

Orvis Fly Fishing Triathlon

As Official-As-Its-Gonna-Get Contest Rules

Who May Participate: Anyone who thinks they can win.

Who May Not Participate: Orvis employees and their families, even if they think they can win.

Contest Overview: The Fly Fishing Triathlon consists of three (3) events designed to test the ability of the fly angler in distance, accuracy, and speed. The events are as follows:

1. *Distance Casting*—the fly angler attempts to make the longest cast with a fly rod
2. *Accuracy Casting*—the fly angler attempts to place the fly in a pre-designated area
3. *Speed Rigging*—the fly angler attempts to fully assemble and rig a fly rod in the shortest possible period of time

Each fly angler may attempt the Triathlon once during the day.

For Distance and Accuracy casting, an Orvis Recon 5-wt. fly rod will be used. For Speed Rigging, an Orvis Clearwater fly rod will be used.

Each event will be scored independently. A fly angler's **combined score** for all three events will determine their final ranking. The **top three fly anglers** will be awarded prizes (see below).

Individual Event Rules

Distance Casting

The fly angler will attempt to make the longest cast with a 5-wt Recon fly rod using Hydros 3D textured line.

The fly angler may make up to two (2) attempts. Only the longer of the two attempts will be used for scoring purposes.

The fly angler may make up to two (2) false casts per attempt. A false cast is defined as one (1) backcast combined with one (1) forward cast.

The **fly** may not touch the ground during the false cast. If the fly touches the ground the cast attempt will be measured from the point where the fly touched the ground OR the fly angler may forfeit the cast attempt.

Once the cast is completed, the distance will be measured from the point where the fly has landed. The measurement will be made in feet-inches. The judge has final say in measured distance.

Distance Accuracy

The fly angler attempts to land the **fly** within a designated target area on the ground.

There will be three (3) defined targets. Each target will be worth a specific number of **points** depending upon degree of casting difficulty and target size.

Each fly angler will get five (5) casting attempts to hit the three targets. Anglers may cast to any target any number of times.

The fly angler may make as many false casts as they please. If the fly touches the ground at any point during the cast it will be marked against the angler's five (5) casting attempts. If the angler lands the fly in a tree and cannot immediately dislodge it, it will be counted against the angler's five (5) attempts. If the fly angler breaks off the fly while attempting to dislodge it from a tree, they forfeit all remaining casting attempts.

The fly must land completely within the target area to count. Any judgment calls are made at the discretion of the judges.

Judges will keep a record of total points accumulated.

Speed Rigging

The angler will complete a series of tasks in the following order: 1) assemble a four-piece Clearwater rod, insuring proper alignment of guides and reel seat; 2) attach reel to rod; 3) line up rod with fly line; 4) tie on a size 14 Pheasant Tail nymph to the end of leader/tippet.

The angler will be judged on the speed at which they complete all four tasks, and will be penalized for any tasks done improperly.

The angler's time will begin as soon as they pick up the first rod section, and will end as soon as they clip the tag end of the leader after tying their knot.

The angler's time will be recorded by a stopwatch/chronometer by a judge.

The angler will be penalized for the following infractions:

<i>Improper guide alignment:</i>	+2 seconds
<i>Missing a guide:</i>	+1 second per missed guide
<i>Accidentally lining the hook-keeper</i>	+5 seconds
<i>Putting reel on backward</i>	+2 seconds
<i>Knot fails when tested by judge</i>	+5 seconds
<i>Failing to clip tag end of leader</i>	+2 seconds

All penalties will be assigned solely at the discretion of the judge.

Final Scoring

Each event will be scored individually. Fly anglers will be ranked based upon their overall performance in relation to all other contestants, with a score of (1) being the best, (2) the second best, etc. In the event of a tied score, each angler will be assigned the same ranking.

The final score will be an average of the fly angler's rankings for each of the three events. The three fly anglers with the best overall ranking will be awarded prizes based upon their final score.

An example:

Mike Trout and Kevin Bass both compete in the Triathlon.

Mike is ranked (1) in Distance, (6) in accuracy, and tied with Kevin at (4) for rigging.

Kevin is ranked (9) in Distance, (2) in accuracy, and tied with Kevin at (4) for rigging.

Mike's final ranking is $(1+6+4)/3 = \mathbf{3.67}$

Kevin's final ranking is $(9+2+4)/3 = \mathbf{5.00}$

In the case of a tie, the tie break will be based upon the angler's ranking in Distance Casting. If it is still tied, the tie break will be based upon the angler's ranking in Accuracy Casting. If it is still tied, the tie break will be based upon the angler's ranking in Speed Rigging. If it is still tied, the tie break will be based upon which angler has spent more at Orvis in the past year... **kidding!** We'll flip a coin.

Other Stuff

The event will be held from 1:30pm to 3:00pm on September 19, during the Mazo Trout and Trail Fest event.

Any interested anglers must **register** for the event by 1:30pm on the day of the event. Registration simply entails giving your name and contact information. Registration will happen the day of the event, or registrants may sign up ahead of time via Constant Contact. Anyone who has registered by 1:30pm that day will be allowed to compete.

Event will end at approximately 3:00pm.

Judges will tabulate scores beginning at 3:00pm. Winners will be announced at approximately 3:30pm. **Winners do not need to be present, but we need to be able to contact you!**

In the interests of time, anglers with very low rankings may not have their final score calculated.

Prizes! Prizes! Prizes!

The top three finishers will be showered with praise, bragging rights, and cool swag!

For **FIRST PLACE**, the winner will receive an **ACCESS II MID-ARBOR REEL**, perfect for your 3-to-5-weight trout rod! They will also receive a sweet **LIBERTY BOTTLEWORKS RECON WATER BOTTLE**. Total retail value: \$188.

For **SECOND PLACE**, the winner will receive an **ORVIS SAFE PASSAGE SLING PACK** for all of your fly fishing dayventures! They will also receive an **ORVIS RECON BALLCAP**. Total retail value: \$114.

For **THIRD PLACE** the winner will receive a **TACKY FLY BOX** loaded with a dozen **TERRESTRIAL FLIES**, perfect for the late season! They will also receive an **ORVIS RECON BALLCAP**. Total retail value: \$78.