

SRT Casting Class at Clohamon 8 September 2012

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and Slaney River Trust organized a casting class at Clohamon on the R. Slaney on Saturday, 8 September. The class was well attended and it was a day of perfect weather.

Mark Corps led the class for IFI. Fellow casting instructors who participated were: Philip Maher of Fish Hunt, Mark Patterson (Flyfish NI and Loop Pro Guide) and Brian McGlashan, over from Scotland. A range of Loop rods were available to try out.

The programme commenced with a virtuoso demonstration by Philip Maher, using double-handed and single-handed rods, of different ways of casting for salmon: single spey, double spey, snake roll and use of Skagit lines.



Philip Maher shows how it is done

Common mistakes were pointed out and practical guidance was given on a number of aspects of how to actually catch a salmon. Good casting technique, Philip pointed out, will avoid any chance of a splashy cast scaring a salmon out of its lie - which happens more frequently than anglers realize.

One to one instruction on salmon rod casting was then provided to participants by all four instructors. Participants greatly appreciated this, as mistakes could be corrected and techniques improved. After a break for lunch, instruction continued, with a focus on single-handed trout rod casting.

Participants varied from the young to the not so young and from near beginners to someone who is well on the way to qualifying as a casting instructor himself.

It is hoped to repeat this again in 2013. For those who can't wait Philip Maher has a book coming out early in 2013 on techniques of casting.

Many thanks to all the instructors for such an interesting day.

We didn't get a group photo but participants included Barry Cantwell and his pointer Meg



along with Michael and Betty Hayes.

