

## DRY FLY ACCURACY

### 1. Equipment

#### A) Rod

i) Length - Shall not exceed nine feet, six inches (9'6") overall.

ii) Weight - Unrestricted.

#### B) Reel - Unrestricted.

C) **Line** - Unrestricted, but shall not be marked in anyway that would indicate distance, nor fastened to the reel at less than fifty (50) feet.

D) **Leader** - Shall consist of a single leader of natural or artificial gut or gut substitute not less than six (6) feet in length.

#### E) Fly

i) Description - Official Dry Fly adopted by the ACA. The hackle shall not be less than 3/4 inch nor more than one inch in diameter.

ii) Application - Only one fly may be attached to the leader at the tip end. The fly may be changed at any time, or a lost fly replaced with a fly approved by the Judge.

### 2. Target Course

A) **Targets** - Five (5) targets shall constitute the course. Each target shall be anchored so that the total movement for any reason will not exceed one foot in any direction. At no time shall the distance be less than the minimum distance specified in Section 2 B i or exceed the maximum distance specified in 2 B ii.

#### B) Distances

i) Near Target - The near target shall be placed from twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) feet, as measured from the center of the target to the center of the front edge of the casting box.

ii) Far Target - the far target shall be placed from forty-five (45) to fifty (50) feet, as measured from the center of the target to the center of the front edge of the casting box.

iii) Other Targets - The three remaining targets shall be placed randomly in the intervening space, and not in a straight line perpendicular to the casting box.

### 3. Time

A) **General** - After the caster enters the casting box, the judge shall announce the word "Ready" to determine if the caster is ready to begin and then announce the word "Start" or "Time Is In" which shall indicate that the event has begun. If in the opinion of the judge, the caster is stalling for time, whether in or out of the casting box, the judge shall issue a warning and at the judge's discretion shall announce that "Time Is In". Caster shall be allowed eight (8) minutes to complete the casting program without penalty.

B) **Time Out** - There shall be no time out for any reason, except for outside interference as determined by the Judge. The loss of a fly, unless that loss is caused by external contact such as a tree or a snag on a target, shall not be considered outside interference. The loss of a fly caused by striking any part of the casting platform shall not be considered outside interference.

C) **Penalty** - A penalty of three (3) demerits shall be assessed for each minute or fraction of a minute overtime.

### 4. Method of Casting

#### A) Casting Program

i) General - The casting program shall consist of ten (10) final forward casts, two (2) at each of the five targets in the target course, in the order and as directed by the Tournament Captain. All five targets must be cast before any target may be cast again. Consecutive casts shall not be made on any target. All casters shall cast the same order of targets. Caster must enter casting box before beginning the casting program.

ii) Responsibility - After stepping into the casting box, the caster shall be responsible for the results and shall accept the score and penalties assessed by the Judge.

#### B) Casting Style – Singlehanded

### **C) Procedure**

- i) Initial** - Caster shall start with fly or leader in hand and no more than leader plus two feet of line extending beyond rod tip. All remaining line must be on the reel when entering the casting box.
- ii) False Cast** - The false cast in which the line, leader and fly are moved through the air without intentionally striking the surface in front of the casting box is the mechanism for letting line out, pulling line in and measuring distance to the next target. The rod must be in motion, in the act of making a false cast, to strip line from the reel. Caster shall not measure line by stripping along the rod. Caster has the option of holding any loose line in either hand or of letting it drop. Caster shall not allow fly to dangle or be blown over a target in spite of wind conditions.
- iii) Final Forward Cast** - Whenever the intact line, leader and fly settles in front of the casting box on a final forward cast, it shall be scored for accuracy (see Section 5). The front edge of the casting box shall be defined as an imaginary line extending one hundred eight (180) degrees out from each side of the front of the casting box. Laying down the extended line, leader and fly anywhere behind the front edge of the casting box is acceptable. The fly shall float and be left floating a few seconds. After the Judge has ascertained whether or not the fly is floating, he shall call "Score" and the caster shall proceed to the next target.

### **D) Penalties**

- i) Improper Strip** - Should the caster strip line from the reel or pull line in through the guides while the fly is on the surface in front of the casting box and the rod is not in motion in the act of making a cast, or attempt to measure the line by stripping along the rod, it shall be scored an improper strip. A penalty of three (3) demerits shall be assessed for each such strip.
- ii) Tick** - Should the line, leader or fly extended beyond the rod tip strike the surface in front of the casting box during a false cast it shall be scored a tick. Penalty for a tick shall count during casting time whether caster is in or out of the casting box and whether or not the fly is on. A penalty of three (3) demerits shall be assessed for each tick.
- iii) Sunken Fly** - Should the fly fail to float, or sink and rise to the surface, on a final forward cast, it shall be scored a sunken fly and a penalty of three (3) demerits shall be assessed. The Judge must be cognizant of extreme water surface conditions that would not permit the untreated fly to float no matter how delicately the delivery cast is laid. The Judge also must be alert that small ripples caused when the fly lands on the water do not, for that reason alone, constitute a sunken fly.
- iv) Improper Retrieve** - Should the caster lift the fly from the water after a final forward cast before the Judge calls "Score" it shall be scored an improper retrieve. A penalty of three (3) demerits shall be assessed for each such improper retrieve.
- v) Improper Cast** - Should the caster allow the fly to dangle or to be blown over a target, it shall be scored an improper cast. A penalty of three (3) demerits shall be assessed for each such improper cast.
- vi) Fly or leader in Hand and no length more than leader plus two (2) feet of line extending beyond rod tip** – A penalty of three (3) demerits shall be assessed for either infraction if caster fails to begin the round as specified in Section 4 C i.

### **E) Interruption of Casting Program**

- i) Outside Interference** - In the event the caster is interrupted during the Dry Fly round due to outside interference, as determined by the Judge, the caster, if they desire, may make a final forward cast to the last target scored. When the Judge is satisfied that the caster has the approximate line length required to reach the last scored target, they shall then notify the caster the time has started and the caster shall lift the line from the water and proceed to the remaining targets. If the caster does not wish to cast to the last target scored, they may proceed as in Section E 2, except that time will start with the first false cast.
- ii) Other Interruptions** - If the caster is interrupted during the Dry Fly round for reasons other than outside interference, the caster shall begin false casting and proceed to the remaining targets.

## **5. Method of Scoring**

### **A) General**

- i)** No final forward cast shall be scored unless the line leader and fly are intact. The Judge shall notify the caster whenever they notice that the fly is off.
- ii)** Each final forward cast shall be scored where the fly first strikes the water, any portion of a target, a scoring ring, or the platform in front of the casting box, regardless of where the fly may ultimately settle.
- iii)** If the line or leader strikes the water, in front of the casting box, on a final forward cast, when the fly is not intact, it shall be scored a tick whether or not the Judge has notified the caster that the fly is off, unless the fly is lost during that final forward cast. In that eventuality, no penalty shall be assessed.

### **B) Demerits for Accuracy**

- i)** A fly falling within or on any portion of the target on a final forward cast shall be scored a perfect and shall be assessed zero (0) demerits.
- ii)** For each foot, or fraction thereof, the fly misses the extreme edge of the target on a final forward cast, a demerit of one (1) shall be assessed.
- iii)** Maximum demerits for any single final forward cast shall be five (5).

**C) Demerits for Penalties** - Penalty demerits shall be in addition to accuracy demerits.

**D) Caster's Score** - One hundred (100) points less the total number of demerits for accuracy and for penalties shall constitute a caster's score.