



Member Information Pack



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Fostering the game of golf and promoting social interaction among Veteran Golfers

HISTORY OF COOROY VETERAN'S GOLF CLUB

Veteran golf clubs are not social clubs or actual golf clubs. Rather they are formally recognised as a representative association of golfers having a common interest; we are all age 55 years and over, formed by a group of people to enjoy golf and other interests amongst its membership.

Founded in the mid 1980's with around 35 members, *Cooroy Veterans' Golf Club* exists for this purpose.

We awarded one of our club foundation members, *Lionel Willett*, with Gold Membership in 2017 for 32 years of active participation with Cooroy Vets.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of *Cooroy Veterans' Golf Club* is open to a financial male or female member of *Cooroy Golf Club* who has reached the age of 55 years, holds a current Golf Australia handicap and is an amateur golfer.

HOW WE OPERATE

We manage our competitions and events independently from *Cooroy Golf Club* and operate under a stand-alone Constitution, accounting system and bank account. We have a formal agreement with *Cooroy Golf Club Inc.* setting out arrangements between the two parties.

Cooroy Vets is run by a Management Committee comprising:

President: *Bruce Otto*

Captain: *Grant Smallacombe*

Vice Captain: *Jim Henderson*

Host Day Captain: *John Cranley*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Rod Booth*

Committee Members: *John Hawkins, Dave Lyons, Terry Lyons.*

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Along with nine other clubs, *Caloundra, Gympie, Headland, Maroochy River, Peregian Springs, Mt Coolum, Nambour, Noosa, and Tin Can Bay*, we are a member club of the *Sunshine Coast District Veteran Golfers Association*, the largest Veteran Golfer District in Australia with over 1,800 members. Host Day competitions are open to both male and female financial veteran golfers.

We have a say in *District* affairs through representation on the District Management Committee which meets quarterly.

COMPETITIONS and EVENTS

Our Weekly Competition is held at Cooroy on Wednesday morning with both single and team game formats to provide variety. We also play a Monthly Medal competition. These competitions are open to male and female veteran golfers.

Our Wednesday Competition Fee is **\$15.00** which includes a *Lucky Draw* If you are a **Pay-as You Play** member of Cooroy Golf Club the cost is **\$35.00**.

Casual visiting veteran golfers are welcome to play in our competition at a cost of **\$35.00**.

Unclaimed prizes or balls due to you are available for collection from the *Starter* when you register for your next game.

Tee Times vary all year round; the earliest is 6:16 am and the latest is 6:44 am, depending on when the sun rises. We recognise that the majority of Vets want to play early.

From time to time we hold **Shot Gun Starts** to allow players to arrive back in the clubhouse around the same time for presentations and socialising. Members are encouraged to stay for these presentations as it is a great opportunity to get to know other members and have some fun.

Through our membership of the **Sunshine Coast District Veteran Golfers Association**, you will have the opportunity to play some of the best golf courses on the *Sunshine Coast* at reasonable cost under the **District Host Day Program**.

Our annual program may include exchange visits with golf clubs outside our District, for example, *Maleny*.

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You can book a tee time online for competitions and events through the member portal. Online bookings open at 6:00 pm 3 weeks in advance of the competition.

You can find details of our competition and events program in the [Event Calendar](#) on the website.

If you have any questions concerning our Wednesday competition or Host Days, please feel free to speak to our Captain, Vice Captain, Host Day Captain or any committee member.

COMPETITION DAY

Typically competitions run under the direction of a *Starter* who acts like a *Concierge of Golf* providing the gateway to an enjoyable day of golf for members and visitors. The *Starter's* primary role is to register players and manage an orderly start to competition for each playing group. The *Starter* has authority to move players between groups and adjust tee times.

Players are encouraged to **register at least 30 minutes before** hitting off, particularly those in groups in the latter part of the field. Our Starters also play golf, so they need time to wrap up the registration side of things and then head out and enjoy their game.

Organising and running a competition involves quite a lot of effort behind the scenes, so if you nominate to play but are unable to make your tee time or are not able to play, please ensure you notify the club or cancel your booking as quickly as practical so that we can reorganise the field.

We have opted for 7-minute starting intervals to alleviate the congestion and waiting that occurs on the course from time to time. The success of this system relies on groups NOT hitting off the 1st Tee before their nominated time unless called earlier by the Starter.

COMPETITION PRIZES

Typically prizes in our competitions take the form of (a) a credit to your Member Club Account with Cooroy Golf Club or (b) a sponsor donated prize.

On shotgun start days, however, prizes may take the form of vouchers purchased from Cooroy Golf Club for both Wednesday and Host/Invitation Days. You can assist the cash flow of *Cooroy Golf Club* by redeeming the voucher at the bar or pro shop on the day of your win.

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LUCKY DRAW

Our Wednesday competition fee usually includes a *Lucky Draw*.

On time start competition days the lucky draw is made by the Starters immediately all players have registered. Winners must collect their prize from the prize table and sign off the *Lucky Draw Daily Prize* sheet on completion of play. **Prizes not collected on the day are forfeited.**

On shotgun start competition days the draw is made as part of the presentation at the end of play. **You must be present to collect the lucky draw prize.**

SPONSORSHIP

We have two sponsorship programs. The first involves *External Sponsors*. You will become aware of these external sponsors from our competition presentations. We encourage members to support businesses that support us.

The second is our *Member Prize Sponsor Program* under which Members sponsor competitions individually or get together with other members to sponsor a competition or competitions. The donation can be in cash or '*in kind*', for example, golf balls. We do not stipulate the level or value of sponsorship – that is entirely up to the member.

Both of these programs are important. They allow us to maintain attractive prize levels and provide additional benefits to members in the form of a Xmas Lunch, regular Sausage Sizzles, '*Jimmy's Famous Burger and Beer*' at Marty's Hut, which ensures benefits are spread across *all members*. **These additional benefits are free to members.**

If you are interested in being part of the Member Prize Donor Program, speak to *Grant* or *Rod* or any committee member.

ETIQUETTE and PACE of PLAY

We play golf without the supervision of a referee or umpire. The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the *Rules of Golf* and *Local Rules*.

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We expect all players to conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times irrespective of how competitive they may be - this is the spirit of veteran golfers.

Pace of Play – The first thing to recognise is that we are all *veteran golfers* looking to enjoy a round of golf that flows smoothly without constant waiting. Having said that, it is necessary to make allowances for physical ability and limitations. Common sense expectations need to be adopted.

The simple rule is that *players* exercise common sense and take responsibility for the speed of play of their group.

The key is self assessment, and maintaining a general awareness of what is going on around you on the course.

COMMUNICATION

We keep members up to date with results, information and a light-hearted view of what's happening through regular email communications.

We also post information on the *Vets Noticeboard* located on the wall near the Starters Room and under *Golf News* on the website.

As it provides useful information about *Cooroy Veteran Golfers*, interesting articles, competition results, photos, and course updates I would also encourage you to have a look at the *Cooroy Golf Club* website at <http://cooroygolf.com.au/>

COOROY VETS GOLF SHIRTS

You can order a *Cooroy Veterans' Golf Club* golf shirt through our Captain or Secretary. The cost must be paid before we place an order with our supplier.

We encourage members to wear the Vets golf shirt whenever possible but particularly on host and District event days.

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MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Life Membership

Life membership is an honour bestowed on an individual member of Cooroy Veterans' Golf Club whose continuous, meritorious, loyal and outstanding service and contribution have provided a measurable benefit to the Vets and its golf constituency over an extended period.

Cooroy Veterans' Golf Club recognises Honorary Life Membership as the highest award acknowledging exceptional service and contribution.

We have two Life Members:

- *James Henderson* (2021)
- *Jim Penman* (2010)

Gold Membership

Inaugurated in 2017 by *Grant Smallacombe*, and foundation member, *Lionel Willett* this award recognises commitment to and support for Cooroy Veterans' Golf Club over an extended period of concurrent membership – a minimum of 25 years of concurrent membership of Cooroy Veterans' Golf Club. Members awarded Gold Membership:

- *John Round*
- *John Stewart*
- *Mike Miklenda*
- *Lionel Willett*

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