

Attend Events 0.8.x

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Introduction

Attend Events is Joomla component for managing event registration, and is a fork of the Mambo component *Events Sessions* 0.6.0 beta. It is fully functional as a standalone component, but can also interface with the *Events* component to enhance the front-end interface. *Attend Events* includes an easy to use (and powerful) form generation tool that can extract default field values from a registered user's *Community Builder* profile (if the *Community Builder* component is installed). In addition, *Attend Events* offers the ability to include a list of "People already registered" in the front-end (as well as their comments). For convenience, *Attend Events* has an optional ability for managing frequently used venues.

Integration with *Events*

For clarity, *Attend Events* manages **sessions**, and *Events* manages, well, **events**. Using the *Events* component, events can be organized by categories and displayed in the front-end using a calendar interface. When integrated with *Events*, *Attend Events* sessions (for which users can register) are then presented along side the details of the event. However, if your site does not need to organize events by categories nor require a calendar interface, a stand-alone version of *Attend Events* should suffice. In this situation, the component will present users with a list of available sessions for which they can register.

Installation/Upgrading

New Installation

1. Navigate to the *Component Installer* in the back-end administration (Menu: Installers→Components)
2. In the "Upload Package File" section of the page, click the "Choose File" button and navigate to the copy of the *joomla_com_attend_events_080.zip* file on your computer.
3. Click the "Upload File & Install" button.
4. After a successful installation, click the "[Continue...]" link.

Upgrading From Version 0.8.0 Build #008 and higher

1. Navigate to the *Component Installer* in the back-end administration (Menu: Installers→Components)
2. Select the old copy of Attend Events from the list of *Installed Components*.
3. Click the "Uninstall" button on the toolbar.
4. Install the new version of Attend Events as per the instructions for a new installation.

Upgrading From Versions 0.7.x and 0.8.0 Build #007 and below

1. If you are upgrading from 0.7.x, you should back-up the Attend Events tables (#__events_registrations and #__events_sessions) before proceeding to the next step. Backing-up can be accomplished fairly easily using phpMyAdmin (see http://www.phpmyadmin.net/documentation/index.html#faq6_4).
2. Replace your current copy of Attend Events with the latest version by FTPing the files onto your server. All Attend Events files are stored in one of two locations:

/administrator/components/ com_attend_events/	/components/com_attend_events/
admin.attend_events.html.php admin.attend_events.php attend_events.xml fields.attend_events/php help/ index.html install.attend_events.php toolbar.attend_events.html.php toolbar.attend_events.php uninstall.attend_events.php	attend_events.class.php attend_events.html.php attend_events.php config.attend_events.php language/ link.attend_events.php

3. If you are upgrading from 0.8.0 RC 1, the process is complete. However, if you are upgrading from 0.7.x, you will also need to upgrade the database tables:
 - a. Navigate to the *About Attend Events* screen in the back-end administration (Menu: Components→Attend Events)
 - b. Click the “upgrade” button on the toolbar.

Front-End Configuration

If you are running Attend Events as a stand-alone product, you’ll probably want to create a menu item in the front-end so users of your site can see a list of available sessions:

1. Navigate to the appropriate *Menu Manager* menu in the back-end administration under which the link to this component should be displayed (Menu: Menu→mainmenu)
2. Click the “New” button on the toolbar.
3. In the “Components” section, click “component” (or click its radio button and then the “Next” button on the toolbar).
4. Enter the text to display as this menu item in the “Name” field, and select “Attend Events” in the “Component” list. Make sure the “Published” attribute is set to “Yes”, and select an appropriate “Access Level”, depending on your site’s restrictions for registering for events.
5. Click “Save” on the toolbar.

If you are using the Events component, you’ll probably want to use the Attend Events module (which must be downloaded and installed separately from the component):

1. Navigate to the *Module Installer* in the back-end administration (Menu: Installers→Modules)

2. In the “Upload Package File” section of the page, click the “Choose File” button and navigate to the copy of the *joomla_mod_attend_events_080.zip* file on your computer.
3. Click the “Upload File & Install” button.
4. After a successful installation, click the “[Continue...]” link.
5. Navigate to the *Site Modules Manager* (Menu: Modules→Site Modules)
6. Click on the “Attend_Events” module (you may have to navigate beyond the first page to find it).
7. If you would like the list of sessions in the front-end to be identified with a section title, enter its text in the “Title” field and make sure the “Show title” option is set to “Yes”. The “Position” field determines where on the page the contents of this module will appear. Note; Not all positions may be supported by your particular template, but “Left” should be implemented for most templates. If other modules are also in this position, you can determine the order in which the Attend Events module appears using the “Module Order” drop-down menu. Finally, make sure the “Published” attribute is set to “Yes”.
8. The “Show Sessions” parameter should be set to “Show only linked Sessions”. In this setting, when the page containing a particular event’s details is displayed, only sessions related to this event will be displayed. If desired, all sessions currently available in Attend Events can be displayed by changing this option to “Show all Sessions”
9. In the “Pages/Items” section, select the menu item which links to the Events component (probably “mainmenu | Events”).

Uninstalling

Attend Events 0.8.0 Builds #008 and higher will no longer remove all information from your Joomla database when uninstalled using the component manager. To fully remove Attend Events, use the built-in uninstall function first, and then remove the remainder of the component using the component manager uninstaller:

1. Navigate to the *About Attend Events* screen in the back-end administration (Menu: Components→Attend Events).
2. Click the “uninstall” button on the toolbar.
3. Navigate to the *Component Installer* in the back-end administration (Menu: Installers→Components)
4. Select the old copy of Attend Events from the list of *Installed Components*.
5. Click the “Uninstall” button on the toolbar.

Now What???

At this point, *Attend Events* is installed and fully operational, and you should take the time to browse through the various pages/screens in the back-end administration of the component. A significant amount of documentation is available through Joomla’s built-in help system, as well as the other resources on the *Attend Events* development area.



Tooltips

You should see several tooltip icons (like the one to the left) throughout the back-end configuration pages of *Attend Events*. Placing your mouse over these will

pop-up a window containing a brief description of what this particular aspect controls, and in most cases, will outline what the possible options are, and what they do.



Help Files

In addition, further documentation is available by clicking the “Help” icon (like the one to the left) located at the right-hand side of the toolbar on any *Attend Events* page.



Developer Site

If you are still having problems, browse through the discussion area of the *Attend Events* project on the Joomla Forge, and feel free to post your own questions.
<http://developer.joomla.org/sf/sfmain/do/viewProject/projects.attendevents>