

2018 POLAR PLUNGE FAQS

GENERAL REGISTRATION & EVENT QUESTIONS

Q: What is the minimum amount that I need to raise to participate?

A: Individual Plungers need to raise at least \$200.

Q: How old do you have to be to Plunge?

A: While we do not have any age restrictions, participants under the age of 18 must have written consent from a parent or legal guardian.

Q: I was going to participate but now my schedule doesn't allow. Is it possible for me to turn in my money early and still receive the Plunge sweatshirt?

A: All donations can be mailed in and please send an email to polarplunge@sochicago.org to make arrangements to receive your items.

Q: What if I forget what Wave time I signed up for?

A: Your wave time is located on your confirmation email. If you can't find your wave time, please contact nathalie.hill@sochicago.org for assistance.

Q: How do I change my t-shirt size? Can I change additional information in my account?

A: Please log onto your Enmotive account by clicking [this link](#) and selecting log in. Once you are logged into your account, please scroll down to upcoming events and click on "View Registration" to edit your t-shirt size. T-shirt sizes can be changed up until 2 weeks before the event.

Q: Can I pick up my wristband and Plunge goodies before the event on March 4th?

A: Yes, we will have pre-registration on March 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at North Ave Beach. Pre-registration will allow you to pick up your wristband, goodies and turn in any offline donations.

Groups of 20 or more will be required to pick up wristbands and t-shirts prior to March 4th!

Thursday, March 1st: 3:00-7:00pm
Friday, March 2nd: 3:00-7:00pm

Saturday, March 3rd: 10:00am-1:00pm
Sunday, March 4th: 8:00-10:30am

DONATIONS & FUNDRAISING

Q: Who should checks be made out to?

A: Checks should be made out to Special Olympics Chicago. Please include in the memo area of the check the Plunger's name, so the donation can be added to the Plunger's Fundraising page.

Q: I have registered online, but I also have cash and checks that people have given me, what can I do with these?

A: All donations should be turned in at the event registration, these additional funds will be added to your fundraising total. Cash and checks can also be mailed to the following address: **541 N. Fairbanks Ct. Chicago, IL 60607**. Please make checks out to SCC and place the name of the plunger in the memo section.

Q: I am trying to make an online donation but it doesn't seem to be going through. What can I do?

A: Please try a different browser and try again. If you're still having issues please send us an email at polarplunge@sochicago.org or give us a call at **312-527-3743**. We are happy to help!

Q: How long does it take for checks that are mailed in on my behalf to show up in my fundraising total?

A: Contributions are entered no more than 5-7 days after they are received by Special Olympics Chicago.

Q: Does Special Olympics Chicago issue refunds?

A: Charitable contributions are non-refundable, and the minimum Plunge registration fee is considered a charitable contribution and, therefore, also non-refundable.

Q: Can I get blank receipt forms to give to my donors?

A: All donors will receive a receipt for their donation once it has been made online. Donors who have made an off-line donation will receive a receipt once it has been added to his or her fundraising page. Please email polarplunge@sochicago.org if the donor doesn't receive a receipt for his or her donation.

Q: What is the minimum amount that my team needs to raise?

A: If a teammate doesn't meet the \$200 fundraising minimum, they won't be able to plunge. However; if the team as a whole raises \$200 per person, the whole team will be able to plunge. For example, if a team of 10 people raises \$2000 from 4 people, the other 6 would be able to plunge since they raised \$200 per person on their team.

Q: My team would like to put out some banners/posters/flyers/other promotional materials to promote a special fundraiser and/or our general participation in the event and help us raise money. How can we get these?

A: We are happy to work with teams to assist in promoting participation in this event. Please email Nathalie at Nathalie.hill@sochicago.org and we'll be happy to work with you in any way we can!

EVENT/PLUNGE DAY

Q: Where should I park?

A: Through a generous partnership with the Lincoln Park Zoo, free parking is available by entering off of Fullerton Parkway. The zoo's parking lot entrance is located at Fullerton Parkway and Cannon Drive (2400 North Cannon Drive, Chicago IL 60614). Keep in mind that if you have a team of 20 or more, a free bus may be available to you. We also recommend taking CTA or being dropped off right at the beach.

Q: Is there someplace where I can change before and/or after the Plunge?

A: Yes, the Boat House has restrooms available for Plungers to change before and after the Plunge. Please note that Special Olympics Chicago is not responsible for personal belongings left inside the tent that are lost or stolen during the course of the event. Leave items at your own risk.

Q: What should I bring to the Plunge?

A: We encourage you to bring all the necessary things to keep you warm and dry after you take the plunge. Ideally, you should bring a bag that has a warm change of clothes, shoes and an extra towel. Bags are available for purchase at registration prior to the plunge, and are ideal for keeping your items dry and safe as you plunge. As for what to bring in order to take the plunge, we invite you to bring your costume, friends, family and fun spirit! **You must wear shoes of some sort!**

Q: I am a first-time Plunger. Can you tell me what I should expect when I arrive?

A: The most fun you'll ever have at the beach in the winter! You should expect a very large crowd and lots of energy. You can listen to music, buy some great Plunge gear or food and drinks, and mingle with thousands of fellow Plungers and spectators as you all gear up for your chilly dip.

Q: What happens once I line up?

A: When you're close to your plunge time, it will be time to line up in the warming corrals located in the tent closest to the beach. With your corresponding wristband visible to the volunteers, line up in the warming tent corrals and prepare to take the plunge! Be sure to take your bag with warm dry clothes with you as you will have a place to put those before you plunge. When you're close to your plunge time, it will be time to line up in the warming corrals located in the tent closest to the beach. With your corresponding wristband visible to the volunteers, line up in the warming tent corrals and prepare to take the plunge! Be sure to take your bag with warm dry clothes with you as you will have a place to put those before you plunge.

Q: How far do I have to go into the water?

A: We do not have any depth requirements for the Plunge. Whether you go ankle high, knee deep, or take the full plunge, all are welcomed. We leave it up to the comfort level of the individual participant. Everyone is a Plunger in our book! Just no diving!

EVENT/PLUNGE DAY

Q: Where/how do I turn in my money on Plunge day?

A: Any monies you have in-hand should be turned in at the Registration area on Plunge Day. This includes cash, checks, and money orders. Credit card donations are also accepted at Registration.

Q: Where do I put my bag of dry clothes?

A: Bring your bag of clothes and warm items with you as you enter the warming corrals and prepare to take the plunge. Once you get to the top of the shoot and are minutes away from entering the water, our volunteers will direct you to leave your bag on a tarp directly in front of the shoot into the water. When you come out of the water, freshly plunged, you will run up the opposite side of where you ran out of the shoot and be able to grab your bag, which will be waiting right where you left it on the dry tarp.

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Q: Is there any charge to get into the event if I am just coming to cheer on a Plunge participant?

A: No! Spectators are welcome to the event free of charge.

Q: As a spectator, where is the best place to watch the Plunge?

A: Spectators are welcome to stand along the outside perimeter of the fence line to watch the action; however, they will not be allowed entry into the Plunger Only zone. All spectators are welcomed in the Melt Down Party to enjoy music, food and drinks!

Q: Will Polar Plunge merchandise be available for purchase at the event?

A: Yes, merchandise will be available, but you're also able to purchase additional souvenirs [here](#).

Website: chicagopolarplunge.org

Registration Site: sochicago.enmotive.com/polar-plunge

Questions? Call: 312-527-3743 | Email: polarplunge@sochicago.org

