off both shoulders.
- (j) Overhead accuracy casting. Hit targets at 20ft, 30ft and 40ft from the rod tip.
- (k) Faults and cures (including creating a tailing loop on both the back and forward casts).

35. Casts must be performed with clean, efficient loops in a near-vertical plane, unless requested otherwise. The fly line must extend fully in the air and land near-straight on delivery, in line with the intended target.

SLACK LINE, MENDES & CURVE CASTS

36. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:
- (a) A Curve Cast to 30ft (minimum). Place right and left curves from the rod tip to the leader. Curves to be made during the casting stroke and before the forward stop.
 - (b) A Reach Cast and a Reach Mend to the left and right, to 30ft (minimum). The mend to be created after the forward stop.
 - (c) Mendes to the left and right with elbow in line. Elbow to be placed near, middle and far (after the forward stop).
 - (d) A Serpentine/Wiggle Cast. Wiggles to be equally-spaced and uniform, placed near, middle and far.
 - (e) A combination cast. Perform any Spey cast (without touching down on delivery) then go straight into an overhead back cast and deliver to a target at 90 degrees.

SINGLE & DOUBLE HAULING

37. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:
- (a) Objectives of the Single and Double Haul casts.
 - (b) A single-haul back cast to 30ft (minimum), off both shoulders.
 - (c) A single-haul forward cast to 30ft (minimum), off both shoulders.
 - (d) Double Hauling. Demonstrate 6 false casts off both shoulders at 30ft (minimum) to 35' (maximum) with well-formed loops.
 - (e) A double haul distance cast, shooting line to a minimum of 65ft (on shoulder).
 - (h) A double haul distance cast, shooting line to a minimum of 60ft (off shoulder).

- (i) A saltwater cast. Show techniques for delivering a heavy or air-resistant fly with strong side winds from the left and right.
- (j) Faults and cures. Show causes of tailing loops created by both rod and line hand. Show the effect of poor timing of line release on the shoot.

38. Casts must be performed in a near-vertical plane unless otherwise requested. The line must extend fully in the air with no tailing loops in either back or forward casts. The candidate is to discuss the mechanics of both the Single and Double Haul techniques, with good explanations of stance, arm and hand positions, body movement, mechanics, rod drift, and reasons for each movement during the casting sequence throughout this section. Use of visual aids and analogies are encouraged.

USE OF SINK TIPS

39. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:
- (a) Uses of sink tips in fishing.
 - (b) Show techniques for raising a sink tip to the surface.
 - (c) Raise a sink tip to the surface and use a Spey cast of your choice to deliver a cast to 45 degrees off both shoulders.
 - (d) Raise a sink tip to the surface and use a Spey cast of your choice to deliver a cast to 90 degrees off both shoulders.
 - (e) Raise a sink tip to the surface and make an overhead cast to 30 degrees off both shoulders.

ADDITIONAL TECHNIQUES

40. Clearly explain and demonstrate the following:
- (a) A saltwater-type cast, as if in a craft. With the fly in hand and 20-25ft of line extended from the rod tip, show technique and then shoot to 50ft with no more than 2-3 false casts.
 - (b) Demonstrate a cast that pitches the fly first into the water.
 - (c) Assessors may provide additional outfits and invite the candidate to cast with and explain them.