



Crazyman 2021 Cancelled

Due to the Government current Covid-19 restrictions it is with much disappointment that we are forced to cancel the 2021 Crazyman on December 5th.

We haven't taken this lightly. We had actually intended to run the event within the Governments current Level 2 guidelines. But the guidelines are very unclear and thus the more we investigated it, the more we realised that the Crazyman's specific characteristics (a moving event with participant support crews) make it almost impossible to run within Level 2 guidelines.

For example: Unless you are in a designated event facility, or can guarantee 1m spacing at all times, Level 2 guidelines restrict gatherings within any defined area to 100 people. Because most participants have support crews, we would have to split the race into wave-starts of 50 people. Those waves are then not allowed to meet at any stage, which means separate transitions, separate toilets and separate car parks. At the finish line participants and crews would have to leave straight away so as not to mingle with other groups. And because of the risk of groups catching each other, we would have to start the groups in order of projected times so they get further apart as the race progressed. This would make for a very long day, with finishers as late as 8pm. That's actually not so bad, except it makes for a huge day for volunteers, which also rules out handling the above via two-days (e.g: duathlon one day & multisport the next).

The volunteer situation is a big part of the reason why we have decided not to go ahead. Given the current climate, we are already struggling to find the normal 50 volunteers, so to find an extra 15-20 to help control the requirements above is a big ask. Especially when they'll be doing a much longer day and having to "police" some areas in a much more militant fashion that may at times strike unfavourable response (none of us like being told what to do). Frankly, it's not fair to ask volunteers to become something closer to security personnel.

On top of this we have had a few participants withdraw and received a couple of emails from members of the public who live on the course, all wondering out-loud if trying to run the event right now is a responsible thing to do. And while we think the covid risk is low and that we could run it safely, we don't actually disagree with their point.

To be fair, councils seem ok with us going ahead as long as we meet the guidelines. But really, this just brings us back to the main sticking points: 1) When you consider the aspects outlined above, no one can guarantee that we can 100% meet those guidelines. 2) With the Government trying to bring in the new Traffic Light and Vaccination Passport system soon, there is the added risk that the rules could change on race week itself and no one (organisers or participants) would be ready for that.

So, hopefully you can see that we've weighed up every angle before deciding to cancel. The past 18 months have been a torrid time for the event industry. We've personally had to postpone or cancel eight events now. But unlike some of the other events we organise, Crazyman expenses don't start really mounting up until about now, and the actual entries tend to rush in at the last moment. Thus, the financial loss of cancelling now (compared to closer to race day) isn't huge.

As such, participants already entered for 2021 have the following options:

- 1) You can be refunded on request, or...
- 2) Transfer to the 2022 Crazyman, or...
- 3) Transfer to one of our other events below in 2022:
[Karapoti Classic](#), [Porirua Grand Traverse](#), [Wellington Marathon](#).

Just let us know which options you'd like to take by emailing: michael@mdj.co.nz

In the meantime, thanks to Hutt City Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council, our sponsors and volunteers and participants for your support over the past 18 months. All we can do now is push on into 2022 and hope that the Governments new Traffic Light & Vaccination Passport systems will bring more certainty around events.