



Angling Trust England Talent Pathway

Game Angling Information Booklet

England is well represented in the Home, European and World Championships for junior, senior, intermediate, female, veteran and disabled teams in all three disciplines. However in 2009 the Angling Trust identified that there was no structured, complete pathway in place to develop and prepare young talented anglers to compete at the highest level.

The Angling Trust conducted research and consulted with performance representatives, national youth squads and their coaches from each angling discipline in an attempt to gather views on how the existing system can be improved.

The findings were crucial to the development of an Angling Talent Plan in 2011 which sets out how an England Talent Plan will be delivered. The Plan focuses on developing and accelerating talent, resulting in more talented performers moving on to elite programmes and success at national and international level. Over the next five years the aim is to deliver the Angling Talent Plan 2011-17 that will include a talent pathway structure in nine regions.

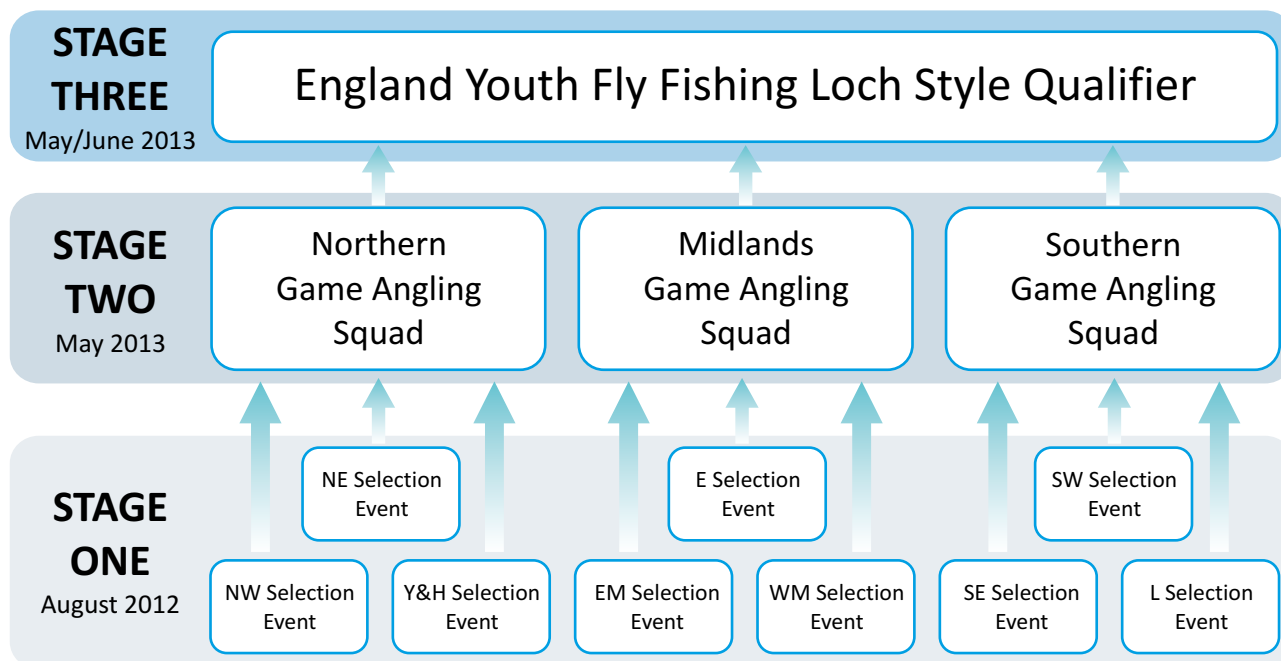
The long-term aim of the Angling Talent Plan is to raise the standard of sporting achievement in angling and ultimately improve international performance.

This Plan provides an integrated and strategic approach to the holistic development of talented young anglers.

The England Talent Pathway provides opportunities for talented young anglers between the ages of 14 to 21. The model consists of the following three stages:

- Stage 1 - Selection into the England Talent Pathway
- Stage 2 - Selection into Super-regional Squads
- Stage 3 - Selection into England Youth squads

Game Angling Talent Pathway 2012/2013



Principles of Talent Selection and Development

What is Talent?

Talent becomes obvious through training and it is the physical, technical and mental attributes that contribute to performance.

What is Talent Selection?

The screening of young anglers currently taking part in the sport using experienced coaches to assess psychological and physiological attributes to identify those most likely to succeed.

What is Talent Development?

Providing an adequate infrastructure to enable talented anglers to develop to their full potential.

This includes the provision of appropriate coaching, training and competition programmes along with access to facilities, equipment and sports science and medicine. It requires the development of a performance pathway.

Elements of Performance



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**GEARING UP FOR
PERFORMANCE**

Northern Game Angling Squad 2011/12



How the Pathway Works

Stage 1

Stage 1 of the pathway begins with regional screening events in 9 regions, North East, North West, Yorkshire & Humber, East, East Midlands, West Midlands, South East, South West & London, where coaches will assess anglers based on their performance. Anglers will fish in a competitive situation and complete a casting skills test. The screening will give coaches an opportunity to observe and communicate with the anglers on a 1-1 basis. Parents will be requested to support the anglers from the area designated by the coaching team. Post event coaches will select between 8-12 anglers to progress to Stage 2 of the pathway. Each angler will receive individual feedback on their performance and written notification within 14 days of the final screening event regarding the outcome of the selection process.

Stage 2

Anglers selected to attend Stage 2 will enter a Loch Style training programme which will focus on competition tactics and techniques. Anglers will be issued with a Personal Development Log to support their learning and progression through the pathway. Talent Pathway coaches will facilitate this learning throughout the duration of the programme.

Anglers should be committed to the full programme by:

- attending all sessions, including the England Youth Fly Fishing national qualifier
- maintaining their personal development log;
- purchasing a permit for all sessions at rates negotiated with fisheries by the Angling Trust.

If selected for Stage 2, there may be a large amount of travelling involved as venues will be spread throughout the country, depending on which squad anglers are selected to represent. There may be opportunities to car share which will be explored at the beginning of the programme.

Stage 3

All anglers participating at Stage 2 will be eligible to enter the England Youth Fly Fishing national qualifier. Talent Pathway coaches will provide support through a practice day at the venue the day before the national qualifier. A random draw will see anglers paired for the event and fish for 7 hours in a loch style match fished to Team England Youth Fly Fishing rules. This event will mark the end of the annual Talent Pathway programme and those anglers that fall within the age bands will have an opportunity to get involved in the following programme.



Talent Selection

The Angling Trust will screen anglers in a match environment and skills test in order to select talented anglers to enter the pathway. A robust system to select talent is essential to ensure the steady and continuous development of anglers in performance angling, our talent selection method is linked with that of the national squads.

Regional Screening

Coaches will consider 3 categories of performance, mental, technical and tactical.

Each angler will be assessed in these areas throughout the duration of the event. Anglers will also be asked to undertake an assessment of their casting ability through a series of short tests designed to measure overall technique with focus on accuracy and distance.

Performance in these tests will be scored and contribute to total score. Fish caught will also count towards total score, with 1 point per fish awarded.

It is important to remember that while catching fish is very important, our holistic approach means anglers selected will show ability in each of the key assessment areas.



How Performance is Measured

Angling Trust Talent Pathway Game Angling Selection Criteria

Anglers Name:		D.O.B:		Age:		
Venue:		Peg No(5):		Assessment Date:		
Name of Talent Pathway Coach observing:						
Criteria	Method of assessment	Assessment				Comments
		1	2	3	4	
		Regular Improvement	Satisfactory	Good	Exemplary	
Mental	Preparation					
	Attitude					
	Enthusiasm					
	Ability to perform under pressure					
Tactical	Appropriate selection of tackle					
	Understanding of environment & entomology (watercraft)					
	Understanding of methods					
	Adaptability					
Technical	Casting Accuracy					
	Casting distance					
	Casting technique					
	Playing & landing fish					

How Performance is Measured

Casting Test Score Sheet

Test:	Attempts Standing	Attempts Seated	Points
Roll to a hoop:			
Near & far			
Straight line casting			
Total			
Grand Total			

Casting Attempts = Points

3-6 = 4	7-9 = 3	10-12 = 2	13+ = 1
5-10 = 4	11-15 = 3	16-20 = 2	21+ = 1
1-3 = 4	4-6 = 3	7-9 = 2	10+ = 1

Number of fish caught	Biggest fish caught (cm)	Total fish caught (cm)	Points scored (1 per fish)

Final Assessment Score

Mental	Technical	Tactical	Casting Test Score	Points for fish scored	TOTAL POINTS

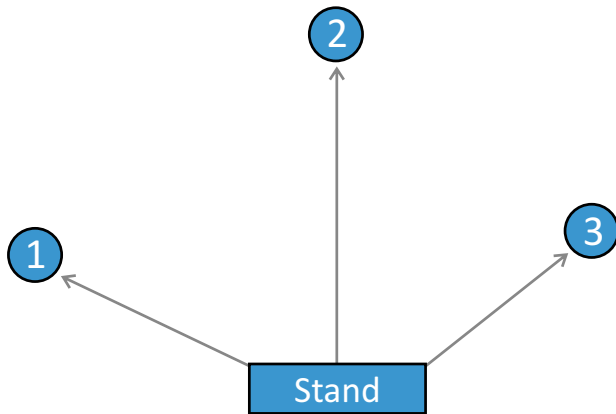
Signed Angler:

Signed (coach-assessor):

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Casting Skills Test

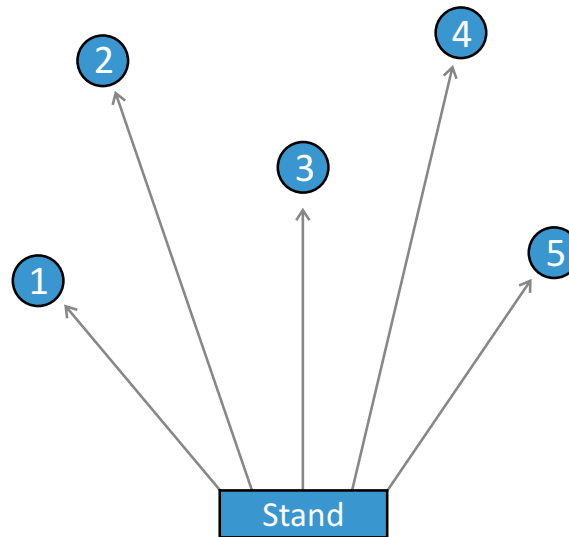
Task 1 - Roll to a Hoop



Task:
From the Casting Stand, employ a Roll Cast to land your fly in the three rings. You must start with Ring No.1 and move to the next ring only when you have successfully landed your fly in the ring. Move to Ring No.2 and then Ring No.3. Log the total number of casts made.

Task set up:
Hoops 1 & 3 (2.5ft dia) @ 20ft
Hoop 2 (3ft dia) @ 25ft

Task 2 - Near and Far



Task:
From the Casting Stand, employ an Overhead Cast to land your fly in the five rings. You must start with Ring No.1 and move to the next ring only when you have successfully landed your fly in the ring. Move in the sequence shown. Log the total number of casts made.

Task set up:
Hoops 2 & 4 @ 45ft
Hoop 3 @ 30ft
Hoops 1 & 5 @ 25ft

Task 3 - Straight Line Casting



Stand

Task:
From the Casting Stand, employ an Overhead Cast to land your fly between the two rod tubes.

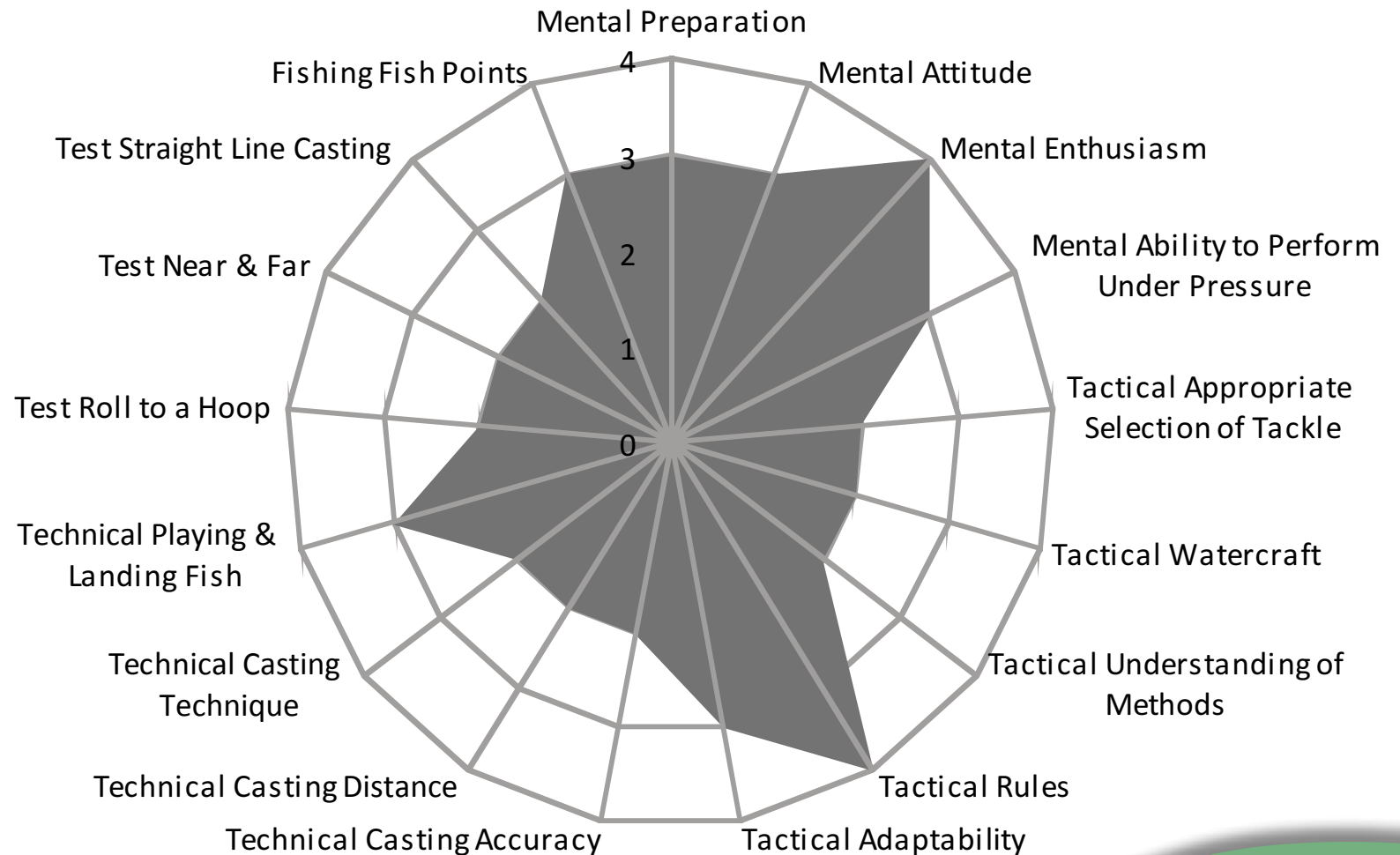
Task set up:
Two rod tubes @ 30ft, initially @18" apart
Vary width between rod tubes to add variety and difficulty.

Sample Performance Chart

You will receive a personalised chart displaying how your performance was measured.

The chart can be used to identify areas of strength and areas for development.

You can use this chart to develop your angling skills within your club or individual sessions outside of the England Talent Pathway.



Game Angling England Talent Pathway Coaches

North

Head Coach (joint) Jeff Metcalfe
Head Coach (joint) Stuart Wardle
Assistant Coach: Mike Tinnion
Assistant Coach: Scott Nellins
Assistant Coach: Carl Malpass

Midlands

Head Coach: Karl Humphries
Assistant Coach: Barry Grantham
Assistant Coach: Charles Deverill
Assistant Coach: Jason Bird

South

Head Coach: Paul Eslinger
Assistant Coach: Steve Carew
Assistant Coach: Steve Dowling



Angling Trust England Talent Pathway Contacts

National Lead	All	Ben Thompson	ben.thompson@anglingtrust.net	07854 240177
North	Game	Daniel Ramm	daniel.ramm@anglingtrust.net	07800 855709
Midlands	Game	Richard Hadley	richard.hadley@anglingtrust.net	07854 239721
South	Game	Daniel Williams	daniel.williams@anglingtrust.net	07854 240368
Admin	All	Sandy Grandon	sandy.grandon@anglingtrust.net	01159 061307



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If you have any questions about the Angling Trust England Talent Pathway please do not hesitate to contact your Angling Trust Officer.

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Our sincere thanks to the following people whose expert contribution and thinking have created the Angling Information Booklet: Ben Thompson, Jeff Metcalfe, Stuart Wardle, Joe Roberts and Tony Campbell.

Jackie Sheldon - Head of Performance & Competition



Child Protection in Angling

The Angling Trust treats young anglers with respect, values them at all times and will make angling a safe sport for young people.

We want you to be:

- Treated fairly by other anglers and know you will be listened to and respected
- Cared for by skilled, experienced and understanding staff and volunteers
- Given praise and encouragement and the opportunity to make yourself a better angler
- Encouraged to develop self-awareness and to be considerate to others
- Able to learn new skills, gain confidence and be positive

Most of all, we want you to experience angling in a safe and enjoyable way.

If you have any concerns about the behaviour of a coach, volunteer or another participant towards you then please feel free to contact our Lead Safeguarding Officer, Daniel Ramm, on 07800 855709.

Equality in Angling

Sports Equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. The Angling Trust is fully committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and is responsible for ensuring that no member, volunteer, coach, employee or job applicant of the Angling Trust, receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religious belief, social status, sexual orientation or political belief.

The Angling Trust will ensure that everyone who wishes has an equal opportunity to participate in all disciplines of the sport of angling at all levels and in all roles, whether as a participant, coach, manager, volunteer or official in the sport or as an employee within the Angling Trust.

If you would like to discuss any equality issues then feel free to contact our Lead Equality Officer, Darren Birch, on 07791 164921.

For further details on child protection and equity please visit www.anglingtrust.net



THE VOICE OF ANGLING