

The Game-angling Instructors' Association

ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL GAME-ANGLING INSTRUCTORS QUALIFICATION (APGAI)

TEST SYLLABUS

2. SALMON

PRACTICAL

Tests will be carried out in accordance with the Schedule of Casts and Techniques listed below.

You are being examined on your ability as an "*Advanced Professional Game-angling Instructor*" and should therefore bring to the examinations any equipment or teaching aids that you would normally use to demonstrate and or instruct others, but as a minimum:-

- A double-handed fly rod with reel, line, leader and fly (with point and bend removed) tag or wool to suit.
- An alternative rod for teaching and demonstrating the Roll and Spey casts if required.
- A double-handed spinning rod with fixed spool reel
- A double-handed spinning rod with a multiplier reel

(Both spinning outfits must have an appropriate line and casting weight)

During the course of your examination you should be prepared to answer questions about your choice of tackle and its suitability for practical fishing and or teaching purposes.

You will be required to demonstrate and teach:-

- minimum safety measures
- assembling the tackle
- description of double handed fly rod, reel and line and the AFTM rating system,
- stance and grip,
- initial working out of line
- description of bait/spinning rod, reels and lines and the Test Curve system, setting up fixed spool and multiplier reels

and then the various casts listed below, describing their uses:-

DOUBLE-HANDED FLY ROD

- **Overhead cast** - basic, head wind, side winds, following wind, shooting line and changing direction
- **Roll cast** - basic, head wind, side winds, following wind, getting more distance using minimum drag techniques
- **Single Spey** - right bank, left bank
- **Double Spey** - right bank, left bank
- **Snake Roll** - right bank, left bank

You may also be required to demonstrate and teach:-

- line mending techniques
- casting with sinking lines and heavy flies

SPINNING RODS

- Bait casting - fixed spool reel (Pendulum method) ,
- Bait casting - multiplier reel

Both fly and bait casts must be demonstrated with either left or right hand up the rod and or over the appropriate shoulder, altering techniques to suit given wind conditions and alternate banks of a river.

You will be examined in detail on your knowledge of the mechanics of each cast and your ability to teach, in a clear and concise manner:- stance and grip, wrist arm and body movements, the arc of the rod, and correct power application. You will also be tested on your ability to diagnose faults, clearly demonstrating both the fault and its correction.

NOTE: variations in casting style are acceptable provided that the candidate can demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the alternatives and discuss the merits of each.

THEORETICAL

You will also be tested or asked questions on other aspects of:-

- Spring and Autumn salmon fishing - sunk lines
- Summer salmon fly-fishing on large rivers - floating lines
- Summer salmon fishing on spate streams or lochs
- Bait fishing for salmon, both natural and artificial

with specific reference to choosing a suitable rod, reel and line for each. You will also be required to discuss the merits of:-

- different fly-rod lengths and actions, reels and line tapers
- different bait casting outfits relating to bait weights
- how you would fish a theoretical salmon pool with fly or bait whilst bank fishing, wading and or boat fishing and what methods you would use to control fly or bait speed and depth.
- essential knots, including Double Turle, Water knot, Grinner, Nail (needle) knot, Tucked Blood etc and their uses
- hooking and playing of fish including use of side strain and walking-up, landing techniques and the safe and proper handling of fish.
- the life-cycle and habitats of salmon and sea trout and recognition of parr, smolt, kelts and baggots, the common enemies of the Atlantic salmon and sea trout and current conservation initiatives
- basic water safety and recognition of common angling dangers including tetanus and Weils disease
- fishing law and etiquette
- the role of the main organisations within game angling
- suitable books or reading matter that you would recommend

how you would structure a teaching course?

