



Youth having great muddy fun at a previous Muddy Buddy event in Havelock. Photo by Jane Miles, Sport Tasman

Buddy up for Muddy Fun

Participants in the popular Marlborough Muddy Buddy fun event often struggle for clear visibility as they slip and slide their way around the mud-covered Havelock course.

The same cannot be said of the major benefactors of the 2019 Muddy Buddy, an organisation with a clear eye on the future.

Havelock Vision 20:20 are a local charity chosen by Sport Tasman to benefit from this year's event, planned for Saturday, February 16.

Although the previous two events have had to be postponed, cyclones in the region affecting the viability of the Havelock estuary site, the 2019 Muddy Buddy will go ahead regardless of the weather.

This year a contingency site has been located to ensure that participants will not be put on hold for a third time.

Sport Tasman, despite being a

not-for-profit organisation itself, is making efforts to align all of their public events with local charities in order to act as a vehicle for worthy community groups to raise awareness for their causes and obtain much-needed funds.

Consequently they have chosen Havelock Vision 20:20 as the 2019 beneficiary. Havelock Vision 2020 is a charitable trust, formed in March 2010 to benefit the environs and community of Havelock by creating a vision for prioritising projects and the future development of amenities.

Sport Tasman is also providing the trust with operational support through the delivery of the Havelock Community Hub.

Sport Tasman events manager Katie Arden said they were looking forward to partnering with Havelock Vision 20:20. "If every person taking part in the Muddy Buddy raised just \$20

through asking friends, family and colleagues to sponsor them it would affect real change that would benefit all Havelock residents," she says.

Havelock Vision 2020 is delighted to be working in partnership with Sport Tasman. The Trust's Chair, Barbara Faulls, says Sport Tasman's offer to make the charity a beneficiary of the 2019 Marlborough Muddy Buddy will potentially be a huge boost.

"Any funds raised will go towards our efforts to upgrade the community swimming facilities," Barbara says.

"This event is one that captures the heart of everyone involved. It is incredible fun and offers participants the chance to get up close and personal with the estuary!"

Tickets are \$10 per person, you can register as a team of up to 10 people, and there is also a family ticket package of \$35 for

up to 5 people (2 adults max).

While registration fees are necessary to cover rising event costs and administration, fund raising platform 'Givealittle' has been chosen to assist participants in their fundraising activities.

All participants can donate via their own personalised fundraising page linked to the main event and those choosing not to get muddy can also donate by heading to <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/muddy-buddy-fundraiser-community-swimming>

Organisers are looking to provide a prize for the fundraiser who is most active online and raises the most for the cause.

Any organisations that are able to support by way of donations for spot prizes should contact Katie at Sport Tasman on 03 923 2311. All details to be found at www.sporttasman.org.nz/marlboroughmuddybuddy