

AAPGAI Advanced qualification in Fly Dressing

Association of Advanced Professional Game Angling Instructors

(AAPGAI)

Advanced fly dressing syllabus

1. Background information

The following notes are provided as a guide to those individuals preparing to take the Advanced level qualification. It must be noted that the Advanced level fly dressing is not available as a stand alone qualification.

The Advanced fly dressing is available only to those members of AAPGAI who already hold an Advanced level casting qualification or above in either single-handed 'Trout' or two-handed 'Salmon' disciplines.

Only in exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the AAPGAI Committee, will candidates be exempt from this requirement.

2. Introduction

Candidates will be examined on their ability as an **Advanced Professional Game Angling Instructor in 'Advanced fly dressing'**. In order to be successful at advanced level, an instructor must be able to demonstrate an in depth of knowledge in fly dressing techniques and materials and an understanding of teaching fly dressing.

The fly dressing examinations consist of four parts.

Part 1 Written examinations

Written questions comprising multiple choice questions and others that require short sentence type answers.

(Duration 30 minutes)

Part 2 Practical assessment in fly dressing

Candidates are required to **explain & demonstrate** their ability to tie **any of the compulsory flies listed** as well as any of the techniques listed below.

(Duration 1.5 hours)

Part 3 Material and insect identification

The candidate will be asked identify a set of materials commonly in fly dressing and also a number of insects encountered frequently while angling.

(Duration 30 minutes)

Part 4 Teaching presentation –

The candidate will be required to deliver a single session tailored to an advanced level client base where marks will be awarded for the following:

1. Lesson plan
2. In depth subject knowledge
3. Enthusiastic & interesting teaching

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4. Clear and concise explanations
5. Overall presentation

(Duration 30 minutes)

(The presentation 20 minutes plus an additional 10 minutes for questions)

3. AAPGAI advanced fly dressing syllabus

3.1. Prior preparation

Presentation flies & portfolios

The candidate will be required to supply the following at least 21 days prior to examination:

1. A presentation portfolio that would be used for a lecture or demonstration to a club or similar group of knowledgeable fly dressers.
2. Two identical examples of each of the patterns listed in the attached table of flies.
3. A list of techniques and materials used in dressing each of the compulsory patterns. Hand written, typed or electronic format (CD or DVD) is acceptable but paper copies must be brought to the assessment for use by the assessors to award marks and to make comments with regard to the practical assessment.
4. A lesson plan for your 20 minute advanced presentation on a given subject related to game angling.

The presentation portfolio, lesson plan, listed tying techniques together with the sample fly patterns, will be viewed by the assessors outside of the 3 hour assessment period to allow the maximum time for the practical assessment and associated identification elements.

3.2. Practical assessment

Candidates will be expected to bring with them all the necessary materials (substitute materials to the rarer items are acceptable), tools and equipment to sit the assessment. Marks will be awarded for organization and setup.

The practical assessment will last for 3 hours including the time allowed for setting up and the identification of any materials and insects etc.

Candidates must be aware that this assessment is intended to determine their competence and ability to dress any of the compulsory flies. The techniques upon which they will be assessed will be those contained within the listed flies. The candidate will be assessed for the following:

1. Organisation and setup
2. Entomological identification (identification of insects in sample jars)
3. Fly tying material identification
4. Practical tying assessment

There will not be any written word required by the candidates regarding the insect and material identification.

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4. Presentation flies

The candidate is required provide **2 of each of the following patterns** and submit them to the Assessor Team at least **21 days prior to the assessment**. Failure to provide presentation flies may lead to the assessment being cancelled.

No.	Pattern	Type
1	Blae and Black	Trout wet fly
2	The Jimmie	Strip wing salmon fly
3	Silver March Brown	Trout wet fly
4	Gold Wille Gunn Waddington shank	Salmon Fly
5	Pheasant tail Nymph (Original)	Trout nymph
6	Lunn's Particular	Trout dry fly
7	G & H Sedge	Trout dry fly
8	Ace of Spades	Trout Lure
9	Walkers Mayfly nymph	Trout nymph
10	Innovative fly of choice	(Any type)

Compulsory pattern descriptions

1. Blae and Black

Hook:	Size 12
Silk:	Black
Tail:	Golden Pheasant tippets
Body:	Black floss
Rib:	Oval silver tinsel or wire
Hackle:	Black hen or cock
Wing:	Teal primary wing slips

2. The Jimmie

Hook:	Single salmon (any size)
Silk:	Black
Tag:	Flat silver tinsel
Tail:	Golden Pheasant topping
Body:	Rear half, orange floss, front half, black floss
Rib:	Medium oval silver tinsel
Hackle:	Black
Wing:	Brown Turkey
Sides:	Jungle Cock

3. Silver March Brown

Hook:	Size 12
Silk:	Brown
Tail:	Partridge tail fibres
Body:	Flat silver tinsel
Rib:	Oval silver tinsel or wire
Hackle:	Brown Partridge
Wing:	Hen Pheasant secondary wing slips

4. Gold Willie Gunn Waddington Shank

Hook:	2" to 3" Waddington shank, with size 8 or 10 treble, with the treble secured with the traditional method using 15lb monofilament
Silk:	Black
Body:	Flat gold tinsel
Rib:	Medium gold tinsel
Wing:	Mixture of equal proportions of orange, yellow and black bucktail

5. Pheasant Tail Nymph

Hook:	Size 12 or 14
Silk:	Fine copper wire
Tail:	Pheasant tail fibres
Body:	Pheasant tail fibres
Rib:	Fine copper tinsel
Thorax:	Pheasant tail fibres

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Thorax cover: Pheasant tail fibres

6. Lunn's Particular

Hook: Size 12 or 14

Silk: Red

Tail: Red game fibres

Body: Stripped red game hackle stalks

Hackle: Red game

Wing: Blue dun cock hackle tips tied spent

7. G & H Sedge

Hook: Size 12 or 14 (long shank)

Silk: Brown

Body: Green Seals fur

Wing: Deer hair spun and clipped

Hackle: Red game

Antennae: Cock Pheasant tail fibres

8. Ace of Spades

Hook: Size 8 or 6 (long shank)

Silk: Black

Body: Black Chenille

Rib: Oval Silver tinsel

Hackle: Natural Guinea Fowl

Wing: Four black hen hackles

Over wing: Bronze Mallard

9. Walkers Mayfly Nymph

Hook: Size 10 long shank nymph hook

Silk: Brown

Tail: Cock Pheasant tail fibres

Under body: Lead wire or sheet

Body: Yellowish-cream Angora wool

Rib: Cock Pheasant centre tail fibres with two bands at the rear of the body (Brown silk may be used instead)

Thorax: Yellowish-cream Angora wool

Wing case: Cock Pheasant tail fibres

5. Additional techniques

In addition to the techniques required to dress the compulsory flies, candidates will be expected to have sound knowledge of the following:

5.1. Tools

Knowledge of the various tools used in fly dressing is required

▪ Vices and attachments associated with the fly tying vice

Lever action

Wire Loop

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Twin Screw
Tube fly attachments (needles etc)
Hand vice
Pin vice

Parachute tool
Bobbin cradle
Tool carousel

- **Bobbin holders**

Ceramic
Non ceramic
Glass
Rite (adjustable)

- **Scissors**

Straight
Curved
Serrated

- **Dubbing needles**

Dubbing – Pin / Needle / Hook
Dubbing – Picker

- **Hair stackers**

Hair stacker Fixed
Hair stacker Adjustable
Hair compressor (Brassie or Delrin)

- **Hair shapers**

Cylindrical
Elliptical
Hackle guard
Hackle folder (doubler)
Hackle pliers

- **Dubbing tools**

Dubbing whirl
Dubbing hook
Dubbing twister
Petitjean tool
Dubbing rake

- **Whip finish tools**

Thompson
Rotating (Materelli)
Half hitch tool
Hand whip finish

- **Winging tools**

Pliers
Cutters
Burners

- **Driers**

Wire rail
Rotary

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5.2. Wing and winging techniques

The candidate should be familiar with the following styles of wings and winging techniques

- Slip wings dry
- Slip wings wet
- Rolled wings
- No hackle wings
- Cut wings
- Burnt wings
- Fan wings
- Wonder wings (upright)
- Perlid (Stonefly) wonder wings flat
- Otzinger (Macramé) wings
- Poly yarn wings
- Hair wings
- Matuka wings
- Zonker (bunny strip wings)
- Loop wings
- Roughed monofilament loop wings
- Streamer wings
- Married wings

5.3. Dubbing

Various dubbing techniques and tools used should be familiar to the candidates

- Conventional dubbing method (finger and thumb twist)
- Dubbing loop (use of dubbing whirl)
- Split thread
- Misting
- Hair
- Wire twist (similar to loop) dubbing brush effect

5.4. Hackles

A knowledge of the following types of hackles and techniques need to use these hackles on flies is required

- Wet fly
- Dry fly
- Schlappen
- Genetic
- Filoplume
- Non genetic (Indian or Chinese)
- Doubled (stroked or use of scissors)
- Furled hackles.
- Throat hackles.
- Beard hackles
- Twin hackles
- Heavy centre twin hackles
- Stripped hackles
- Hair hackles (dubbing loop method)

5.5. Bodies

- Lava lace (*)
- Ultra lace
- Nymphrib
- Swannundaze

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Flexifloss
Nymph skin
Sili skin
Floss
Fur
Silk
Wire
Mono
Hackle quill
Peacock quill
Woven
Chenille
Ultra chenille

▪ Detached bodies

Woven
Pre made
Furled Yarn
Plaited
Single feather extended body (Mayfly for example)

(*) There are obviously many other synthetic body materials (too many to list here) but a sound knowledge is expected.

5.6. Weighting flies

Knowledge of the materials used to weight flies is expected together with the application of weight related to the swimming aspect of the fly/lure. Knowledge of the following materials is required.

Lead (Wire, square, strip or sheet)
Other metal wires for example Brass, Copper etc.
Pre-formed weight for example Beads, Cone heads etc.

5.7. Heads

The creation of various fly heads including those listed below should be familiar to the candidate

Bead head
Cone head
Popper head
Shaped head – Deer Hair (Dahlberg Diver, Muddler Minnow)
Epoxy head
Dumbbell eyes
Glow bug yarn (egg head)

5.8. Legs

Candidates should be familiar with the following materials and styles of legs

Goose biots
Knotted Pheasant Tail (use of tool)
Knotted bucktail (frogs and crabs)
Quill legs
Rubber legs (Girdle Bug)
De-Feo style legs
Madam X style legs

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5.9. Methods of floating and suspending flies

Knowledge of the materials and techniques used in creating floating or suspended is required. Candidates should be familiar with the following

Plastazote
Close cell foam
Open cell foam
EPS ball (nylon stocking)
Booby eyes
Deer hair

5.10. Butts and tags

The use of butts and tags on many flies is common place; candidates are expected to have knowledge of the various butts and tags listed below

Ostrich herl and wool butts
Floss tag
Tucked tag
Tinsel tags
Tags on double and treble hooks

5.11. Hairs

The properties of various hairs is required and techniques needed for using these materials

▪ Deer hair

Spinning
Stacking
Compressing

▪ Other types of hair

Bear
Goat
Squirrel
Bucktail
Arctic Fox
Rabbit
Mink