PENGUIN PLUNGE

MOBILE POOL PLUNGE GUIDELINES

Special Olympics Connecticut

Fundraising & Participation Requirements

- Your organization must commit to raising a **minimum of $2,500** and registering at least **25 participants** for the event.
- All fundraising and participation minimums must be met **one week prior** to the scheduled event date.
  - If these requirements are not fulfilled, SOCT will be unable to bring the Mobile Pool Plunge unit to your venue. To explore alternatives, please contact your Special Olympics Connecticut (SOCT) representative.
- All participants must register online before the event.
- Participants under 18 must have a parent or guardian sign a waiver.

Mobile Plunge Footprint, Event Logistics

- The Mobile Plunge Unit requires a **minimum footprint of approximately 30' x 40'** on a flat, level surface. The pool itself occupies a **12' x 24' footprint**, with additional space needed for entry/exit points to the pool, staging areas for participants and equipment, spectators, volunteers and safety personnel.
- The pool must be filled and drained on-site. Please ensure access to a **nearby drainage system**. The pool holds approximately **8,500 gallons of water**.
- Nearby access to heated changing areas are required.
- Special Olympics Connecticut will coordinate filling pool with water and oversee the set up and breakdown.

Volunteer Requirements

- **Setup and Breakdown:** Volunteers are needed to assist with unloading, assembling, filling, and draining the pool, as well as disassembling and packing up equipment.
- **Event Support:** Additional volunteers will be required for tasks such as registration, managing event flow, assisting participants, crowd control, and more.
- Specific volunteer needs will vary based on your event's size and should be discussed with your SOCT representative. Volunteers may need to switch between roles as needed during the event.
- At least **one SOCT staff member** will be present to oversee the event and provide guidance to volunteers.

Safety

- Participants must have a clear path to restrooms/changing rooms before and after entering the pool.
- The pool area must be monitored to ensure participant safety during the event. Special Olympics Connecticut will coordinate **on-site emergency services personnel.** Fire Department or ambulance staff, must be present during the event to ensure immediate assistance if needed.
- Ensure that all safety protocols are followed, including proper signage, barriers, and crowd control measures around the pool area.

Miscellaneous

- Provide a minimum of **4 weeks' notice** to SOCT to allow for scheduling, staffing, and event planning.
- Assistance may be required in researching and obtaining any permits required to host the event, including health and event permits.
- Secure all necessary approvals (e.g., from the facility owner, principal, or organizational leadership)

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MOBILE PLUNGE
COLLABORATIVE FUNDRAISING

Special Olympics Connecticut

Your organization must commit to raising a **minimum of $2,500** and registering at least 25 participants for the event.

Once the $2,500 minimum has been met, SOCT Local Programs and public school groups that participate in a Mobile Penguin Plunge event to benefit Special Olympics Connecticut are eligible to receive up to 25% of all additional funds raised, to a maximum of $5,000. This includes, but is not limited to: Unified Sports® teams, athletic teams, band, drama, and other recognized student groups and organizations.

All groups wishing to participate in this fundraising opportunity must comply with the following:

- **All team members must pre-register online** as part of their school event for their fundraising totals to be included. Reach out to your SOCT contact if you need help adding a registered individual onto a team.
  - Funds raised by Plungers who register the day of the event will not count towards your 25% split but may be used for your overall total towards event awards and prizes.

- Participants must fundraise a minimum of $150 to be eligible for incentive prizes.

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- Funds may be raised online through the Penguin Plunge website, or offline via checks and cash. Please bring all offline donations with you the day of the plunge.

- All funds must be turned in no later than 30 days after the event to be included in the 50% split.
  - Matching gift or volunteer grant donations received after 30 days will be included in the 50% split only if the appropriate forms are submitted at or prior to the Plunge.

- Please make sure your school group is easily identified in your team name. If it is not, please make sure to contact the SOCT event staff with your team name, the group you are representing and your school.

- In addition to the above, a Team Captain will provide the following information to SOCT event staff:
  - School faculty/Coach contact information (name and email address)
  - The school "fund" the check is to be made out to, and mailing address. **Checks may not be issued to individuals.**

SOCT will provide a list of team members and fundraising totals within 14 days of the event to the Team Captain/Coach. The Team Captain/Coach will have 7 days to review the information and respond to SOCT with any questions. Within 60 days of fundraising totals being confirmed, a check will be mailed to the provided address and account.

* Schools that have participated in a Penguin Plunge prior to 2012 may not be eligible to receive 50% of their fundraising total. Please contact your SOCT Plunge representative to discuss other options.