





# Substance vs. Style

IFFF CCI Candidate Workshop  
EWF Fürstenfeldbruck  
31 March 2017



# The International Federation of Fly Fishers

- Headquarters Livingston, Montana 
- 1,429 instructors in approximately 40 countries

- Casting Instructor (CI) 1,136
- Master Casting Instructor (MCI) 261
- Two Handed Casting Instructor (THCI) 95<sup>(a)</sup>
- European Instructors 104 



(a) Categories don't add to total number of instructors due to overlapping qualifications.



# The IFFF Casting Programme

- Founded by Mel Krieger and others in 1992
- IFFF instructors include Joan Wulff, Steve (🏆🏆🏆, G Loomis) and Tim (Airflo) Rajeff, Bruce Richards (Scientific Anglers), Jerry Siem (ARRTI, Sage) and Gary (Presentation) and Jason (ARRTI) Borger, Bill Gammel (5 Essentials), Simon Gawesworth (Rio, Snake Roll)
- 3 instructor certifications
  - CI - Single handed
  - MCI - Advanced Single Handed
  - THCI - Two handed
- Designed to develop teachers not award casting merit badges
- Why be an IFFF certified instructor
  - Teach and cast better
  - Global credential
  - Network- want to fish Iceland, India, New Zealand, Patagonia, Montana .....?
  - Events like the EWF-all you can eat buffets for casting junkies



# Working Definition

## **Substance:**

- Things we need to do to execute a cast as intended

## **Style:**

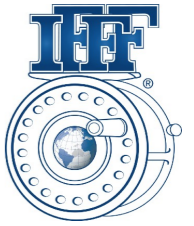
- Elements we can vary
- Advantages and disadvantages more than "right" and "wrong"



# Style or Substance?

- Arm and Elbow position
- Arc width / rotation
- Body movement
- Drag
- Drift
- Grip
- Hauling
- Pause
- Power (rotation or translation)
- Rod angle
- Slack minimized
- Stance
- Stop
- Stroke length / translation
- Straight line tip path

# Style or Substance - One View



- |                                    |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| • <b>Arm and Elbow position</b>    |  | • <b>Power (includes stop/ deceleration)</b> |  |
| • <b>Arc width (includes stop)</b> |  | • <b>Rod angle</b>                           |  |
| • <b>Body movement</b>             |  | • <b>Slack minimized</b>                     |  |
| • <b>Drag</b>                      |  | • <b>Stance</b>                              |  |
| • <b>Drift</b>                     |  | • <b>Stop</b>                                |  |
| • <b>Grip</b>                      |  | • <b>Stroke length</b>                       |  |
| • <b>Hauling</b>                   |  | • <b>Straight line tip path</b>              |  |
| • <b>Pause</b>                     |  |  |  |



# Substance List = The Five Essentials of Flycasting\*

- Arc width
- Pause
- Power
- Slack minimized
- Straight line tip path

**("APPSS")**

\* Bill and J.W. Gammel, 1993, alphabetical order



# Does Every Cast Require All The Essentials?

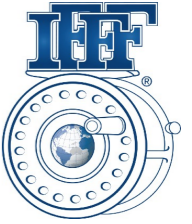
- **Arc width** - static bow and arrow cast? Only translation or haul?
- **Pause** - snap cast, D loop formation or continuous tension casts?
- **Power** - some force probably needed to move line and deceleration required to then form loop
- **Slack** - can often cast effectively with considerable slack
- **Straight line tip path** - presentation casts, tailwind, heavy or complicated payload, sinking lines?





# Substance: As Few as Two or Three Essentials?

- **Intended tip path**
- **Power**, from
  - Stroke (two Essentials), and/or
  - **Arc** (three Essentials)



"It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white as long as it catches mice."

-Deng Xiaoping

Former General Secretary, Communist Party of China