

The Flyer



Official Newsletter Of The



March 2024

The Flyer

The Official Newsletter of the Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club March 2024

Table of Contents

Club Executive & Committee 2023-24	- 3 -
President's Report	- 4 -
Secretary's Report	- 5 -
From the Editor	- 7 -
March Meeting	- 8 -
Fly Tying Competition	- 8 -
Fly Tying Night	- 9 -
March Bass Outing.....	- 9 -
March Cod Trip	- 10 -
Tuesday Casting Group	- 10 -
Fly Master Awards	- 12 -
Cania Dam.....	- 12 -
Events Calendar 2024	- 13 -
Port Macquarie Casting	- 14 -
Fishing Reports	- 15 -
Casting Around	- 17 -
Mo Tackle Fly Tying.....	- 21 -
Fly Tying	- 22 -
Club Shop.....	- 25 -
Hall of Fame	- 26 -
Fly Tying Competition Hall of Fame	- 31 -
Our Supporters	- 32 -
Membership Fees	- 33 -
Membership Form	- 34 -
Coffs Coast Fly Fishers Fly Master Awards.....	- 36 -

Front Cover: It may not be the biggest Bass anyone has ever caught, but Bill is justly proud of his first Bass on fly.

Club Executive & Committee 2023-24



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President's Report

March 2024

Well, I did do a bit of moaning about the number of tourists that invaded our waterways over the Festive Season but I didn't expect them to all do a Rain Dance when they were ready to leave. Absolute stunning clear water in the rivers all Chrissy Holidays & now we have rivers of murky water, but I guess that's life. I think Doug & Ray had the right idea heading south to Tassie to play with the trout. Also about to do a trip over to the other side of the Ditch are Allan, Jim, John & Brian. I'm sure there will be clear water to fish in NZ.

For those members that braved the storm on Monday 19th night, we were well entertained by Dr Mark Spencer with his incredible slide show of some of the many different dives he done around the globe. Thank you Mark for a look into the world under the waves.

Congratulations to those members who achieved their certificates & badges in our Fly Master Program. Hopefully we can see that sort of number of awards handed out at every monthly meeting.

On the 5th February I had the pleasure of going to a Hastings Flyfishing Club Casting Day at Port Macquarie in the company of Allan, Pip, Murray, Michael & that guy with the camera that loves taking pictures of your worst casts, Vaughn (no hard feelings Vaughn cause one day I'll get it right just hope you are lurking close by clicking the shutter). Anyways, we had a great day out & the Hastings Club hospitality was exceptional.

Earlier in February we were lucky enough to snare a Cottage at Cania Dam for one week in November (Allan has put the dates in this newsletter, so read on). This is a lovely Dam to fish & well worth some thought. Allan, myself, Dave M & Luke spent a week there back in 2017 and had an absolute wow of a time. The cottage is 100 metres from the boat ramp & there are only 2 cottages there (no Camping) & the Caravan Park is 13.5 km away, so plenty of fishing without the crowds. Also, Callide Dam is only 1.5 hours north so a day trip chasing Barra is quite feasible.

*Keep on casting
Glenn*

Secretary's Report



A big thank you to all those members and guests who braved the treacherous weather on our roads to make it to our first meeting for the year on Monday, 19 February 2024. But there was certainly no dishonour for those who could not attend – it rained so hard as I drove down the Pacific Highway I thought I would finally get to use the snorkel on my Triton.

The weather has been awful at times during February, and after reading about [one angler who died in Port Stephens and another went missing on the weekend of 3-4 February 2024](#), I decided I needed to share the recreational fishing alert emails I get sent to my phone.

If you have not already done so, you can register for [recreational fishing alert emails](#) on [the Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW website](#) where you can find other information about safe fishing.

I have included a screenshot of the recreational fishing alert I received on 2 February 2024. This alert warned of dangerous conditions between Byron Bay and the Hunter Valley on 4 February 2024.

Back to that rather horrible weather on the night of our February meeting – if you were unable to attend, you missed an excellent presentation by Dr Mark Spencer. He not only had some amazing photos and accounts of his underwater exploits, but gave us plenty to think about our mortality and our place in this universe.

We still need guest speakers for future meetings. Members with ideas for potential guest speakers can drop us a line at coffscoastflyfishers@gmail.com.

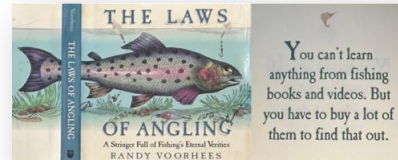
Thank you to members who are submitting their captures for Jim Wray to add to the list of Fly Master awards. Please keep sending through your captures. As Allan commented in the previous newsletter, we would love to see every member acquire at least one of the five Fly Fishing Master awards on offer.

A few Masters awards were handed out at the February meeting including a Silver and Gold to yours truly. Congratulations to Jim Wray and Mick Cannon for achieving a Platinum award, Wal Franklin for achieving Silver, and David Small, Brian Bevan and Jonathan Bradshaw for attaining their Foundation and Bronze Fly Master awards.

I have been busy updating our club pamphlets which are used to let people know who we are and what we do.

That's it for another month but don't forget to read all the newsletter and get your name down for some of the upcoming events.

Anthony



Dangerous conditions Sat 3 and Sun 4 Feb

Why

A ridge of high pressure extends along the NSW coast. A cold front is forecast for far southern waters Friday, bringing another southerly change to southern and central parts. After this, a high pressure system is expected to build over the Tasman Sea. Winds will turn back to the north during Saturday and strengthen on Sunday. Another southerly change is expected in the south during Monday.

Where

BOM is warning of dangerous fishing conditions on Saturday on the entire coast. There will be seas of 1 metre and southerly swell of 3 metres. From Illawarra down to Eden there will be seas of 1.5 to 3 metres and southerly swell of 3 to 4 metres.

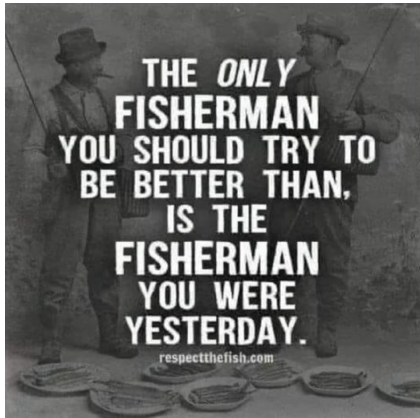
BOM is warning of dangerous conditions on Sunday on the Byron down to Hunter coasts with seas of 2.5 metres and southerly swells of 3 metres.

If you would like a few copies to give to friends to help build our membership, please get in touch or ask at the next meeting.

We are always looking for new members. Another way we can promote the club is by wearing our club shirts. We have two shirts, one a long sleeve fishing shirt and the other a short sleeve casual shirt. The short sleeve shirt is available locally from Zevo Global in Fraser Drive Coffs Harbour (phone 66500022). There is no minimum order and the cost is \$50 with club logo.

The long sleeve shirt is made by Bigfish Gear in Darwin and needs a minimum of 35 orders and the cost is about \$85. See the [Club Shop](#) page for more details.

From the Editor



What a great start to the year with so many members achieving their Fly Master awards. We are well on our way to having every member who is regularly involved in the club having a Fly Master badge. We even have a couple of members who are following my lead and are working on their goal of a Platinum award this year ... and I believe they are already ahead of me.

I'm not a competitive person wanting to be first all the time and win prizes. I like competition when it pushes me to do my best and makes me a better fisherman. I like the fact that competition can prepare me to perform better under pressure. I did a bit of competition fly casting once but much preferred the pressure a fish puts you under than the pressure of having others watching you cast.

There is an element of competition in The Fly Master awards, the Fly Tying Competition and even the casting games we play on Tuesdays. Putting ourselves under pressure to produce our best in competitions such as these has to be balanced with maintaining enjoyment in the sport, and upholding the camaraderie that makes our club so special. When we compete, it is to have fun and to make us a better fly fisher than we were yesterday.

By the time you read this I will hopefully be in New Zealand again. It's been 4 years since the last visit and I can't wait to see what has changed. I'm sure the fish will be as well educated as ever and as difficult to catch. The challenge of finding and catching large, wily trout in beautiful surroundings is what draws me back. I might not catch many, but every one of them will involve winning a competition against the fish and the only prize will be the satisfaction that my skills and knowledge have prevailed.

While I am away, I will miss the Bass day at Doug's place which is always a highlight on our calendar. Doug goes to great lengths to organize the day arranging access to neighbouring properties and ensuring everyone has their best chance to catch a bass. He puts on a pretty good barbecue as well. You shouldn't miss it.

Last year we tried our hand at catching Murray Cod on fly at Bens Falls Retreat with varying degrees of success. This year we have another Cod expert, Chris Russell, organizing a trip to Ashford to have another crack at the Murray Cod. Check the details of both these outings later in the newsletter and register early if you want to go.

This year we have two weekends booked for Dunmore Trout Waters and there are only a couple of spots left. Later in the year there are trips to Swansea chasing Australian Salmon and Cania Dam after Saratoga. You need to plan ahead and register early if you want to go.

I plan to be back for the March meeting and hope to have some photos and videos from our trip to share. Make sure you bring some of your holiday snaps so you don't get sick of looking at New Zealand scenery.

Editor

March Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Monday 18th March at North Beach Recreation and Bowling Club at Mylestom commencing at 6.00pm. Inspired by the slideshow presented by Dr Mark Spencer at our last meeting, we are going to have a photo and video night. You are invited to bring along a fishing photo or video to share. They don't have to be professional quality but as long as they are fly fishing related and feature club members they will be well received. Anyone can take part but we ask that you limit your presentation to 5 minutes. Photos and videos should be on a USB drive.



All the regular meeting activities will take place with the judging of the fly tying competition, presentation of awards and discussion on upcoming outings.

The monthly raffle will be drawn on the night and all tickets will be kept to go in the draw for the major prize in April. This will consist of a platted lanyard donated by Bill Anderson, a Trevor Hawkins print donated by distant member Ben Nieuwerth and framed by Pip Bevan and a wooden fly box. A big thank you to these members for their support.



Fly Tying Competition

The winner of the first fly tying competition for the year is Bill Anderson with his nice mice Bass flies.



If you want to enter the competition each month, you tie two flies and give them to Brian (Pip) who then organizes the judging at our meeting.

We aim to tie flies that will be suitable for the outing each month. Our fly tying night in the preceding month will provide instruction on how to tie a suitable fly to enter in the competition and fish in the outing.

In March we will be judging a cod fly that was the theme of our February Fly Tying night and step by step instructions were in the last newsletter.

If you follow the pattern, we will be tying an Estuary Fly at our fly tying night at the end of March and an Estuary Fly will be the theme for the fly tying competition in April.

The competition side of things is meant to be fun. The winner will be selected by popular vote at the meeting. To see a list of flies to be tied for the year and the names of the winners, go to our [Hall of Fame](#).

Fly Tying Night

Our next fly tying night will be on Monday 25th March at 6.00pm at the North Beach Recreation and Bowling Club in the Osprey room.



This month we will be tying an Estuary Fly. All the materials and hooks you will need will be supplied at a cost of \$5 if you register early enough. We are capping the group at 12 but if you don't register in time, you can still come along and bring your own materials. You can register by contacting Allan on 0427457725.

You can find out about Estuary Flies and get some step by step tying instruction in the [Fly Tying](#) section later in the newsletter.

March Bass Outing

On Saturday 9th March we have a club trip to Taylors Arm. Doug will be organizing this outing so we can fish his creek and nearby properties for bass. You will be able to fish from the bank (limited spots) or from a canoe or kayak.

You can fish the dawn session, the middle of the day or in the evening (or all day if you wish). Just let Doug know when you register. You must register by phoning Doug on 0458696138 or putting your name on the outing sheet. Because of the restricted access to creeks, the trip will be limited to 8. A BBQ will be operating on the day for breakfast and lunch.



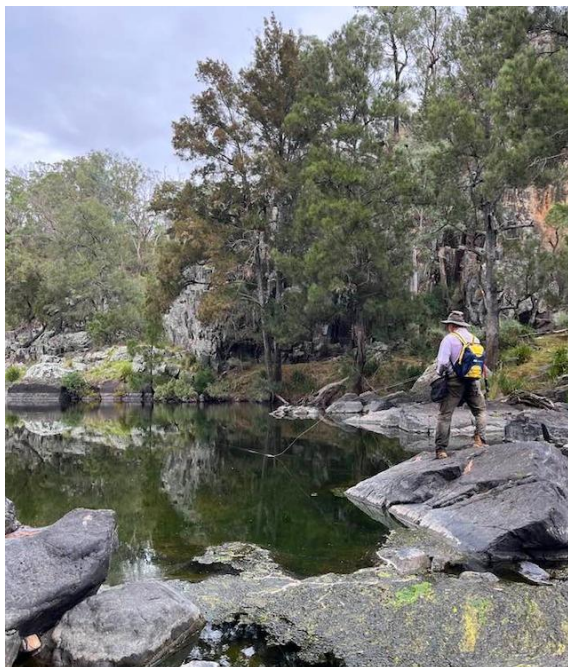
March Cod Trip

Chris Russell is organizing a camping trip to Ashford in the New England Tablelands to fish for Murray Cod. The outing will start on Saturday 23rd March and finish on Monday 25th March.

You will be responsible for your own transport, food and camping facilities. Chris has arranged a camp site on a private property next to the Severn River. You can fish from the bank or canoe/kayak.

Places will be limited to 8 so you will need to register quickly. You can register by putting your name in the Outings Folder or contacting Chris on 0412 460 539.

To catch a Murray Cod on fly you will need an 8-10 weight rod, solid reel, and a fly line capable of casting big cod flies. When you register you will get more information on what fishing gear to take and directions of how to get there.



Tuesday Casting Group

The Tuesday Casting Group is about to commence its fourth Year. If you have been involved at some stage, or would like to join the group, please read the following information.



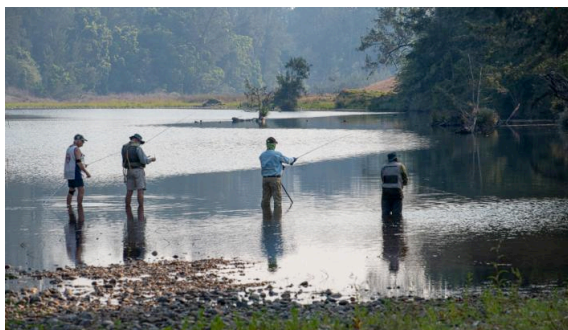
Casting resumes Tuesday 19th March at the Mylestom Cricket Oval opposite the boat ramp. Starting time will be 10.00am but you will need to be there before that in time to set up your rod and maybe have a quick coffee. We will start at 10.00am whether you are ready or not!

As usual, there will be an urn available with plenty of hot water. Tea, coffee, milk and biscuits will be provided. If you would like to make a donation towards costs, that would be appreciated. Last year there was enough in the donation jar to pay for lunch on all of our fishing days. You must bring your own coffee cup as we are phasing out disposables. With limited seating in the park, it would be a good idea to bring a camp chair to sit and relax during the talking bits and morning tea time at 11.00am.

We will endeavour to have casting every Tuesday until December 5th. From time to time, it will be necessary to cancel because of the weather or instructors being away. If we have to cancel you will receive an email to

that effect. Sometimes we move to the Alma Doepel Reserve opposite the Café when the ground is too wet or showers might interfere with our activities. If you don't find us on the cricket oval take a drive to the end of the road and see if we are there. If you still can't find us, check the newsletter and your emails to see if it might be a fishing day.

Every month we dedicate one Tuesday to fishing – after all, that's why we are learning to cast. Without good casting skills you are not going to enjoy fly fishing. Once a month we meet at a suitable fishing spot and spend the morning putting our casting skills into practice trying to catch a fish on fly. We finish at lunchtime with free hot dogs or a sausage sizzle.



The day and venue is chosen by group members taking into account tides, weather and species to be caught. To find out what day and where, you need to check the newsletter or phone me.

The other Tuesdays each month are taken up with casting. We are following a program developed by Fly Fishers International which introduces skills sequentially and progressively so that anyone can get involved no matter what level they are at. Mixed in with skill development are games such as Fly Golf and fun competitions. The program is organized in such a way as you don't have to commit to every week but, of course, the more times you come the better your casting is going to get.

You don't have to have your own rod, reel and line as the club has a number available to borrow. If you do have your own gear, a bright coloured fly line will help you and your instructor see your loops. Don't worry about being embarrassed as no one will be asked to cast in front of the group unless they want to.

Casting days are about improving our casting but there is also a social component. Come along and catch up with friends and have a chat but, remember, if our casting is to improve, we have to practice, listen and learn. Sessions finish at noon and some people stay on for lunch at the cafe and continue the social aspect of the day.

For those who can't get to the Tuesday group, we will be holding casting days during the year on weekends and evenings. Check the newsletter for upcoming dates.

I hope to see you at a casting day soon. If you need any further information, give me a call on 0427457725

Allan



Fly Master Awards

A number of Fly Master awards were presented at our February meeting. Jim Wray and Mick Cannon became the first club members to receive a Platinum award.

Anthony Heiser received a Gold and Silver Fly Master Award and Wal Franklin a Silver.

Other awards yet to be presented include Jonathan Bradshaw (Foundation and Bronze), David Small (Foundation and Bronze) and Brian Bevan (Foundation and Bronze). Their names have been added to [The Hall of Fame](#).



Anthony, Jim and Wal with their awards

If you don't have a Fly Master badge yet, you should make it your goal for the year. All you have to do is catch three different species on fly and they don't even have to be legal size (but they must be carefully released). You can even count any fish you have caught since you became a member of the club. We want every member to have a badge and we can't make it any easier than that.

Anyone who needs help registering their captures need only ask Jim. He will assist you register your fish and answer all your questions. If you don't have photographs, your word will be accepted.



Cania Dam

This year the club is planning an outing to Cania Dam in Queensland. It is not until November, but as it is a week-long trip, you will need to plan well ahead if you want to go. You will also have to get in early if you want a place in the house that has been booked. The exact dates are Saturday 23rd to Saturday 30th November.

Cania Dam is 850km north of Coffs and is stocked with Saratoga, Bass, Yellowbelly and Silver Perch under the Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme. There are also plenty of red claw if you enjoy a feed of freshwater yabbies. You will need a special SIP licence which costs \$12.72 per week.

The cost of the house, which has three bedrooms, will be approximately \$100 each for the week depending on numbers. It is hoped we can get two or three boats with 4 to 6 people going. There is only one house available at Cania, but if you are keen to go and miss a place in the house, there is also a caravan park and cabins at Cania Gorge which is 13km away.



If you are interested or need more information, put your name down or give Glenn a call on 0409 151 270.

Events Calendar 2024

Month	Outings & Activities	Meetings
JANUARY	No outings in January	Committee Meeting Mylestom Monday 15 th 5.30pm
FEBRUARY	Casting Day Port Macquarie Monday 5 th (Allan) Home Waters Mylestom Saturday 24 th (Glenn) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 26 th (Cod fly)	Club Meeting Monday 19 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Bass Fly (surface)
MARCH	Tuesday Casting Group Resumes 19 th March Bass Day Taylor's Arm Saturday 9 th (Doug) Cod Trip Ashford Saturday 23 - Monday 25 th (Chris) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 25 th (Estuary fly)	Club Meeting Monday 18 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Cod Fly
APRIL	Easter 29th March – April 2nd School Holidays 15 th – 26 th April Stuarts Point Saturday 6 th (Mick) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 29 th (Dry trout fly)	Club Meeting Monday 15 th Committee Meeting 5.00pm Major Raffle Drawn Fly Tying Competition Estuary Fly
MAY	Ebor Saturday 4 th (Allan) Fly Golf Day Mylestom Sunday 12 th (Allan & Jim) Home Waters Saturday 25 th (Anthony) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 27 th (Shrimp or crab fly)	Club Meeting Monday 20 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Dry trout fly
JUNE	Macksville Saturday 22 nd Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 24 th (Wet trout fly)	Club Meeting Monday 17 th Mylestom 6.00pm Fly Tying Competition Shrimp or Crab
JULY	School Holidays Monday 8 th – Friday 19 th July Home Waters Saturday 6 th Dunmore Waters Friday 19 th to Sunday 21 st Dunmore Waters Friday 26 th to Sunday 28 th Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 29 th (Surf Candy)	AGM Monday 15 th 6.00pm Major Raffle Drawn Fly Tying Competition Wet trout fly
AUGUST	Northern Beaches Drummer Saturday 10 th (Murray) Swansea Thursday 22 nd – Sunday 25 th (Allan) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 26 th (Bread Fly)	Club Meeting Monday 19 th Committee Meeting Mylestom 5.00pm Fly Tying Competition Surf Candy
SEPTEMBER	School Holidays Monday 30 th September – Friday 11 th October Battle of the Bread Fly Moonee Beach Saturday 14 th Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 30 th (Bass Fly)	Club Buy/Swap/Sell Meet Monday 16 th Mylestom Fly Tying Competition Bread Fly
OCTOBER	Brushgrove/Grafton Saturday 12 th (Glenn) Kempsey Bass Trip Saturday 26 th (Mick) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 28 th (Carp Fly)	Club Meeting Monday 21 st 6.00pm Mylestom Fly Tying Competition Bass Fly (sub surface)
NOVEMBER	Keepit Carp Caper Wednesday 6 th – Sunday 10 th (Tom) Cania Dam QLD Saturday 23 rd – Saturday 30 th (Glenn) Fly Tying Mylestom Monday 25 th (Anything Goes)	Club Meeting Monday 18 th Committee Meeting 5.00pm Major Raffle Drawn Fly Tying Competition Carp Fly
DECEMBER	School Holidays Monday 23 rd December – Thursday 3 rd Jan Home Waters Saturday 7 th Christmas Gathering BBQ Valla Tuesday 10 th	No Club Meeting Christmas Raffle Drawn

Port Macquarie Casting

Last month some of our casting group travelled to Port Macquarie to join with the Hasting Fly Fishers for their regular casting day. The hospitality was wonderful and we had a great morning of casting and socializing.



Under the guidance of John O’Shaughnessy, we had a chance to brush up on our skills for casting in the wind.



We were fortunate to have Brian Henderson in attendance. Brian is a Master Casting Instructor for single handed and double handed casting and an examiner with Fly Fishers International. Murray managed to get a few tips from the Master.



As well as being looked after on the casting field, we were treated to a fantastic morning tea and barbeque lunch.



They even let Mike win a prize in their regular raffle which they use to raise funds to stock Bass in the local waterways.



Despite the heatwave conditions, everyone had a great time and we hope to reciprocate one day soon.

Another positive outcome from the day was the decision for the two clubs to get together to revive the Forster Fly Muster in 2025. Stay tuned.

Fishing Reports

By The Editor

My last three trips to Mylestom have been fishless so I don't know why I am writing these fishing reports. If anyone would like to write a report on what they have been catching, please send something in. I'm sure we would all like to read about it.

As I mentioned last month, I have set myself a goal this year to catch 5 species for my Platinum Fly Master award. I thought I would have a good chance on the trevally but since the episode with the drone I have hardly seen any to cast at. There's a lesson to be learnt in that. When I think of my last few fishing trips to Mylestom I have been one-eyed in my pursuit of a big trevally on fly. There are other species which can be caught locally and some of them grow to Platinum size.

Garry knows his home waters like the back of his hand and managed to catch this Platinum-size mullet on fly. I've been studying Google Earth and enlargements of his photo and I think I know where he caught it.



Paul caught this Platinum-size Luderick in the middle of summer in the middle of his home waters. With the background he left in the photo, I am pretty sure I know where to go.



Now I am not really a competitive person, but this father and son combination have got the jump on me in the race to get a Platinum Fly Master award. They are even going to New Zealand to make sure they add a couple of trout to their tally. It will be interesting to see if father or son receives their Platinum badge first. With their fishing ability, they will surely get over the line before me.

Ray didn't quite make the Platinum level with this brown trout, but any trout caught in Little Pine Lagoon in Tasmania is something to boast about.



Doug also went to Tasmania and landed this 50cm brown trout from Penstock Lagoon. I don't mind sharing locations for Tasmanian trout as knowing where to fish is easier than knowing how to catch them.



You can't beat local knowledge, as Doug found, while fishing with Distant member, Chris, at Bronte Lagoon



While Doug was in Tasmania, he caught up with some casting acquaintances of mine who were conducting fly casting lessons on the lawns of the Great Lake Hotel in Miena.



You have to admit that the venue is spectacular and to top it off the meals at the Hotel just behind them are pretty good too.

I'm sure Doug was telling them about how good we have it up here and how difficult the Tassie trout are compared to the Bass at his back door.



Vaughn doesn't have enough time to go fishing because he spends so much time tying flies.



Casting Around



Teach Yourself to Cast a Fly Rod

Like most people, I started out fly fishing by teaching myself to cast. It was so long ago I don't remember the exact sequence of events but I do recall the major milestones. I came to fly fishing following a childhood of bait and lure fishing. My grandfather and aunty were the fishers in our family and they made sure I had a good grounding in basic fishing techniques and an understanding of fish behaviour. The closest I came to a fly rod was the split cane Rangoon blackfish rods my granddad used. The casting was different but the skills I learnt chasing blackfish in the river stood me in good stead when I started to nymph for trout.

I'm not sure where or when I saw my first fly rod. It was probably in a book or magazine. With no role models around, I was left to my own resources to find a rod and figure out how to use it. I soon discovered that trial and error wasn't going to work and books were too hard to follow. It was then that I decided I needed professional help. There weren't many casting instructors around then, but I did find a local fly casting champion who was offering paid lessons. I learnt a lot from that session but most of all I realized that I couldn't blame the rod when the instructor could throw my whole fly line.

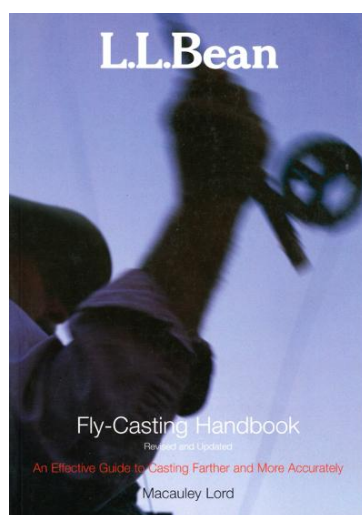
With new found confidence and a better understanding of what a good cast looks like, I went back to teaching myself. Now at least I could tell if the practice was making a difference and judge my progress by the shape of my loops and the length of my cast.

To cut a long story short I continued to teach myself but sought out other fly fishers to watch and learn from. I joined a fly fishing club and gained valuable insights from the experienced casters there. And to make sense of the conflicting information and casting styles around me, I and spent some more time with qualified casting instructors. I still have much to learn but my casting became good enough to catch fish and pass the casting instructor's exam.

If you read last month's Casting Around, you will have gathered that I am not a big advocate of teaching yourself to fly cast. It can be done but there are better and quicker ways to accomplish it. Without the intervention of qualified instructors or reference to books and videos, it is easy for bad habits to be instilled frustrating progress. There are many reasons why people adopt the DIY approach to learning to fly cast, not the least of which is money. When I look back on my journey, I'm glad I supplemented what I did myself with paid lessons. In the long term the cost benefit paid off in less time spent unlearning bad habits and more time fishing and enjoying the advantages of being able to cast well.

For someone starting out to learn to fly cast today, the DIY approach is much more feasible. There are so many more freely available resources and many more people with a fly rod willing to share what they know. If you really wanted to teach yourself to fly cast and didn't want to pay a casting instructor or get involved in a fly fishing club, it is possible these days. This month's article is about teaching yourself to cast and the pitfalls of some of those approaches.

Books and magazines are always a good starting point. Unfortunately, they have somehow been forgotten in the age of video and the Internet. The advantage of a good instructional book is you can read it anywhere, anytime and you don't need Wi-Fi or a lot of money. Choosing a good book is not easy. A quick Google search listed 45,800 books on teaching yourself to cast a fly rod. Of the books listed, I would be reluctant to recommend most. Some were written many years ago by people with limited knowledge and expertise. It seems the market for good books on learning to fly cast is diminishing as young people look to other mediums to get their information.



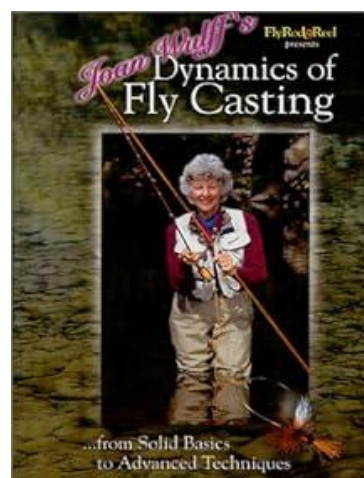
If you are going to teach yourself to cast a fly rod with a book, choosing one of the 45 thousand options is daunting. I guess any book is better than none, but some books are better than others. In recent years, much more has been done to study the mechanics of casting and teaching methods have changed. You need to seek out those books which have been written by people who have credentials and expertise in fly casting. Being a good fly fisher is not always a sign of being a good casting instructor. When I look at my books about learning to cast, I see names such as Mel Krieger, Jason Berger, Joan Wulff, Simon Gawesworth, Lefty Kreh, Sheila Hassan, Al Kyte and others. But if I only had one book to recommend for someone wanting to learn to fly cast, it would be the *L.L. Bean Fly-Casting Handbook* by Macauley Lord.¹

In only 146 pages, Lord covers all aspects of learning to cast from basic equipment and the first cast right through to double hauling and shooting for distance. The language is simple and the explanations are concise and well-illustrated with clear photographs. I particularly like the subtle wit and humour which Lord uses to make his point. If I could only have one book to learn to cast, I think this would be it.

We are rapidly leaving the age of DVDs, but there are many of these still available that will help you learn to fly cast. My library has over thirty different titles that I have used to help me learn and teach. DVDs will not only tell you about how to make a cast but they will show you how it is done. Everyone has their own preferred learning style and for those who are visual learners the DVD should be your first preference when it comes to teaching yourself to cast.

Choosing a DVD should involve the same process as choosing a book. Look for the names of those you know, or have heard of, in the world of fly casting. If you find something by Carl McNeil, Mel Krieger, Jason Borger, Joan Wulff, Simon Gawesworth, Lefty Kreh, Tom White, or Bill Gammel, to name just some of the DVDs I have used, you won't go too far wrong. Selecting just one is quite problematic. It comes down to your preferred learning style and where you are at and where you want to go with your casting. If I had to make a choice, I think I would recommend Joan Wulff's *Dynamics of Fly Casting*.²

Although first produced in 1997 this is still, in my opinion, the best and most comprehensive DVD on fly casting available. It begins with highlights of Joan's amazing and very successful career and then goes on to explain the mechanics of casting and the techniques she has developed over 60 years as a champion fly caster. Set out in 20 chapters you will learn everything from vital hand and arm movements, to practice routines that teach how to make almost every kind of fishing cast. Everything is demonstrated and explained clearly and concisely in Joan's friendly and competent style. This is a must for beginners. For those who think they can cast well there is a wealth of knowledge to be gleaned from watching again and again. If you only have one casting DVD in your library this is the one to have.



DVDs players are rare these days and those who want to teach themselves to fly cast usually head straight for the Internet and YouTube or Vimeo. A Google search of videos on teaching yourself to fly cast comes up with 441,000 hits. Near the top of that list is one from Orvis which has had 2.3million views. I'm sure the producers of fly casting DVDs would love to have sold that many copies.

I think it would be safe to say that most newcomers to fly fishing these days start by watching videos from YouTube or Vimeo. They are freely available and for the visual learners out there they make understanding how to cast a fly rod easy. Many of the old DVD productions can now be viewed at your leisure (including parts of Joan Wulff's DVD) and it's free if you have access to the Internet. Even experienced fly casters turn to internet videos to learn new casts and solve casting faults.

So, what's wrong with using YouTube or Vimeo to learn to cast a fly rod? The biggest problem is knowing what you are viewing is correct? Anyone can post videos to the Internet and everyone does. You will find qualified casting instructors, guides, experienced fly fishers, novices, no-hopers and even no-gooders will all have a go. Company sponsored guides, influencers and wannabe experts will want to lead you in all different directions. You can be easily misled if you don't know what you are doing. Always check on the qualifications of the producer and don't believe everything that Hank Patterson.³ tells you!

Teaching yourself to fly cast can be a DIY project with the help of books, DVDs and Internet videos. But, as good as these learning resources are, you will eventually need to interact with other people if you want to master casting a fly rod. I remember reading a discussion on the FlyLife Forum⁴ regarding the best way to learn to fly fish. Responses ranged from joining a fly club, attending a fly fishing school, hiring a guide, paying a qualified instructor, working with a friend to DIY. All of these will work but some will work better than others. If you want to learn to fly cast you need to make the decision based on what will work for you taking into account your preferred learning style, your financial situation and your goals. My journey involved a little bit of everything. Whatever way you decide, I hope it will work for you.

¹L. L. Bean fly-casting handbook Macanley Lord - Lyons Press – 2007

²Joan Wulff's Dynamics of Fly Casting (DVD)

³[Hank Patterson](#) your Fly Fishing Guide videos.³ Travis Swartz's alter ego, Hank Patterson, is a world renowned, fly fishing expert and outdoor guide ... not!

⁴[The FlyLife Forum](#) is an Australian online discussion board covering all things fly fishing.



Mo Tackle Fly Tying



FLY TYING *Sessions* Q1 2024

- Shrimp Flies** - Saturday February 10th 2-4pm
Estuary Flies - Saturday March 9th 2-4pm
Larger Flathead Flies - Saturday April 13th 2-4pm

- Learn to tie flies
- Improve your fly tying skills
- Learn new fly patterns
- Meet other fly fishermen
- Share your skills with others

\$15*
PP

*ENTRY FEE WILL COVER ALL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO TIE WITH
THERE ARE ONLY 6 SEATS PER SESSION - TO SECURE A SPOT PLEASE CONTACT JOHN
ON 6652 4611 - FLY@MOTACKLE.COM.AU OR DROP IN TO MOTACKLE & OUTDOORS

Fly Tying

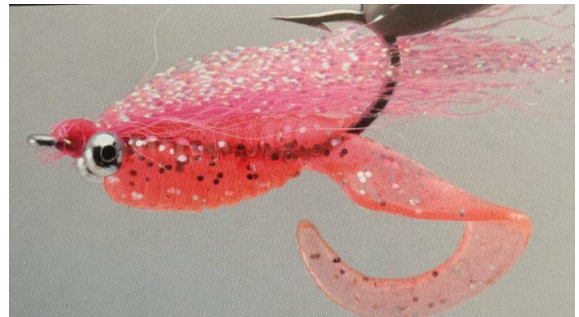
By the Editor

The theme for the fly tying night this month on Monday 26th is an Estuary Fly. I've never caught an *Estuary* but I have caught plenty of different species on a variety of flies in an estuary.

Choosing an estuary fly is like selecting a trout fly. The possibilities are endless. So, rather than being too restrictive, the pack will contain materials you need to make a few different flies that will work on bream, flathead and whiting in our local estuaries. It will be up to you to use your creative skills to tie a pattern that you think will work.

For those who want some direction, the pattern that we will be tying on the fly tying night will be a simple Baited Breath. This is a prawn or shrimp imitation that has stood the test of time.

If you want to try something different and be a little more adventurous, you may want to try something like these:



Don't forget you must register for the fly tying night and we are capping the number at 12 to ensure we have enough room and materials. If you want to register you can contact Allan on 0427457725 or put your name in the Outings Book.

We will have 12 material packs available at \$5 each. Each pack will contain enough hooks and materials to tie 5 flies (at an average price of at least \$5 per fly in the shops, you are getting a bargain!)

If you register too late you can still come along but you will need to bring your own materials and hope there is enough room inside.

Baited Breath Fly Pattern



The Baited Breath can be used successfully for a number of different estuary species including bream, bass, flathead and whiting. It can be tied in all sorts of sizes and colours although small flies tied in shades of olives through to browns work best in the estuary. For our simple Baited Breath, the materials you will need are as follows:

Thread: Flat Waxed Nylon - black or colour of your choice.

Eyes: Beadchain eyes, medium black, silver or gold.

Body: Variegated chenille- olive/fiery brown or colours of your choice.

Tail: Olive marabou

Optional Extras: Krystal flash and rubber legs colours of your choice.

Once again I am indebted to Gordon Macdonald for allowing us to use his step by step instructions which first appeared in [Fishing Monthly Magazine in July 2005](#).



Step 1. Place your hook in the vice and attach the thread with a jam knot or similar at the end of the hook shank where the bend begins. Lay down a bed of thread about 3-5mm long at this area. Cut a large bead chain eye and tie it onto the back of the bend with a figure-of-eight lashing to secure it.



Step 2. Cut a small amount of marabou and tie in behind the bead chain eye. Try to affix it as close as possible to the back of the eye. Secure with a whip finish but don't cut off the remaining thread. Put a small amount of headset or vinyl cement on the thread around the eye and also where you tied in the marabou to secure them.



At this stage you can add optional extras such as Krystal flash and rubber legs.



Step 3. Advance the thread forward, until it is roughly halfway along the hook shank between the eye of the fly and the eye of the hook. Tie in the end of your chenille at this point and then advance the thread along the shank until it is behind the eye of the hook.



Step 4. Firstly, palmer (wrap) the chenille closely around the hook shank towards the bend of the fly. Palmer the chenille with a figure-of-eight around the eyes, and also around the marabou tie in point, to cover up the thread work. Wrap the chenille back over the first section of palmered chenille and also along the entire length of the hook shank to the hook eye. You may have to palmer and unwrap the chenille once or twice to get it looking neat. The body profile should taper from the eye of the fly down to the hook eye. Closer wraps will produce a larger body; sparser wraps will produce a thinner body.



Step 5. Finish off the chenille by tying in the end at the hook eye with a whip finish (or similar) and cut off the remaining thread and chenille. Put a small amount of headset or vinyl cement on the thread to seal it. Your Baited Breath is now completed.



Club Shop



This short sleeve shirt is available locally from Zevo Global in Fraser Drive Coffs Harbour (phone 66500022). There is no minimum order and the cost is \$50 with club logo.



Club caps are in stock. The hats are \$15. Contact the Treasurer to buy.



Both patterns of boat stickers are in stock ... \$10 each. When they're gone no more will be printed.

The original fishing shirts was made by Bigfish in Darwin. None available. We need a minimum order of 35 to get new stock. The cost would be about \$85 each.



We don't hold stock of club patches but more can be ordered. Better still, if you take your garments to Nambucca T-shirts in Bowra Street Nambucca Heads (phone 65694270) you can have the logo directly embroidered for \$10.

Club hats are in stock. The hats are \$20. Contact the Treasurer to buy.

Hall of Fame



HALL OF FAME

FOUNDATION

FISHING FOUNDATION FLY MASTER

Ray Phipps
Michael Ferris
Greg Artlett
Jim Hyatt
Brian Mighell
Garry Bennett
Anthony Heiser
Rod Ryan
Jonathan Bradshaw
David Small
Brian Bevan

CASTING FOUNDATION LEVEL

Bill Anderson	Phill Stever
Greg Artlett	Garry Germon
Garry Bennett	Kallum Jones
Mick Cannon	Vaughn Hagelstein
Michael Ferris	Andrew Cummins
Ken Holley	Chris Russell
David Lindsay	David Barclay
Brian Mighell	Graeme Baldwin
Stephen Mitchell	Glenn Colquhoun
Murray Robinson	Andrew Cummins
Nigel Smith	Allan Ekert
Doug Urquhart	Wal Franklin
Jim Wray	Mark Gawne
Ray Phipps	Garry Germon
David Small	Bill Ker
Steve Rampant	Grant Jennings
Mark Flook	Peter McGrath
David Lindsay	Duncan Sadler
Bill Herd	Phill Stever
David Small	Jonathan Bradshaw
John Starr	
Tom Trefz	





HALL OF FAME

BRONZE

FISHING BRONZE FLY MASTER

Greg Artlett
Jim Hyatt
Brian Mighell
Garry Bennett
Anthony Heiser
Doug Urquhart
Ray Phipps
Jonathan Bradshaw
David Small
Brian Bevan

CASTING BRONZE LEVEL

Greg Artlett
Bill Herd
John Starr
Greg Baxter
Ray Phipps
Garry Bennett
Allan Ekert
Mick Cannon
Mike Ferris
Wal Franklin
Stephen Mitchell
John O'Shaughnessy
Steve Rampant
Murray Robinson
David Small
Phill Stever
Doug Urquhart
Jim Wray
Glenn Colquhoun
David Lindsay
Bill Anderson
Vaughn Hagelstein
Jonathan Bradshaw

Brian Bevan





HALL OF FAME

SILVER

FISHING SILVER FLY MASTER

Tom Clancy
Jim Wray
Glenn Colquhoun
Brian Mighell
Allan Ekert
John Starr
David Lindsay (2)
Doug Urquhart
Murray Robinson
Bill Anderson
Garry Bennett
Paul Bennett
Wal Franklin

CASTING SILVER LEVEL

Murray Robinson
Mike Ferris
Allan Ekert
John O'Shaughnessy
Jonathan Bradshaw





HALL OF FAME

GOLD

FISHING GOLD FLY MASTER

David Lindsay
Tom Clancy
Glenn Colquhoun
Brian Mighell
Allan Ekert

CASTING GOLD LEVEL

Allan Ekert
John O'Shaughnessy





HALL OF FAME

PLATINUM

**FISHING
PLATINUM FLY
MASTER**

Mick Cannon
Jim Wray

**FFI CERTIFIED
CASTING
INSTRUCTOR**

Allan Ekert
Garry Hambly



Fly Tying Competition Hall of Fame



HALL OF FAME



FLY TYING COMPETITION WINNERS 2024

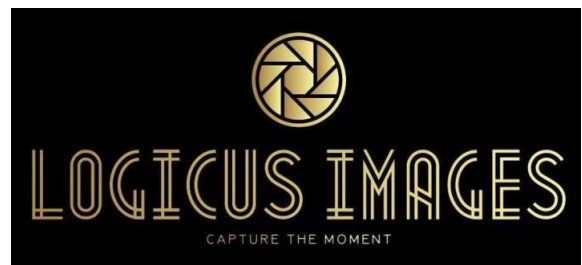
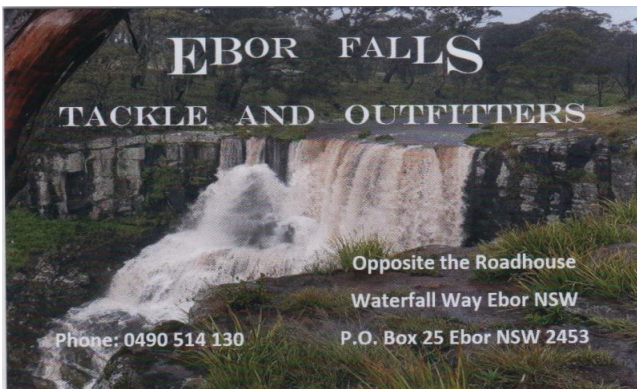
February:	Bass Fly (surface)	Bill Anderson
March:	Cod Fly	
April:	Estuary Fly	
May:	Trout Dry Fly	
June:	Shrimp or Crab	
July:	Trout Wet Fly	
August:	Surf Candy	
September	Bread Fly	
October:	Bass Fly (sub surface)	
November:	Carp Fly	

Our Supporters

These people have helped our Club in one way or another. When you are looking for products or services, make sure you consider them first.



North Beach
Recreation & Bowling Club



Membership Fees

Membership Fees are as follows:

Adult membership \$30

Family membership \$40

Concession membership \$20

Junior membership free

Distant membership \$10

The membership year runs from 1st July to 30th June.

Membership fees will be halved if joining after December

Family membership is available for a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, de facto relationship or adoption who live together.

Concession membership is available to pension card holders (including disability support and aged), Centrelink and Veterans Affairs cardholders

Distant membership is available to anyone living more than 80km from Coffs Harbour.

Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.

Fees can be paid:

1. Direct deposit:



Bananacoast Community Credit Union

BSB 533 000

Account Number: 02051766

Name: Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc

Reference: Your surname

When depositing, make sure you include your surname in the Reference section. e.g.

Ekert Membership.

2. **In cash** or by **cheque** at the next meeting or fly tying night. (cheques) made payable to Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.

3. By cheque posted to:

The Secretary
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club
19 Maxwell Avenue
South Grafton NSW 2460.

Club Contact Address

Our official email address is

coffscoastflyfishers@gmail.com

Our mailing address is:

The Secretary
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club
19 Maxwell Avenue
South Grafton NSW 2460

Electronic Contacts

We have a Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club website which can be found at:

<http://coffscoastflyfishing.weebly.com/>.

If you find problems with the website such as broken links, please email the Secretary so they can be rectified.

Our Facebook Page can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/coffscoastflyfishing/>

We have a **Facebook Group**. If you are on FB all you need to do is search for Coffs Coast Fly Fishers and ask to join the Group.

Membership Form

Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.

I apply for Membership or Renewal in the following membership category (*tick appropriate box*):

Adult \$30 Family \$40 Concession \$20 Junior - Free Distant \$10

Please fill all information below:

Name: _____ DOB: _____
Address: _____ Town: _____
Postcode: _____ Home Phone: _____ Mobile: _____
Email: _____
Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

For Family Membership please complete the details below:

Name:	DOB:	Relationship:
Name:	DOB:	Relationship:
Name:	DOB:	Relationship:

By signing below, you agree to abide by the Constitution, rules and safety regulations of the Club.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Legal Guardian if for Junior member: _____ Date: _____

The club uses photographs taken by members or of members in the newsletter, promotional materials, on the website and on our Facebook Page. If you do not want your photograph to be used tick here.

Phone numbers and email addresses are shared by club members to co-ordinate club outings and for safety purposes. If you do not want your details shared tick here.

This signed Membership form must be given or sent by email or post to the Club together with payment of annual Club fees. Payment can be made by cash, cheque, or direct deposit.

Post signed form and cheque to:

The Membership Secretary
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club
11 Butterfly Close
Boambee East 2452

Direct Deposit:

BSB: 533 000
Account No: 02051766
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc
Reference: **Your surname + membership**

Notes

Club Membership Definitions:

1. Concession membership is available to; Pension Cardholders (including Disability support and Aged), Centrelink and Veterans Affairs Cardholders.
2. A family is a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, de facto relationship or adoption who live together.
3. Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.
4. Distant membership is available to anyone living more than 80km from Coffs Harbour. Distant Members are entitled to all the benefits of club membership and are covered by public risk insurance.

Fees:

1. Our preferred method of payment is Direct Deposit. When making a **Direct Deposit** please ensure you include in the Reference: your **Surname** so the payment can be identified by the Club Treasurer and a receipt issued.
2. Fees can be paid in **Cash** or by **Cheque** at a meeting or club outing.
3. Cheques to be made payable to **Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.**

Completed Membership Forms:

1. Can be scanned and emailed to the Secretary at coffscoastflyfishers@gmail.com
2. Can be hand-written and handed to the Secretary at a meeting or event.
3. Can be posted to the Membership Secretary at the above address.

All information supplied will be held in Club records and will only be available to financial Club members, if approved by the applicant as indicated on their membership form.

Coffs Coast Fly Fishers Fly Master Awards

February 2024 Ver 1.2

The Fly Master Awards are being implemented to encourage members to improve their fly fishing skills and catch more fish on fly. They are not meant to be competitive within the Club but to provide motivation and recognition for members to achieve their individual fly fishing goals.

The awards are designed to give every member the chance to progress through the levels from Foundation to Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum no matter where they live or what they fish for. To this end, the list of species is broad, providing those who fish freshwater, saltwater, estuaries, lakes or oceans something to target.

The **Foundation** and **Bronze** levels are about beginners fishing in our local waters for bread-and-butter species. The **Silver** and **Gold** levels broaden the level of difficulty and encompass all of Australia and Oceania. The **Platinum** level is for those who want the ultimate challenge.

There are no prizes and the only recognition will be a listing in The Hall of Fame and a club certificate and badge. There are rules designed to make it fair for everyone but it all comes down to individual honesty and people abiding by the spirit of the awards.

Catch and release is encouraged. There is no need to take a fish anywhere to be measured. A photograph, or better still a photograph on a brag mat, is ideal but your word will be accepted. These awards are based on challenging yourself and the satisfaction that comes from achieving a fishing goal.

Jim Wray is the registrar for the Fly Master Awards and will record captures. If you want to claim an award you must email Jim at coffscoastflyfishers@gmail.com with details. The email should include the name of the award you are claiming or aiming for and the details regarding species, size, and date captured and date you joined the club. A photo is not essential if you don't have one. You do not need to wait until you've acquired sufficient eligible captures to submit a claim. Jim will record your captures as you submit them until you are eligible to claim your award.

The rules, species lists and measurements are not set in stone and will be revised from time to time as seen fit by the registrar in conjunction with the Committee. All lengths have been selected specifically for use by our club and not any state or national records. If you would like to add a species or group you can submit your proposal for consideration.

Overview:

To achieve an award, you have two options. You can choose to catch a group of fish in one day or a number of fish over any period of time while you are a member of the club.

The groups and fish lengths will become more challenging as you progress through the levels.

You can achieve as many awards at a level as you like but you must submit different groups or fish for each award.

When you register a capture on fly you must decide which award your are aiming for. Once registered, a fish or group cannot be moved to another level.

Legal lengths refer to NSW but if a capture is made interstate or internationally the legal length there applies. Total length (legal length) is measured from the snout to the tip of the tail.

Summary:

There are five Fly Master awards.

To achieve the **Foundation Fly Master** award any three fish from the list must be caught on fly over any period of time. If not legal size, they must be released. It is suggested that members wanting to catch their first fish on fly target local species such as **Mullet, Bream, Flathead, Trout, Herring and Bass.**

To achieve the **Bronze Fly Master** award any group of 2 species must be caught on one day or 3 legal size species from the List over any period of time.

To achieve the **Silver Fly Master** award any group of 3 species must be caught on one day or 4 legal size species from the List over any period of time.

To achieve the **Gold Fly Master** award any group of 3 species must be caught on one day or 5 legal size species from the List over any period of time.

To achieve the **Platinum Fly Master** award any group of 4 species must be caught on one day or 6 legal size species from the List over any period of time.

	Group on one day	List over any period
Foundation		3 fish of any size from the list
Bronze	2 species per group	3 legal size fish from the list
Silver	3 species per group	4 legal size fish from the list
Gold	3 species per group	5 legal size fish from the list
Platinum	4 species per group	6 legal size fish from the list

Rules:

- To claim an award, you must be a financial member of the Club at the time of capture.
- To be eligible, a species must have been caught in Oceania.
- All fish have to be caught on a fly which has been cast with a fly rod (no trolling).
- There are no stipulations regarding rod weight, rod length or tippet size.
- All measurements are to be to the nearest centimetre and measured from the snout of the nose to the end of the tail.
- Retrospective claims for an award can be made from the time club membership started.
- Proof of capture in the form of a photograph is ideal but your word will be accepted. All undersize fish and protected species must be released.
- A group of fish must be caught on one calendar day.

Groups:

The groups have been chosen to give members something to aim for on club outings and when fishing alone. They start with species that can be caught locally and move on to more challenging groups which will require preparation, planning and travel.

There are no groups for the **Foundation Fly Master** as this award is aimed at beginners catching their first fish on fly.

Bronze Fly Master award: Catch all 2 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Bronze Group 1 ...	Flathead, Bream
Bronze Group 2 ...	Bass, Herring
Bronze Group 3 ...	Trevally (any two species)
Bronze Group 4 ...	Luderick, Mullet
Bronze Group 5 ...	Brown trout, Rainbow trout
Bronze Group 6 ...	Whiting, Flathead

Silver Fly Master award: Catch all 3 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Silver Group 1 ...	Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Herring
Silver Group 2 ...	Garfish, Bream, Trevally (any)
Silver Group 3 ...	Flathead, Trevally (any), Tailor
Silver Group 4 ...	Mullet, Bream, Luderick
Silver Group 5 ...	Any three species of Trevally (e.g. Gt, Brassy, Big Eye)
Silver Group 6 ...	Mulloway, Flathead, Bream

Gold Fly Master award: Catch all 3 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Gold Group 1 ...	Redfin, Yellowbelly, Murray Cod
Gold Group 2 ...	Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Brook Trout
Gold Group 3 ...	Mangrove Jack, Flathead, Bream
Gold Group 4 ...	Salmon, Tailor, Dart
Gold Group 5 ...	Mahi Mahi, Kingfish, any Tuna species.
Gold Group 6 ...	Queenfish, Barramundi, Mangrove Jack
Gold Group 7 ...	Mangrove Jack, Barramundi, Trevally (any species)

Platinum Fly Master award: Catch all 4 legal size fish from one of the groups on the one day:

Platinum Group 1 ...	Murray Cod, Yellowbelly, Carp, Redfin
Platinum Group 2 ...	Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Brook Trout, Redfin
Platinum Group 3....	Mullet, Tarpon, Bream, Trevally (any species)
Platinum Group 4....	Drummer, Tailor, Luderick, Bream
Platinum Group 5 ...	Mahi Mahi, Kingfish, any two Tuna species.
Platinum Group 6	Queenfish, Barramundi, Mangrove Jack, Trevally (any species)
Platinum Group 7 ...	Three Trevally species, Tarpon

The List:

Achieving an award by capturing the number of required species from the List is less stressful than catching a group in a day. Groups are for those who want to push themselves to catch a number of species in a short timeframe and achieve an award quickly. If working towards an award by capturing the number of species over any period of time, members can submit species as they are caught and the registrar will keep track of progress.

The list comprises those species which can be caught on fly in our local waters or throughout Oceania. It will be revised from time to time as new species are added and lengths updated. Members are welcome to submit new species and groups to be included to the registrar for consideration.

The list is in alphabetical order to help you locate the information about legal lengths and sizes. Unless stated otherwise, legal lengths relate to NSW. Where a fish is caught interstate or internationally, legal lengths in that jurisdiction must be adhered to.

Superscripts (¹) are used where additional information is needed regarding legal lengths, slot limits and variations across states, territories and international destinations.

The List

Species	Foundation	Legal Length	Bronze Length	Silver Length	Gold Length	Platinum Length
Archer fish	Any	None	20cm	25cm	27cm	29cm
Australian Salmon	Any	None	35cm	40cm	50cm	55cm
Barramundi	Any	55-58cm	55cm	65	75	85
Bass	Any	35cm	35cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Big Eye Trevally	Any	None ¹	20cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Blue Bastard	Any	None	Any	Any	40cm	50cm
Bonefish	Any	None	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Bonito	Any	None	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Billfish (any)	Any	None	Any	Any	Any	Any
Bream	Any	25cm	25cm	30cm	33cm	38cm
Brook Trout	Any	25cm ²	25cm	35cm	40cm	50cm
Brown Trout	Any	25cm ²	25cm	35cm	40cm	50cm
Carp	Any	None	45cm	55cm	65cm	75cm
Catfish	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Coral Trout	Any	38cm	38cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Dart Common	Any	None	20cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Drummer	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	38cm	40cm
Emperor Spangled	Any	45cm Qld	45cm	50cm	55cm	60cm
Estuary Perch	Any	35cm	35cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Flathead	Any	36cm	36cm	40cm	50cm	70cm ³
Frigate Mackerel	Any	None	25cm	28cm	32cm	35cm
Garfish	Any	None	23cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Giant Herring	Any	None	30cm	40cm	50cm	60cm
Golden Perch (Yellowbelly)	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Herring (freshwater)	Any	None	15cm	20cm	25cm	30cm
Jungle Perch	Any	35cm	35cm	38cm	40cm	45cm
Kingfish	Any	65cm	65cm	70cm	75cm	80cm
Lesser Queenfish	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Long Tom (Crocodile/Barred)	Any	None	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Luderick	Any	27cm	27cm	30cm	33cm	35cm
Mackerel Barred	Any	75cm	75cm	80cm	85cm	80cm

Species	Foundation	Legal Length	Bronze Length	Silver Length	Gold Length	Platinum Length
Mackerel Spotted	Any	60cm	60cm	65cm	70cm	75cm
Mahi Mahi	Any	60cm	60cm	65cm	70cm	75cm
Mangrove Jack	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Mary River Cod	Any	60cm Qld	60cm	65cm	67cm	70cm
Milkfish	Any	None	40cm	45cm	50cm	60cm
Moses Perch	Any	None	25cm	28cm	33cm	38cm
Mullet	Any	None	20cm	23cm	27cm	30cm
Mulloway	Any	70cm	70cm ³	75cm	80cm	85cm
Murray Cod	Any	55cm	55cm	60cm	70cm	75cm ⁴
Permit	Any	None	35cm	40cm	45cm	50cm
Queenfish (species not listed)	Any	50cm Qld	50cm	55cm	60cm	65cm
Rainbow Trout	Any	25cm ²	25cm	35cm	40cm	50cm
Redfin	Any	None	20cm	25cm	30cm	35cm
Saratoga	Any	50cm Qld	50cm	55cm	60cm	65cm
Silver Perch	Any	25cm ⁵	25cm	27cm	30cm	35cm
Silver Trevally	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Snapper	Any	30cm	30cm	33cm	38cm	40cm
Sooty Grunter	Any	28cm Qld	25cm	30cm	33cm	35cm
Tailor	Any	30cm	30cm	35cm	40cm	45cm
Tarpon	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Threadfin Salmon	Any	40cm Qld	40cm	45cm	50cm	55cm
Trevally (species not listed)	Any	None ¹	40cm	50cm	60cm	70cm
Trigger Fish	Any	None	25cm	30cm	35cm	40cm
Tuna (species not listed)	Any	None	40cm	50cm	60cm	70cm
Whiting sand	Any	27cm	27cm	30cm	32cm	35cm

¹ No size limit on Trevally in NSW except Silver Trevally 30cm

² Except in trout spawning streams 50cm

³ All Dusky Flathead outside the 36cm to 70cm size range are to be released unharmed.

⁴ Murray Cod smaller than 55cm, or bigger than 75cm, must be released unharmed.

⁵ Silver Perch are vulnerable species and can only be taken from listed dams.

[Go Back to Contents Page](#)