



Mother's Day Classic

EVENT DAY VOLUNTEER GUIDE 2026

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

The Mother's Day Classic Foundation respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the various lands on which each Mother's Day Classic event is located.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands on which all of our Mother's Day Classic events are held.

MDC Volunteer Program
proudly supported by:



Super with impact



1. Welcome & Event Overview

Join a community of over 1,500 volunteers who come together to raise awareness and funds for breast and ovarian cancer research at the Mother's Day Classic (MDC).

Since 1998, we've been dedicated to walking, running and fundraising to save women's lives on Mother's Day. In 2024, we took one step further and made it our mission to stop both ovarian and breast cancer in their tracks. In the last 28 years, our community has donated \$48.23 million to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, and since 2024, \$2.57 million to the Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation.

Our impact:

- 28 years of walking and running
- \$50.8 million donated since 1998
- 1.8 million participants Australia wide
- 90 events annually
- Funding over 90 research projects



2. Who Can Volunteer

Our volunteer program is inclusive, welcoming people of all backgrounds, skills, and abilities.

Age Requirements

The minimum age to volunteer independently at a Mother's Day Classic event is 12 years. Volunteers aged 12–15 years must be supervised by a parent or guardian while volunteering on the day. Our supervision ratio is one adult to a maximum of 10 junior volunteers.

Volunteers aged 16–18 years require parental or guardian consent to participate.

Bringing Younger Children

We understand that the Mother's Day Classic is a family-focused event. Younger children (under 12 years) are very welcome to attend the event with a parent or guardian and share in the experience.

You can indicate that younger children will be accompanying you via your registration form so our teams are aware. Children under 12 do not need to be registered as volunteers and are not assigned formal volunteer roles, but are welcome to be part of the day under the supervision of their parent or guardian.

Volunteer as a Group

Join the fun as a group! Whether it's with colleagues, gym friends, family or a community group, you can volunteer together. Depending on your group size, you may be rostered to stay together on event day, or you can opt for a mixed-team experience and meet other volunteers.



3. Volunteer Roles & Responsibilities

Roles are assigned in advance based on availability and event needs, with full instructions provided on the day. Available roles may include:

Check-In and Registration Assistance: Helping participants with check-in and registration on event day.

Course Marshals: Directing participants and ensuring safety along the route.

Water Stations: Setting up, distributing water, and keeping the area clean.

Cheer Squad: Providing encouragement and creating a positive atmosphere.

Merchandise and Fundraising: Assist with fundraising activities such as the sale of raffle tickets and merchandise.

Finish Line Support: Handing out medallions, refreshments, and assisting participants as needed.

Event Photographer/Content Creator: Capturing the event on the day (must bring own camera/phone).

Set up and Pack down Event Village: Assist in setting up and packing down areas such as merchandise, information tent, kids zone, volunteer check in etc.



4. Event Day

Arrival Times: Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your volunteer allocated shift time.

Check in/out:

- Go to the volunteer tent (location will be provided in your volunteer handbook).
- Sign in and receive your role specific briefing, volunteer pack, and bucket hat.
- You will be directed to your team leader once you have signed in for your role specific briefing.
- Once your briefing has concluded, you will be deployed to your post for the day.

Breaks: Volunteers will be allocated a 30 minute break for shifts over 5 hours. Light snacks will be provided.

5. Dress Code and What to Bring

Recommended attire: Comfortable shoes for standing and walking.

Volunteer Pack: Thanks to our Major Partner HESTA, all volunteers will receive a purple high-vis vest to wear on the day and a volunteer pack to take home. ***Vests must be returned at the end of your shift.***

MDC Gift: In recognition of your support, all volunteers will receive a pink or Teal MDC bucket hat, which can be collected at the volunteer check-in.

Personal items to bring: Phone & portable charger, sunscreen, water bottle, rain jacket or poncho (weather dependent), any preferred snacks.



6. Health and Safety

All volunteers must follow Safe Work Practices. A safe workplace will be provided for all shifts, and it is the responsibility of every volunteer to work with due care and considerations to safeguard their own health and safety, as well as the health and safety of others.

All volunteers will receive a safety induction as part of their Volunteer Handbook and complete an onsite safety briefing when they check in on the day of their shift.

Volunteers must advise their team leader if they have any conditions or personal restrictions that may impact their ability to perform a task safely.

If you feel unwell or unsafe at any point during your shift, please notify your Team Leader immediately.

7. Communication

Before the event

You will receive a shift confirmation email via our Volunteer Portal (Rosterfy).

For events in **Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Geelong, Gold Coast, Hobart, Melbourne, Parramatta, Perth and Sydney**, you will receive a location-specific Volunteer Handbook approximately **two weeks prior to the event**. This handbook includes key information about your role and shift, as well as details of any relevant online volunteer briefing sessions.

For **all other event locations**, your local Volunteer Coordinator will be in touch prior to the event to confirm your role, start time, arrival instructions, and any additional details. A Volunteer Handbook will also be available via your Volunteer Portal approximately two weeks before the event.

If you have any questions before event day, please contact the Volunteer Programs Coordinator at **volunteer@mothersdayclassic.com.au**.

On event day

Your Volunteer Coordinator will be your main point of contact and will be located at **Volunteer Check-In**.

8. Behaviour

Embrace the spirit of the Mother's Day Classic by embodying our values and helping to create a positive, memorable, and uplifting experience for everyone involved. Treat all participants, employees, and fellow volunteers with empathy and respect throughout the event.

Many of our participants have a personal connection to breast and/or ovarian cancers. We ask all volunteers to observe and respect the minute of silence at the start line.



9. After the Event

Feedback: After the event you will receive a survey to complete. All feedback about your experience before and on the day is helpful.

Certificate: We will email a personalised Certificate of Appreciation after the event as a thank you for your volunteering efforts.

Stay in touch: Head to our website to express your interest in volunteering again for future Mother's Day Classic events.

Volunteer Recognition Program: Volunteers returning for 5 or more years will receive a commemorative pin in recognition of your support for MDC. If eligible, please highlight this on your registration form.

10. Contact Information

Email the MDC Volunteers Team at: volunteer@mothersdayclassic.com.au

Register to Volunteer

Ready to join us as a volunteer on Sunday 10 May at your nearest Mother's Day Classic event?

We can't wait to have you join us to help make our event special, memorable, and empowering.

Register to volunteer from 2 February 2026:
<https://mdc.rosterfy.com.au/register>

Volunteer Registration closes Thursday 7 May.

