

125th U.S. Open Championship – Local Qualifying
USGA Qualifying
May 5, 2025

QUALIFYING MEMORANDUM TO PLAYERS

HOST CLUB

Northwest Golf Course
15711 Layhill Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906
(301) 598-6100

FORMAT/QUALIFYING PLACES: Stroke play competition conducted over 18 holes. The field of 132 contestants will compete for seven (7) qualifying places and two (2) alternate positions in the U.S. Open Local Qualifier to be played May 5 at Northwest Golf Course in Silver Spring, MD.

REGISTRATION: Players are to report to their assigned starting tees, ready to play, 10 minutes before their starting time. There will be no formal check-in or call to the tee.

STARTING TIMES: Starting times & groupings will be sent out approximately 10 days prior to the first round. The Tournament Information Page can be [found here](#).

PLAYOFF: In the event of a tie for the last qualifying places or alternates, there will be a hole-by-hole playoff to determine the final qualifiers and the 1st and 2nd alternate if necessary. All announcements regarding the play-off will be made at the public scoreboard upon completion of the qualifying round.

FOOTWEAR: Rule 4.3 is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not wear shoes with traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, of any design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course). Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: See Rule 4.3.

DRIVERS/GOLF BALLS: The Local Rule for Conforming Driver Heads is in effect, See Model Local Rule G-1. The Local Rule requiring that all golf balls used be on the List of Conforming Golf Balls is in effect. See Model Local Rule G-3. Please check the USGA website, www.usga.org, for a list of approved golf balls and drivers. The “One Ball Rule” is **NOT IN EFFECT** for 2025 USGA qualifying rounds.

GROOVES: The players clubs **must conform** to the grooves and punch mark specifications in The Rules of Golf that are effective from January 1, 2010. See Model Local Rule G-2. The exception for Ping Eye2 Irons manufactured before 31 March 1990 does not apply.

DMDS: The use of distance-measuring devices (DMD) to measure distance only (Rule 4.3) is permitted in all USGA qualifying rounds.

PACE OF PLAY: It is a condition that player must play without undue delay and in accordance with guidelines established by committee. Guidelines will be distributed via email prior to the qualifier, in the Player Information email, and upon arrival at the course.



EVACUATION PLAN: In the event of a discontinuance of play during the qualifier, players must adhere to the evacuation plan distributed by the Committee at their appropriate starting tee.

PRACTICE ROUND AVAILABILITY: Practice rounds can be made by [booking online](#). We ask that you only play ONE (1) golf ball and are mindful of pace of play.

PRACTICE FACILITIES/RANGE BALLS: The practice range opens one hour before the first starting time, weather permitting. Range balls will be set up at the practice range and are complimentary for competitors before the round or a play-off. Please allow time to get from the range to Nos. 1 & 10.

CADDIES: Caddies are permitted; however, you are responsible for making your own arrangements for a caddie.

CARTS: Players and caddies must not ride on any form of transportation during a round unless authorized by the Committee.

GOLF SHOP/ PRACTICE AREAS: The golf shop will open at 6:00 a.m.

CODE OF CONDUCT: As set forth in the USGA application, the code of conduct applies to all USGA Qualifying and Championships.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE: Contestants and caddies must be neat in appearance. Blue jeans, designer jeans, t-shirts, and tank tops are prohibited. Shorts must be mid-thigh. Golf shirts with a traditional or mock collar are required.

FOOD SERVICE: The club's grill will be open and has a variety of menu items and beverages.

AWARD CEREMONY: Silver medal will be awarded to lowest scorer(s).

OFFICIAL IN CHARGE:

Elisa Hermes, Director of Rules & Competitions
MSG
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If it becomes necessary to withdraw prior to the date of the competition, please contact Elisa Hermes at 214-458-7733 and the USGA at 908-326-1950 or champs@usga.org.