

# The *Flyer*



*Official Newsletter Of The*



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## **The Official Newsletter of the Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club**

**May 2019**

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**Above:** Brian with a solid trevally on fly from our Homewaters.

**Opposite:** Flathead love clousers! And Ray loves catching flathead.

**Cover:** This photo by Chris Bates was the winner in our Facebook Photo Competition. A worthy winner.



## From the Editor



"If only" has been the catch cry for my last few fishing outings. In fact I often find myself thinking "if only" a lot lately.

My recent trip to New Zealand where I had only one day to fish and try and catch a kingfish ended with me being skunked again. There were lots of "if onlys" going through my mind on that day.

If only the sun had been shining and the wind not blowing so hard. If only the two kingfish I cast to had taken the fly. If only I had slowed the retrieve ... sped up the retrieve ... stopped the retrieve ... had a different fly on! If only I had another day to fish there.

Last month I wrote about some "if onlys" from Tasmania. This month I promised more saltwater content. If only more of our members would write reports or articles the newsletter would feature more saltwater material. If you fly fish in the salt why not write something about your experiences and share your stories with everyone. In the meantime, I hope you find a better balance in the newsletter this month as we all enjoy our saltwater fly fishing.

Our last meeting featured a talk from Clinton Isaac and Alan Donald from Hinchinbrook Lodge. The information they shared was eagerly taken in by all who attended. If you are interested in saltwater fly fishing this has to be one of the best destinations in Australia. The number of species available and the number of fishing options make it the ideal place to chase your bucket list. The thought of staying at lodges and hiring guides frightens most people when they see the cost. But if you consider what you get for your money in terms of fast tracking your learning curve it can

be money well spent. Guides like Clinton and Alan spend many days on the water each year learning about fish behavior, tides, weather patterns and developing flies for local conditions. That knowledge doesn't come cheaply. When you book a guide you get access to their vast experience not to mention their boats, accommodation and on the water tuition. I'm hoping we might be able to get a small group to go to Hinchinbrook next year. If you are interested let me know.

I'm sure you will agree Chris Bates' photo was a worthy winner of the Facebook Photo Competition (see cover). There were some fantastic entries highlighting the fact the fly fishing and photography go together well. Congratulations to everyone who entered. You have helped promote our club and spread the word about how good fly fishing can be. Thanks must go to David for organizing the competition, to Barry for donating the prize and to Chris for the unenviable task of judging the winners. You will find more photos in the newsletter and on our web site.

Well that's it for another month. You should receive your **Flyer** at the regular time at the beginning of the month from now on. No more trips for me for a while. On the subjects of trips and outings make sure you read the newsletter and keep a copy nearby so you can participate in all the club activities. As you will see in the following pages there is plenty going on at the club.

Editor

## Club Executive 2018-19

**President:** Kevin Cosgrove

Vice President: Doug Urquhart

**Secretary:** Allan Ekert

Assistant Secretary: Rod Leane

**Treasurer:** Walter Krainik

Assistant Treasurer: Denise Jones

Public Officer: Allan Ekert

Committee:

Don Cummings, Glenn Colquhoun, David Moppett

## May Meeting

The next meeting of the club will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019. The meeting will start at 7.30pm at the Boambee East Community Centre. Jim Wray will be our guest speaker talking about his latest trip to New Zealand.

The meeting will follow our regular format with a general business session and fishing reports followed by our guest speaker. Tea and coffee will be available. We will have the usual raffle to cover the hall hire costs.

Before the meeting the Committee will meet. Committee members will receive an email with an agenda and details. If anyone has business for the Committee please forward to the Secretary before the meeting.

## Fly Tying

Fly tying resumes this month with Jim back at the helm. It will be held at the Uniting Church Hall in Coffs commencing at 7.00pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May. We will be tying some trout flies (sorry Salties) in preparation for the trip to Dunmore Waters in July.

For the beginners in the group there will be individual instruction on fly tying basics. All the hooks and materials needed will be supplied and spare vices are available. A donation of \$5 is requested to pay for the hire of the hall and the tying materials.

A number of different flies will be tied on the night including a Hare and Copper. The Hare and Copper nymph is probably the most popular nymph pattern used to fish for trout in New Zealand and is not far behind in Australia. It is relatively easy to tie. There are numerous variations with different coloured beads, body shapes, and the like to suggest different insects from mayflies to drowned spinners, hatching caddis and even dragonfly nymphs.

If you want to see how a Hare and Copper nymph is tied here is a typical version:

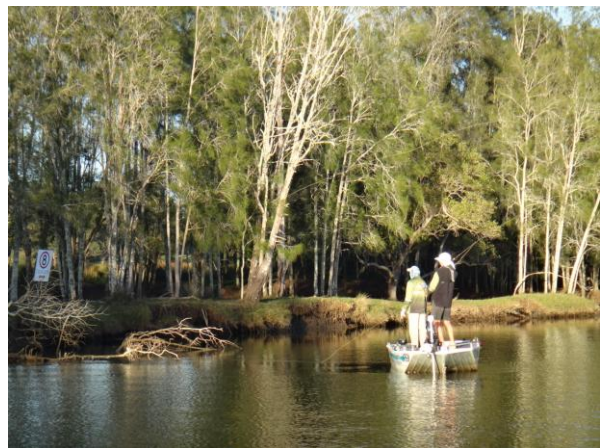
<https://vimeo.com/227207666>



## May Outing

The outing for May will be another visit to our Homewaters on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>. You can launch wherever and whenever you like but we plan to meet back at the Urunga ramp at 12.30pm for lunch. A boat or kayak will make life easier but for those without there will be opportunities to share a ride or be taken to some flats for wading.

You must register for this outing so you can be contacted with further details. You can register by placing your name on the outings sheet or contacting the secretary. The target species will be bream, flathead and luderick. Information regarding equipment, flies and other details will be emailed to those attending.



## Closed Seasons

Spawning season for trout starts 1 May in the Snowy Mountains and special rules apply to the Thredbo River and its tributaries and the Eucumbene River and its tributaries (upstream of the Lake Eucumbene dam wall and including Providence Portal). A minimum size limit of 50 cm, daily bag limit of one and possession limit of two trout will apply to these rivers from 1 May to the end of the Queen's Birthday long weekend.

Annual closure on fishing in trout streams for all of NSW will be in place from Tuesday after the Queen's Birthday weekend and re-opens on the October long weekend. Trout dams remain open to fishing throughout the year.

When the season opens again in October, a minimum size limit of 25 cm, daily bag limit of two and possession limit of four trout again applies to the Thredbo and Eucumbene Rivers and other fly and lure only waters in NSW.

## Upcoming Outings

You need to plan ahead for these upcoming outings. In June we have a Bluewater Day planned. You will note that it is down for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> or Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>. This will allow us to choose the day based on the better weather forecast. Don is co-ordinating this day so he will be providing more details closer to the date. You will need a seaworthy boat to participate in the bluewater day but an estuary trip to our homewaters could also be conducted for those without boats or who get seasick.

The July outing to Dunmore Waters is almost fully booked. If you would like to go but haven't registered yet you have until our May meeting to do so. To attend this outing from 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> July you will need to pay a deposit of \$50 by the May meeting.

## Learn to Trout Fish

If you are a beginner to trout fishing the club is organizing a one day workshop at Ebor on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Numbers will be limited so you will need to register by email or phone as soon as possible.

The day will feature instruction from experienced club members and the chance to fish a trout stream in the afternoon. Juniors would be most welcome to attend if accompanied by an adult.



You will have a chance to learn about casting, flies, stream craft, insects that trout eat, hooking, playing and landing fish and many other skills that will help you become a successful trout fisher.

If you would like to attend as an instructor or helper you would be most welcome.

There will be a cost of \$20 for the day to cover a tour of the hatchery, lunch, tea, coffee and equipment needed for instruction including flies. To register or for more information contact the Secretary.

## Setting up for Saltwater Fly Fishing

As part of his talk about Hinchinbrook Island at our last meeting, Clinton Isaac presented a few ideas for setting up a saltwater fly fishing outfit. His recommendations are only a guideline but if you could only have one saltwater outfit this is what he would suggest:

- A 9 weight rod and line will cover most situations
- A clear sink tip line is the most useful
- Leaders for barra bashing need only be 7-9ft straight mono in 40lb with a 20lb fluro tippet.
- For flats fishing a tapered leader of around 9ft with 20lb fluro tippet
- Spend more time choosing the best line ... Airlo Flatsmaster was suggested.
- The choice of rod comes second - not too stiff/fast
- Choose the reel last - but must have a good drag
- A few sparsely tied flies is all you need - clouser, barra bunny, crab, spawning shrimp

Clinton emphasized if you are preparing for a saltwater trip you need to practice your casting: Important things to concentrate on are:

- Generating line speed with long strokes and hauling
- Being able to cope with the wind
- Delivering flies on the back cast
- Using the Belgian or constant tension cast
- Understanding casting by the clock
- Not false casting all the time
- Managing your line
- Never cast over the boat





*Australia's first exclusive saltwater flyfishing lodge overlooking the breathtaking Hinchinbrook Island*



- A modern private lodge
- Catering from 1 to 6 anglers
- All levels of experience welcome
- Professional local guides
- A large range of tropical fish species available

[Australianflyfishinglodge@gmail.com](mailto:Australianflyfishinglodge@gmail.com)

**Phone: 0415990270**



Hinchinbrook Island and its surrounds is the gateway to Australia's tropical north fly fishing. The area is renowned for its beauty and rugged tropical landscapes, regarded as one of the finest fly fishing destinations in the country. Covering such a large area the fly fishing opportunities are varied and endless. The stunning mountain peaks are not only visually spectacular they also act as a natural barrier giving fly anglers always somewhere to fish out of the wind. The region has extensive mudflats and mangrove creeks running the length of some 50 kilometers of prime fishing waters, for the area's prime target is the mighty barramundi. Whilst chasing barramundi anglers also have the chance to catch a range of other species such as mangrove jack, threadfin salmon, blue salmon, grunter and many more. Moving inside the channel the sand flats here will give you the opportunity to sight cast to saltwater fly-fishing most sought after species the Australian permit. These flats inside the channel are without a doubt the finest locations in the country to target these "Prince of the Flats". The crystal clear sand flats will also give you the chance to cast big queen fish, giant trevally, cobia and golden trevally. The front of the island has bluewater options for tuna, mackerel and more. The Australian Flyfishing Lodge runs purpose built skiff boats for fly fishing. You will be fishing with professional fly guides that are enthusiastic and understanding. All trips are customized to anglers' desires; the season runs from March to December. All trips are booked around prime tides to give anglers the best fishing possible. Whether you are an experienced fly angler wanting to refine your skills to beginners new to the sport, everyone is welcome to fish with us.



## Club Calendar 2019

Below is the outings calendar for 2019. There are still opportunities to make changes and the details will be filled in as the year progresses. Check the monthly newsletter or website for details.

Month	Outings	Activities
JANUARY	No outing this month The monthly meeting will be a BBQ and casting night at Mylestom starting at 5.00pm on Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> .	No Fly Tying <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>
FEBRUARY	Lake Keepit Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> <b>Cancelled</b> <b>Moonee Creek</b> Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Club Meeting Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>
MARCH	Forster Fly Muster (15 <sup>th</sup> /16 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>Bass Bash</b> Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> Postponed <b>Ebor</b> Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Postponed	No Fly Tying <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>
APRIL	<b>Casting Day</b> Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> <b>Home Waters</b> Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	No Fly Tying Club Meeting Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>
MAY	Learn to Fly Fish Trout Workshop Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> <b>Home Waters</b> Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>
JUNE	<b>Bluewater</b> Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> or Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> depending on weather	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>
JULY	<b>Dunmore Waters</b> Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>
AUGUST	Swansea Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> <b>Home Waters</b> Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>
SEPTEMBER	Casting Day Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> The Gorge Clarence River Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>
OCTOBER	<b>Dorrigo trout Weekend</b> Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	No Fly Tying Club Meeting Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>
NOVEMBER	Urunga Flathead Tournament TBA <b>Jackadgerary Mann River</b> Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> <b>Club Meeting</b> Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>
DECEMBER	<b>Lake Keepit</b> Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fly Tying</b> Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> No Club Meeting

If you want to organize additional outings don't forget we have a Facebook Group where you can create your own outing. If you are looking for someone to go fishing for a day, weekend or week you can post the information on Facebook and see if any other members would like to join you.

## Photo Competition

These are the Highly Commended in the photo competition in no particular order. You will see how difficult it was for the judge to select the winning entry. Judging was based on what would make a great photo for the cover of a fishing magazine (or club newsletter). The photo didn't have to contain fish or anglers but simply reflect the reason why people go fly fishing. Many thanks to Chris Wynne for undertaking this difficult task.



Pemberton BC submitted by Barry Ryan



Three Mile Day sunset submitted by Barry Ryan



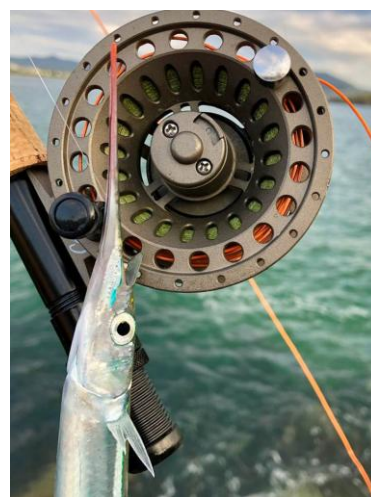
Queenfish submitted by Craig Ashdown



Spotted Mackerel submitted by Don Cummings and photographed by Jordon Voglsinger



Rainbow Trout submitted by Craig Ashdown



A baby beak submitted by David Moppett



Saratoga Photographed by Glenn Colquhoun



The Gorge submitted by Glenn Colquhoun



New England Murray Cod submitted by Nick Kneipp



## I Bought A Spey Rod

I wrote this article back in 2014 soon after I moved from Tasmania. Although the references to the Jeep ads that were running at the time are no longer topical most of the other content is still relevant. With a promise to include more content for the "salties" this is month I thought it was worth a reprint.

I bought a Spey rod! Actually, it is not a Spey rod but a two handed fly rod for overhead casting in the surf. The advertisement says it all: *"the ultimate tool for overhead and skagit casting, delivering extreme distance with minimal effort. Whether you are launching flies into the surf, or you're knee deep in your favorite steelhead run, these rods let you cover more water - putting your fly in front of fish that you couldn't reach with your single hand rods"* It sounds more like a rocket launcher but let's just call it a Spey rod.

### TFO Rods - Pandion Two Handed



Why would anyone buy a Spey rod I hear you ask? Well if you live in Tasmania and you only fish for trout you wouldn't buy one of these rods. However, I no longer live in Tasmania and I don't get to fish for trout all that often so the thought of being able to fly fish in the surf has some appeal. I can think of many situations in trout fishing where the fly rod is the best way and sometimes the only way to catch a trout. In saltwater the fly rod is the furthest from your mind if you want to catch a fish. And if you are thinking of doing it in the surf your mental state might be questioned.

I bought this rod as a challenge. I wanted to know if it was possible to fly cast in the surf and what gear I would need to do it. I wanted to know how to fly cast in the surf and what I might catch. I wanted to learn to use a Spey rod. So the journey began.

Choosing a rod was not as difficult as I first thought. There are plenty of Spey rods out there but my research suggested an ordinary Spey rod would not cut the mustard in the surf. To cast heavy lines and heavy flies overhead you need a rod with a strong butt and fast action. Most traditional Spey rods have a soft, progressive action and are designed for casting where the line is anchored to the water in a type of roll cast. In the surf the line has to be kept up out of the waves so you can only make an overhead cast. Fortunately, you usually have plenty of room for a backcast. Rods that met these criteria were few and far between and saved me the dilemma of having lots of rods to procrastinate over.

Deciding on the length of the rod was a little more difficult. In one camp you have those who believe short 10ft rods with very fast action and lots of power is the way to go. At the other extreme you have those who think longer is better. After weighing up all the arguments I settled on a long rod of almost 14 feet to enable me to keep the line above the waves and gain the maximum distance with the minimum effort. The compromise is that the rod is heavy and more difficult to control.

I bought a Spey Rod. I'm going to need a bigger reel! In order to accommodate the heavy fly lines used on Spey rods you need a large reel. Backing is usually not an issue and where I am fishing there are not too many

fish that can pull line off the reel. Large reels are needed to hold the very thick fly line that is associated with shooting heads. The extra weight of a large reel is also important in balancing the rod. In the case of my rod you need a lot of weight to balance it. Fortunately, using two hands makes the weight bearable.

Finding the right line for the rod is still a work in progress. A quick look through my box of fly lines confirmed I had nothing that would even come close to lining this rod. In the Spey world rods are labelled with an AFTMA number and a grain weight. The later is more important when choosing a line. My Spey rod is a 9 weight but has a grain weight window of between 700 and 750 grains. To put that in perspective your average 6 weight trout rod works best with 160 grains and a single hand 9 weight rod is designed for 240 grains. After extensive research I settled on a 14wt Wulff Ambush fly line which weighs 600 grains. If this line doesn't work there are many more options including Scandi, and Skagit shooting heads and new designs such as Rio's Switch Chucker. (I quite like the idea of a Switch Chucker as it matches my casting style.) One thing I have learnt about trying to find a fly line for a Spey rod is that it is going to cost much more than the rod in the long run.

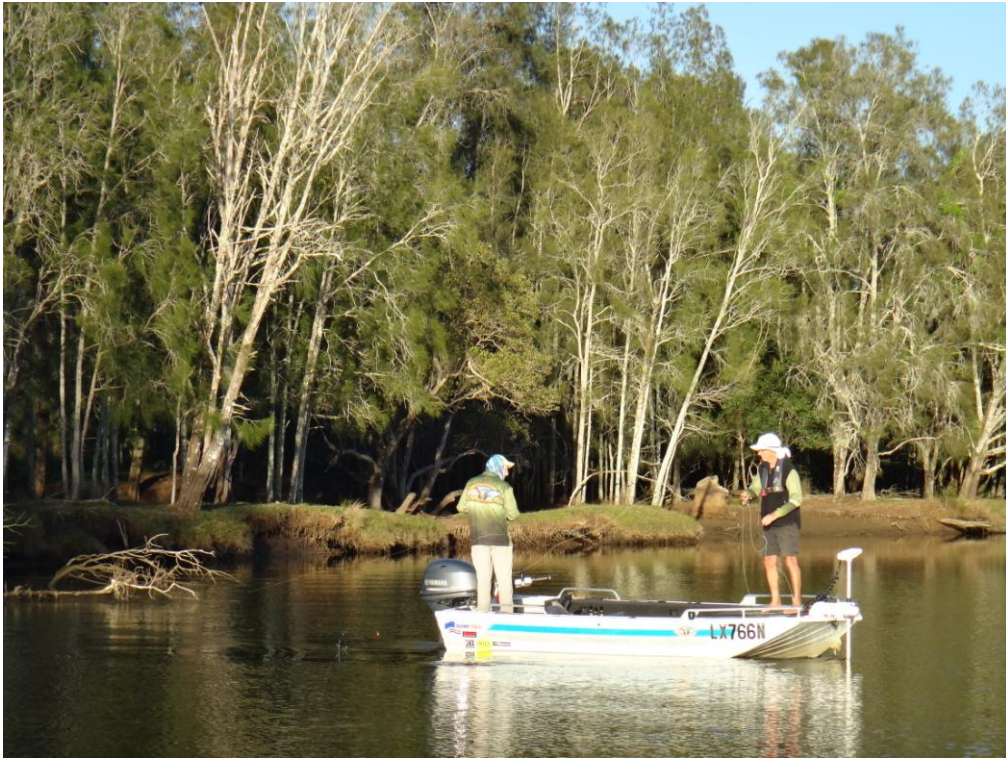
The rod is now set up and has had its first cast in the surf. At this stage I am not even thinking about what flies to use or what fish I might catch. My first hookup will probably be a surfer or sunbather. Finding the right rod, reel and line has been my first goal. When I have learnt the basic casting skills I can move on to the real business of catching my first fish on fly in the surf. I'll keep you posted.

I bought a Spey rod. Me too! Not likely! A Spey rod is not for everyone. You may wonder why the Editor has bothered to publish this when most of our club members will never cast a fly in the surf. Well apart from the fact that these articles fill up space in the newsletter there might be something in here that will spark an interest. I can envisage places in Tasmania where beach fishing for salmon with a fly rod could be fun. Beside, no one drives a Jeep but we can all enjoy the ads!



## Club Outing Urunga Report

Four boats, three kayaks and 9 members attended the outing to Urunga on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>. Everyone caught fish; some bigger than others. The weather was kind to us with the wind not quite reaching the forecast strength making casting a fly that much easier.



Tom and Glenn had an early start and enjoyed the best of the conditions. It looked “fishy” but I don’t think they caught anything in this location.



By the time Lachlan and Bailey hit the water the wind was starting to get up and the fish were still being elusive.



Bill didn't need a fancy boat with outboard and electric motor to catch a fish.





Size doesn't matter when you are having fun. Little bream and flathead pull hard. Greg (above) and Ray (below) enjoyed their success with the fly rod.





Bailey caught the second biggest fish of the day. A very solid tailor from the river. The biggest fish of the day was a 62cm Brassie Trevally caught thanks to Lachlan and Bailey sharing where they had found some big fish in the river.



## Free fly fishing day in beautiful Ebor for women who have experienced breast cancer



"A fun day away from illness, treatment and side effects" "Everyone, absolutely everyone, was simply amazing" "A phenomenal day" 2018 participants

Casting for Recovery recommends fly casting as an exercise for breast cancer recovery. The motion of fly casting is similar to the physiotherapy often required for the healing process. We are holding an introductory fly fishing day in which women will receive free lessons from expert fly fishers, share experiences, enjoy nature and catch a delicious trout

**DATE:** Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2019

**BOOKINGS CLOSE:** 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2019

For more information and bookings contact:

**Kate Guthrey**  
0402 125 925  
[kate.guthrey@ywca.org.au](mailto:kate.guthrey@ywca.org.au)



"Had such a memorable day"

All fishing gear and lunch provided, and you can take home your catch!  
Accommodation options close by if you would like extend your experience.

A collaboration between NSW Department of Primary Industries, Fishcare and the New England Trout Acclimatisation Society with support from YWCA NSW Encore.



Department of  
Primary Industries





## FLY CASTING SKILLS CHALLENGE PROGRAM Bronze Levels 3 & 4 ... The Roll Cast

Here we go again - another boring article about the *Fly Casting Skills Challenge Program*! Despite the seemingly tedious subject, my challenge to you is to continue reading this series as I believe we can all learn something by looking at the tasks involved and how to perform them. This month we look at Levels 3 & 4 which both relate to roll casting.

As I mentioned previously there is some debate about whether we should start teaching a beginner with the Pick Up and Lay Down Cast (PULD) or Roll Cast. If you are looking at the complete novice the roll cast is a quick, easy and safe way for them to get a fly on the water as soon as possible. Years ago I did some casual guiding for what was then a private fishery at Launceston Lakes. Many of the visitors had never picked up a fly rod before and wanted to catch their first Tasmanian trout on fly... before they flew home that afternoon! The roll cast was always my starting point. Anyone serious about learning fly fishing and in for the long haul started with the PULD. Both casts are essential if you want to become a competent fly fisher.

The roll cast is such an important cast to learn as it has so many uses. I'm surprised at how many people don't use the roll cast as often as they should. Maybe it's because they don't know how to execute it correctly or don't realize how versatile a cast it is. Later will look at how to perform the roll cast but first let's look at what it can be used for:

The roll cast is used:

- to remove slack line before making a PULD cast
- when there is limited space behind to make a backcast
- to un snag a line when caught on an obstacle
- when a tailing wind is too strong to make a backcast.
- to quickly and quietly pick up a floating line
- to roll a sinking line up to the surface
- to set the hook when you have a lot of slack
- to make small changes of direction before recasting
- to keep everyone safe when beginners are fishing!
- to cast under an obstacle
- as the basis of learning switch and spey casts.



For the purpose of this article I have combined Levels 3 and 4 of the ***Fly Casting Skills Challenge Program***. They are both about roll casting with the only difference being which side of your body you make the cast. Being able to make a roll cast on either side of your body is important when there are obstacles or wind in the equation. Whether you switch side with your dominant hand or simple learn to use your non-dominant hand is not important (except if you want to pass Level 4) as long as you can perform the cast in all conceivable conditions. Here's what you have to learn to do:

**Roll Cast, Dominant Side: The roll cast is a very useful cast for removing slack in the line or when there is limited backcast space. Starting with the fly at 40 ft., the caster will perform a 40 ft. roll cast on the dominant shoulder (right shoulder for a right-handed person) with the leader straightening to within 2 ft. of the 40 ft. target center. A roll cast tool (artificial anchor) may be used if performed on grass at participant's discretion. The D loop (the back loop) should be established by slowly dragging the line into position such that the fly and leader do not leave the water surface or grass.**

**Roll Cast, Non-Dominant Side: This cast is often used in situations where there are obstacles or the wind is blowing in from the dominant side. Starting with the fly at 40 ft., the caster will perform 40 ft. roll cast on the non-dominant shoulder (left shoulder for a right-handed person with rod held in right hand) with the leader straightening to within 2 ft. of the 40 ft. target center. A roll cast tool (artificial anchor) may be used if performed on grass at participant's discretion. The D loop (the back loop) should be established by slowly dragging the line into position on the non-dominant side of the body such that the fly and leader do not leave the water surface or grass.**

How to Make a Roll Cast:

The roll cast is just a forward cast without a backcast. I realize that most of you can already perform a roll cast but I am going to include the instructions just in case. These are written by *Molly Semenik*.<sup>1</sup> If you want to watch a video of the roll cast look here:

<https://vimeo.com/317117187>

This one by Peter Hayes is a little but worth watching

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BCrjfZWGbek>

Steps to the Roll Cast:

- Rod tip low to the water
- Tilt rod slightly away from body
- Slowly drag the line back to form a D-loop behind the shoulder
- Check hand, rod angle position, insure rod is tilted away from body
- Forward cast stopping just above horizontal
- Lower the rod tip to the water

"Start with the fly, leader, and a few feet of fly line on the water. Pull approximately two rod-lengths of fly line off the reel. Hold the rod horizontal in front of you, then wiggle it quickly side to side. This will pull the extra line out of the rod tip. The fly line is now in a pile in front of you. With one or two fingers of your rod hand, pin the line against the cork handle, to keep the line from slipping. Now, because the fly line is directly in front of your body, take a step or two to the left if you are right-handed (step to the right if you are left handed), so the line ends up in front of your rod hand, rather than your body.

With the rod canted outward at about 15 degrees, slowly draw the line back to form a half circle (D-loop) behind the shoulder. This D-loop should be aligned 180 degrees opposite the target (the 180 degree principle). When drawing the fly line backward, it shouldn't leave the water. Now look at your hand, which

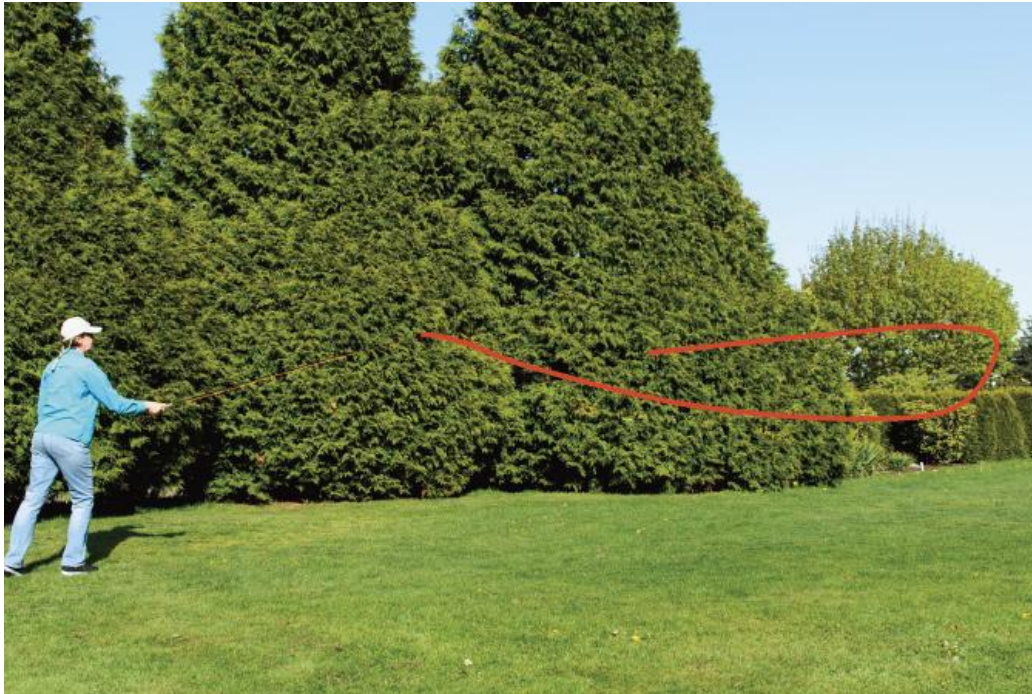
should be near your ear. The rod angle should be such that the rod tip is pointing to about 1:00 on a clock face with the thumb pointed nearly straight up. Keep the rod canted outward at about 15 degrees so the fly line stays away from your body and out of your way.



Look at your target and make sure the reel is also facing the target. Cast forward and stop the hand just above the horizontal position with the rod angled at about 10:00 o'clock. The loop will travel forward on or above the water's surface with the line and leader straightening completely. As the line begins to fall to the water, lower the rod tip and follow the line downward.



The roll cast requires the caster to throw harder than a comparable overhead cast. When performing this cast, the fly reel should face the target and the fly rod should track in a straight line. Once the fly line loop is on its way to the target, the fly rod tip can be lowered to the water. The next cast will be easier. With the line straight in front, again slowly draw the line back to form a D-loop and forward cast as described above."



To execute a roll cast correctly and pass these two levels you should pay particular attention to your D loop, rod rotation, body movement and stopping the rod. The bigger - or further behind you can place your D loop the further your cast will go. The test stipulates that the line must move slowly and stay in contact with the water/grass at all times. There's nothing wrong with aerialising your D loop but you would be performing a switch cast and not a roll cast if you did. Keep the line on the grass/water and pause when the D loop is in position.

For those who are following the program like me and wanting to pass this level you need to be aware that roll casts work best on water. The tension of the water on the line loads the rod. If you are roll casting on grass the line is not going to stick and it will be difficult to get the rod to load. This can be overcome on grass to a certain degree by using a roll cast tool or artificial anchor. The tool simply needs to anchor the fly so that when you begin the roll cast your fly line meets with resistance. What you use for a roll cast tool is up to your imagination. You can clip your fly to a clipboard, put it inside a book, cut a groove in a screwdriver and stick it in the ground, have someone stand on it or make something elaborate like this:



Translating and rotating the rod is at the core of the casting stroke. If we want to make a narrow efficient loop we need to keep the rod tip travelling in a near straight line. Think painting the underside of a flat roof as opposed to painting the inside of an igloo (although why you would want to paint an igloo I don't know!). It's all about translating the rod for as long as possible and then making the final rotation. Do this: \ / not this: \/. Roll casting is all about making the line roll out not rolling the arm over to make the cast. And by the way you need to make the line roll out in the air for this test and most roll casts.

To achieve the longest possible translation (//////////) before rotation (\ /) you need to move your body. This could just be rocking forward or by actually taking a step forward. If you have the space there is nothing wrong with stepping back to form your D loop and then stepping forward to make the cast. The more line you can keep under tension the more load you can put on the rod and the more effective your cast will be.

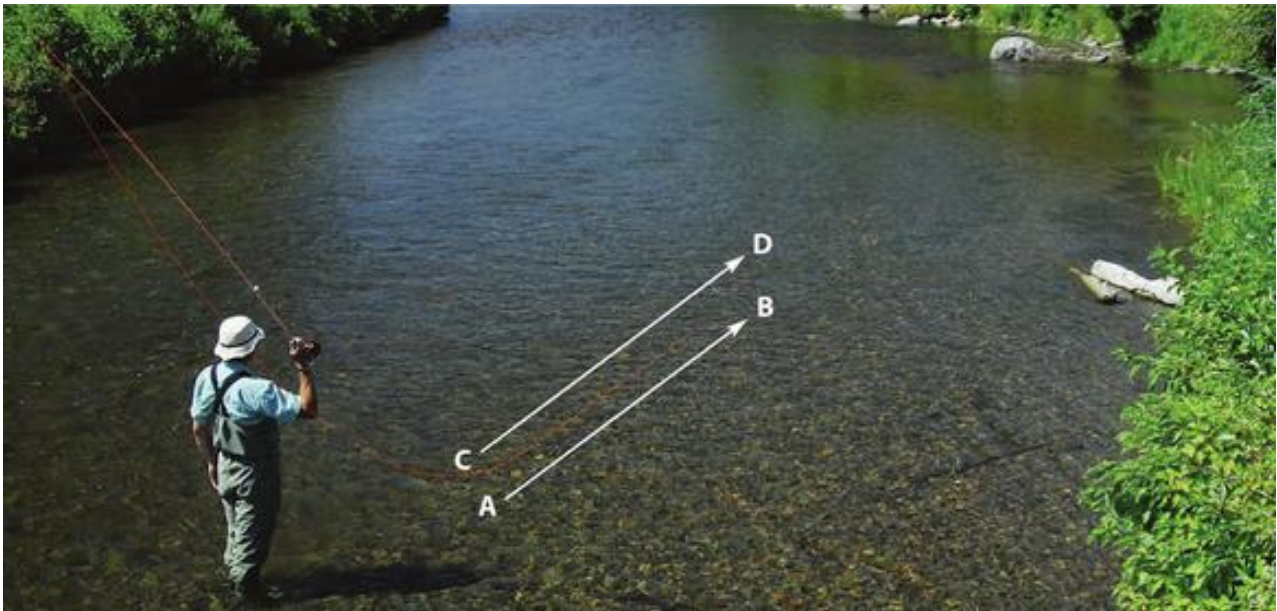
To make the leader turn over and the fly land within 2 feet of the target you must stop the rod. If you are thinking of the roll cast in terms of rolling your arm over you are probably thinking the rod will stop when it hits the ground. It will but your line and leader won't and it will land like a bowl of spaghetti and be nowhere near the target. To launch your line at the end of the stroke you must stop the rod high to allow the line to form a loop and roll out. Stop high and follow through with the rod so you end up with the rod pointing at the target.



The second part of this level of the ***Fly Casting Skills Challenge Program*** is to perform the roll cast on the non-dominant side. It's just the same except the casting arm moves across so that everything takes place on the other side of your body. Lift the elbow slightly and move the hand toward the center of the forehead with the rod butt tilted about 15 degrees outward away from the body; thus positioning the fly line off the non-dominant shoulder. Once you can form D-loops on the dominant and non-dominant sides of the body; target direction, wind or obstacles will no longer be a deterrent.

Being able to perform the cast on either side of the body is important to overcome the problem of "crossing the railway tracks". This is a phrase used by Simon Gawesworth<sup>2</sup> and originally coined by Andy Murray (not the tennis player) to describe how to make an effective roll cast and avoid the line colliding with itself. If you were to draw a line from your D-loop lying on the water to the target you would have one leg of a rail line. Your cast must be made to form the second leg of the rail line parallel and close to the other. They should not cross. At this stage of learning the roll cast it should not be considered a change of direction cast. The

important thing to remember is that the cast must be inside the line from the D-loop to the target (AB is the line to the target and CD is where you aim your cast). Another way of looking at it is if the target is left of the center of your body, the D-loop should be placed on your right side. If the target is right of the center of your body, the D-loop should be placed on your left side. If that has confused you get out and experiment and you will see why it is important not to cross the railway tracks.



There are many variations of the roll cast beyond the scope of this level of the ***Fly Casting Skills Challenge Program***. One that you should be able to perform, however, without much adjustment or additional practice is the horizontal roll cast. This is great for getting a fly under overhanging trees. Just like you have learned to false cast from vertical to horizontal the rod can be lowered so the palm of the hand faces up and the rod and fly line will track in an horizontal plane. All steps to the cast remain the same. The fly line is now traveling in a horizontal plane rather than vertical.

Finally a few words about the equipment to use when making a roll cast. The longer the rod the better it will be to roll cast as it will allow you to make a bigger D loop. A line with a long belly such as a spey line of double taper will roll cast better than a weight forward or shooting head line. In fact it is almost impossible to make a roll cast when you are trying to turn over thick line with thin. Sinking lines will roll cast once you have got them to the surface but you had better not pause too long or the line will sink again. And the best way to get a sinking line to the surface is with a roll cast!

The roll cast is one of the most important and useful casts you will ever learn. Get it right from the beginning and it will open up many new fishing opportunities for you. If you want to progress to double handed rods and Spey casting you must master the roll cast.

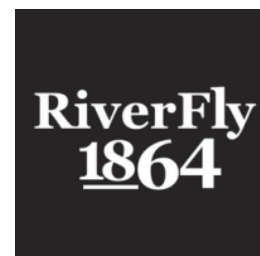
<sup>1</sup> Mollie Semenik <sup>1</sup> FFI Board of Directors/Casting Board of Governors Master Certified Casting Instructor.

<sup>2</sup> Gawesworth, Simon. *Single-handed spey casting : solutions to casts, obstructions, tight spots, and other challenges of real-life fishing*. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 2010. Print

# Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

# 2019 Club Calendar

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
1	Tu	Fr	Fr	Mo	We	Sa	Mo Fly Tying	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Su	1
2	We	Sa	Sa	Tu	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Mo Fly Tying	We	Sa	Mo Fly Tying	2
3	Th	Su	Su	We	Fr	Mo Fly Tying	We	Sa	Tu	Th	Su	Tu	3
4	Fr	Mo Fly Tying	Mo	Th	Sa	Tu	Th	Su	We	Fr	Mo Fly Tying	We	4
5	Sa	Tu	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Fr	Mo Fly Tying	Th	Sa	Tu	Th	5
6	Su	We	We	Sa	Mo Fly Tying	Th	Sa	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Fr	6
7	Mo	Th	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Sa	Mo Fly Tying	Th	Sa	7
8	Tu	Fr	Fr	Mo	We	Sa	Mo	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Su	8
9	We	Sa Outing	Sa	Tu	Th	Su	Tu	Fr Swansea Salmon	Mo	We	Sa	Mo	9
10	Th	Su	Su	We	Fr	Mo	We	Sa Swansea Salmon	Tu	Th	Su	Tu	10
11	Fr	Mo	Mo	Th	Sa	Tu	Th	Su Swansea Salmon	We	Fr	Mo	We	11
12	Sa	Tu	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Fr	Mo	Th	Sa	Tu	Th Outing Lake Keepit	12
13	Su	We	We	Sa Casting Day	Mo	Th	Sa	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Fr Outing Lake Keepit	13
14	Mo	Th	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Sa Casting Day	Mo	Th	Sa Outing Lake Keepit	14
15	Tu	Fr	Fr	Mo Meeting	We	Sa	Mo Meeting	Th	Su	Tu	Fr Outing Jackadgerary	Su Outing Lake Keepit	15
16	We	Sa	Sa Forster Fly Muster	Tu	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Mo Meeting	We	Sa Outing Jackadgerary	Mo	16
17	Th	Su	Su Forster Fly Muster	We	Fr	Mo Meeting	We	Sa	Tu	Th	Su Outing Jackadgerary	Tu	17
18	Fr	Mo Meeting	Mo Meeting	Th	Sa	Tu	Th	Su	We	Fr	Mo Meeting	We	18
19	Sa	Tu	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Fr	Mo Meeting	Th Outing The Gorge	Sa	Tu	Th	19
20	Su	We	We	Sa	Mo Meeting	Th	Sa	Tu	Fr Outing The Gorge	Su	We	Fr	20
21	Mo	Th	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Sa Outing The Gorge	Mo Meeting	Th	Sa	21
22	Tu	Fr	Fr	Mo	We	Sa Outing Bluewater	Mo	Th	Su Outing The Gorge	Tu	Fr	Su	22
23	We	Sa	Sa	Tu	Th	Su Outing Bluewater	Tu	Fr	Mo	We	Sa	Mo	23
24	Th	Su	Su	We	Fr	Mo	We	Sa	Tu	Th	Su	Tu	24
25	Fr	Mo	Mo	Th	Sa Outing Home Waters	Tu	Th	Su	We	Fr Outing Dorrigo	Mo	We	25
26	Sa	Tu	Tu	Fr	Su	We	Fr Dunmore Waters	Mo	Th	Sa Outing Dorrigo	Tu	Th	26
27	Su	We	We	Sa Outing Home Waters	Mo	Th	Sa Dunmore Waters	Tu	Fr	Su Outing Dorrigo	We	Fr	27
28	Mo	Th	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Su Dunmore Waters	We	Sa	Mo	Th	Sa	28
29	Tu		Fr	Mo	We	Sa	Mo	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Su	29
30	We		Sa	Tu	Th	Su	Tu	Fr	Mo	We	Sa	Mo	30
31	Th		Su		Fr		We	Sa Outing Home Waters		Th		Tu	31



## Membership Fees

Membership Fees are as follows:

Adult membership \$25

Concession membership \$20

Junior membership free

eMembership free

The membership year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June. If paying membership after December fees will be reduced by 50%.

<sup>1</sup> Concession membership is available to senior cardholders, pension card holders (including disability support and aged), Centrelink and Veterans Affairs cardholders

<sup>2</sup> eMembership replaces Distant Membership and is available to anyone not wanting to attend meetings or events but still retain the other benefits of club membership. eMembers are not covered by Club Insurance. eMembers wanting to participate in an event or meeting must pay to become full members.

<sup>3</sup> Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.

Fees can be paid:

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

2. **By cheque** posted to:

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

3. Direct deposit:

BSB 062-678  
Account Number: 10333424  
Name: Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc  
Reference: Your surname

If you are making an electronic deposit please send an email to [ccffc@tpg.com.au](mailto:cffc@tpg.com.au) to indicate you have paid as we do not have on line access to our account. When depositing make sure you include your surname in the Reference section. e.g. **Ekert Membership**.

## Club Executive 2018-19

**President:** Kevin Cosgrove

Vice President: Doug Urquhart

**Secretary:** Allan Ekert

Assistant Secretary: Rod Leane

**Treasurer:** Walter Krainik

Assistant Treasurer: Denise Jones

Public Officer: Allan Ekert

Committee:

Don Cummings, Glenn Colquhoun, David Moppett

Newsletter Editor: Allan Ekert

## Club Contact Address

Our official email address is [cffc@tpg.com.au](mailto:cffc@tpg.com.au).

Our mailing address is:

The Secretary

Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club

11 Butterfly Close

Boambee East

NSW 2452

## Internet

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/>







**Sportfishing NSW**  
**Application for Membership**  
**2018-19**



**Member Details:**

Name:					
Address:					
Suburb:		State:		Postcode:	
Email:					
Phone:		Mobile:			

Type of membership (tick one)	Individual- \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family- \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
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I agree to abide by the constitution, by-laws and rules and regulations of ANSA NSW.

Signed:		Date:	
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**Additional family member details:**

Name	D.O.B. (if under 16)

Please make cheque or money order payable to ANSA NSW. Payment can also be made via direct deposit to **BSB: 062 646, Account No: 0090 0752, Account Name: ANSA NSW Main Account** using your surname as the payment reference.

Return completed form and payment

to: Membership Officer

PO Box 481

Matraville NSW

2036 Or by email to:

[membership@ansansw.com.au](mailto:membership@ansansw.com.au).



# Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc.

## Membership Form

I.....DOB.....

**(print full name)**

of.....

**(print full address incl. street name and number, town and postcode)**

Email address.....

Phone number.....mobile.....

Emergency Contact:..... phone: .....

I hereby apply for membership of Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc. (tick one)

- |   |      |   |      |
|---|------|---|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult membership         | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Concession membership <sup>1</sup> | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eMembership <sup>2</sup> | free | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior membership <sup>3</sup>     | free |

The membership year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June. If paying membership after December fees will be reduced by 50%.

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<sup>3</sup> Junior membership is available to anyone attending primary or secondary school.

I agree to: (cross out if you **do not** agree.)

- having my contact details circulated only to financial members of the club.
- abide by the constitution, rules and any safety regulations of the club.
- any photographs taken of myself or family members to be used in the club newsletter, club promotional material or on the club website and Facebook Page.
- receive emails from the club including newsletters and club announcements.

..... **(signature of applicant)** ..... **(date)**

..... **(signature of legal guardian if junior member)**

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3. **Direct deposit**

BSB 062-678  
Account Number: 10333424  
Coffs Coast Fly Fishing Club Inc  
Reference: Your surname

**All information supplied will be held in club records and will only be disseminated to financial club members (if approved by the applicant as indicated above)**