

Mt Coolum Vets

New Member Information

Revision 7: 21 December 2022

1. Our website

You've probably already found this. If not, go to <https://www.mtcoolumvets.com>. The website contains all information relating to our activities.

2. Joining Fee and Annual Membership

Joining fee is \$55, which includes a Vets shirt (\$45) and \$10 annual membership for the year of joining. \$10 fee applies regardless of when in the year you join, there are no reduced fees if you join late in the year.

\$10 per annum membership fee covers the membership year 1 January - 31 December. Our membership year does not coincide with the parent club's membership year (1 October – 30 September). Your parent club membership must also be valid (so, for example, if you do not renew your parent club membership by September 30, your vets membership lapses at the same time).

3. Eligibility

We are part of the Queensland Veteran Golf Union. To join us, you must be a male who has attained the age of 55 or a female who has attained the age of 50. You must be an amateur golfer, a financial playing member of a golf club affiliated with Golf Australia, and have a current Golf Australia handicap.

In addition, you must be a member of our parent Mt Coolum Golf Club, in one of the following categories

- Full membership
- 40 round membership
- Country membership
- Corporate member
- Long Term Visitor
- Pay Per Play member

For 40 game members, Vets games at Mt Coolum will count towards the 40 game limit.

For Pay Per Play members, normal green fees must be paid to the Mt Coolum Pro Shop, in addition to the Vets competition fee.

Visiting vets are welcome subject to the following guidelines (final decision on this is at the discretion of the Mt Coolum Vets committee).

- limit of 4 vets games per year at Mt Coolum (you are also welcome to travel with us to our away games). If you wish to play additional games, that is OK, but you must pay normal Mt Coolum visitor green fees in addition to the Vets competition fee
- if you don't have vets membership with your home club, you can join our vets, but are still constrained by the game limit above
- there must be clear evidence that you are a frequent playing member of your home club (which will be checked via your GolfLink number and the GolfLink web site)
- you are not a member of a "convenience membership" club - eg QANTAS, The Social, RACV, Howlong (see below)

- if you don't qualify based on the above, you are welcome to become a Mt Coolum club member and then join vets
- where there are limits on visitor numbers for away games, Mt Coolum vets will be given preference over visitors
- **Members of convenience clubs are also welcomed to play but must pay normal Mt Coolum visitor green fees in addition to the Vets competition fee.**

Joining

Go to the new member registration page of our website

(<https://www.mtcoolumvets.com/membership>) and follow the instructions. Alternatively, fill out a form provided at the Vets Notice Board at the club and drop into the Vets box at the main (upstairs) bar, or talk to a committee member.

4. Annual Program

Again, check the website. <https://www.mtcoolumvets.com/current-program>. (The program is also posted on the Vets Notice Board at the club). We play about 35 games a year, visiting most clubs in the Sunshine Coast and Glass House regions on a home and away basis. Our home games are held on Mondays. Away games are most frequently also on Mondays, but this varies depending on the club we are visiting.

Do not rely on the Mt Coolum club program booklet. This is usually printed prior to our schedule being completed. Our calendar is finalised later than, and semi-independently of this, and subject to occasional change. Also note that in the club program, our home days are described as "Veterans Host Day". The club mentioned next is the club visiting us (**we are not visiting them**). Our away games are usually shown as something like "*Veterans away at Club xxx*" (in italics). (But to repeat, it's just safer to stay away from the club program and use our program from our Vets website).

5. Home Games

There will be one competition for male and female players - not separate competitions for men and women. Players will be graded as per current system (number of grades based on total player numbers, grade handicaps selected to give a roughly even number distribution between grades). Women play off yellow tees, men off whites. NTP's are open to all.

We have 144 places available for our home games. Depending on numbers, it may be necessary to limit playing numbers on "busy" days. All members may be required to miss 1 – 2 games per year to make this work. Records are maintained to ensure this is distributed equally. (There are around 36 games annually, missing a few won't hurt). As part of this, visitor numbers may be limited to 50 players.

For our home host days, if the visiting club has women vets, they will be invited. It is up to the visiting club to decide their visitor list.

Competitions will normally be stableford, Vets Championship games will be stroke.

Home games will generally start at 8 AM (this may be later when more distant clubs such as Tin Can Bay and Redcliffe visit).

6. Away Games

Some (generally larger) clubs (eg Noosa, Headland, Caloundra, Maroochy River, Pelican Waters) are placing restrictions on visitor numbers. For these away games, if numbers are limited, members may again be required to miss a turn or two. Our current system where people supporting home games will be preferred for away games will apply

Within the Sunshine Coast region, away games may be for male vets only, depending on restrictions the host clubs have in place – **we have no control over this**. For most other away games (Pacific Harbour, Caboolture, Woodford, Maleny and Redcliffe), female partners are welcome even if they are not vets. The booking forms will indicate this. For Bribie Island, all players must be vets.

7. Year Long Events

In addition to the normal home and away competitions, we run several competitions based on cumulative scores over the playing year.

Our main event is the Clarry Medal. Best ten scores over the playing year are used to calculate this.

We also run an Eclectic competition, based on scores at Mt Coolum only.

Finally, the Audi Medal recognizes the player who manages to score the most wipes / pickups in home games over the year.

Full details are on the website.

8. Game Nomination

Game nomination is done electronically, via email. If you don't have email, you can also nominate via the website (<https://www.mtcoolumvets.com/upcoming-games>). Finally, if you don't have any email / internet access, get another vet to nominate for you, or talk to a committee member.

On the nomination forms, we ask you to nominate whether you are using a cart or walking. This assists us to allocate starting holes for our shotgun starts - the walkers start closer to the clubhouse.

Nominations start about a month before the game, and close about 10 days before the game. After closing, you can usually get a game by contacting the Vets Captain (but he's got a long memory so don't do it too often).

Vets are encouraged to mix their playing groups. When you nominate, you can indicate one other player you wish to play with. Additional players named will probably end up in a different group.

9. Game Cancellation

Please don't just not turn up. Let someone know if you can't make it.

Please cancel as follows

- If you want to cancel, please **DO NOT** go to the club booking system and remove yourself from there (see below for background).
- If on-line nominations haven't closed, you can use the link in the nomination confirmation email to cancel
- If nominations have closed, and there is still a reasonable amount of time prior to the game (say up to the Friday before the game), send an email to Vets@MtCoolumVets.com
- any later than this, contact the Vets Captain (or another committee member) direct - contact details are on the web page (<https://www.mtcoolumvets.com/office-bearers>) (best method is to email or text the club captain, do not leave a voicemail message).

A bit of background to this :

Trying to keep track of up to 144 approaching senility vet golfers, their playing habits and a shotgun start is something the normal booking system can't handle. Instead, we use a spreadsheet. This

contains all information - the obvious stuff like names, GA number etc, as well as who wants to play with whom, who is walking or carting etc etc.

Once the nominations have closed, we use the spreadsheet to allocate playing positions. From this, we use the normal club booking system to enter names. This is done to allow score cards to be printed and to get your names into the GA system for score recording, handicapping etc. Typically, this is done on the Wednesday before our home game, with a final polish on the Sunday accounting for late cancellations or nominations.

If you want to cancel, please **DO NOT** go to the club booking system and remove yourself from there (some of you have innocently done this in the past). If you do this, we have no way of knowing who has cancelled - we would have to continually monitor the club booking page and try to work out where empty playing spots may have appeared and who was in them.

10. Vets Shirts

We proudly wear a Mt Coolum Vets golf shirt to our events – the shirt is light blue with your name embroidered on it. Your initial joining fee includes the cost of a shirt. These can also be ordered from the Pro Shop, current cost is \$45