



2024 Blue Coat qualifications for volunteering at CDGA Championships & Qualifiers

As we prepare for the 2024 tournament season, Blue Coat rules knowledge is front and center. CDGA competitions continue to provide a top-quality experience for everyone playing.

The guidelines established in 2019 will continue for 2024 and they are listed below. One of the key components is taking a USGA-created test on the Rules of Golf, so that we may have a quantitative measure of people's rules qualifications. Be aware that we need and welcome volunteers at all levels of qualification to help run our events (Championship or Social) even if you are not able to take a test this year. Test scores are valid for a Rules of Golf cycle. All placement on committees will be based on the 2023 Rules of Golf cycle. Please remember your test score is valid for 4 years or the rules cycle and the best score will be kept if you take the test year after year. We also want to encourage all volunteers to take whatever classes and tests they can to develop their rules qualifications.

The USGA created two exams – 100 questions and 80 questions. All exams can be taken through the USGA by attending a workshop (in-person or virtually) or signing up for an “Exam Only” option. ([Click Here](#) for additional information) The CDGA does have the option to proctor the 80 question exam. Contact the office for more information.

- If attending a PGA/USGA workshop, we strongly encourage you take the 100-question exam.
- You may also choose to take the 80-question test.
- The guidelines for the CDGA are slightly lower than the guidelines for USGA Qualifications. So please note that if you achieve *Expert* or *Advanced* status for the CDGA, you may not be considered *Expert* or *Advanced* at the USGA level.

There are three different levels a Blue Coat can obtain based on test scores:

1. **Observer/Tournament Volunteer** – having scored 69% or below on either the 100-question exam or 80 question tests. This will also include those who choose not to take the exam or test. However, all Blue Coats wanting to help at a tournament MUST attend a rules education class or tournament administration class (USGA or CDGA conducted)
 - You are welcome to attend and work any CDGA conducted Championship or Qualifier
 - May be assigned as a starter for any CDGA conducted Championship or Qualifier
 - May be assigned as an on-course scorer at CDGA championships
 - If given an assignment on the course – all rulings will need to be called in on the radio to the staff person in charge of the event or the rover
 - If given an assignment with a group in a championship – all rulings will need to be called in on the “radio” to the staff person in charge of the event or the rover
2. **Advanced** – having scored 70% – 84% on either the 100-question exam or 80 question tests.
 - You are welcome to attend and work any CDGA conducted Championship or Qualifier
 - May be assigned as a starter for any CDGA conducted Championship or Qualifier
 - May be assigned as an on-course scorer at CDGA championships
 - If given an assignment on the course – may make a ruling for one-stroke penalties if 100% confident in the decision. If there is the slightest doubt, must radio the staff person in charge of the event or a rover. Must call in all general penalties (two strokes/loss of hole) to the staff person in charge or the rover.
 - May be assigned to a group in a championship. Depending on the event, may make a ruling for one-stroke penalties if 100% confident in the decision. If there is the slightest doubt, must “radio” the staff person in charge of the event or a rover. Must call in all general penalties (two strokes/loss of hole) to the staff person in charge or the rover.
3. **Expert** - having scored 85% or higher on either the 100-question exam or 80 question tests.
 - You are welcome to attend and work any CDGA conducted Championship or Qualifier.
 - May be assigned as a starter for any CDGA conducted Championship or Qualifier
 - May be assigned as an on-course scorer at CDGA championships
 - If given an assignment on the course with a group or in a zone – may make a ruling if 100% confident in the decision. If there is the slightest doubt, must “radio” the staff person in charge of the event or a rover
 - Will serve on the Rules Championship Rover Committee if a score of 90 or above has been achieved. Anyone else achieving expert status will be considered for the Rover Committee based on test score and experience on the course

CDGA Championships (including CDGA & USGA Qualifiers)

Number of Volunteers at each event – what is needed

CDGA Championships

- *The role of a Blue Coat at a CDGA Championship can include rovers, starters, rules officials and scoring officials.*
- *We strive for a minimum of 10-12 officials with a max of having one official per group.*
- *Rover assignments will be given to members of the CDGA Rules Rover Committee.*
- *Stoke play assignments will be based on Blue Coat qualifications and experience.*
- *Match play assignments are given based on qualifications and experience. Assignments will be given for the number of matches on a given day. The final match may have more than one official assigned.*

CDGA & USGA Qualifiers

- *The role of a Blue Coat at a qualifier can include rovers, starters, rules officials and scoring officials.*
- *We strive for a minimum of 4-6 officials and a maximum of 6-8 for all CDGA & USGA Qualifiers*
- *The Maximum is determined based on the golf course and the number of officials needed to cover all aspects of the course. (Note: a more compact course could see a maximum number of 6, but a more spread-out course might see a maximum of 8)*
- *Assignments for oversubscribed stroke play events are given based on Blue Coat qualifications and experience*
- *To be considered for an assignment for popular locations you will have had to submit your availability prior to receiving the monthly Blue Coat email.*
- *Every effort will be given to make sure a volunteer who is given “No Assignment” for one event will be given an assignment for another.*
- *If we have more than one event on any given day, and one of the sites is oversubscribed, we will look to assign you to the other event.*