



PORTAGE LAKES POLAR
BEAR CLUB PRESENTS

18th Annual Polar Bear Jump

COME MAKE A SPLASH ON
FEBRUARY 26, 2022

PROCEEDS BENEFITING



AKRON-CANTON REGIONAL

FOOD
BANK



WANTED:

Warm-hearted people willing to freeze their bodies
to raise money to feed people and fight hunger



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022

Jumping will be in staged groups and will be spaced following COVID-19 guidelines. Details will be posted on our website closer to the event.

BENEFITTING THE AKRON-CANTON REGIONAL FOODBANK

Every \$1 donated helps provide 4 meals
for local families facing hunger.

\$50 MINIMUM DONATION TO REGISTER

New this year—every participant receives a t-shirt!

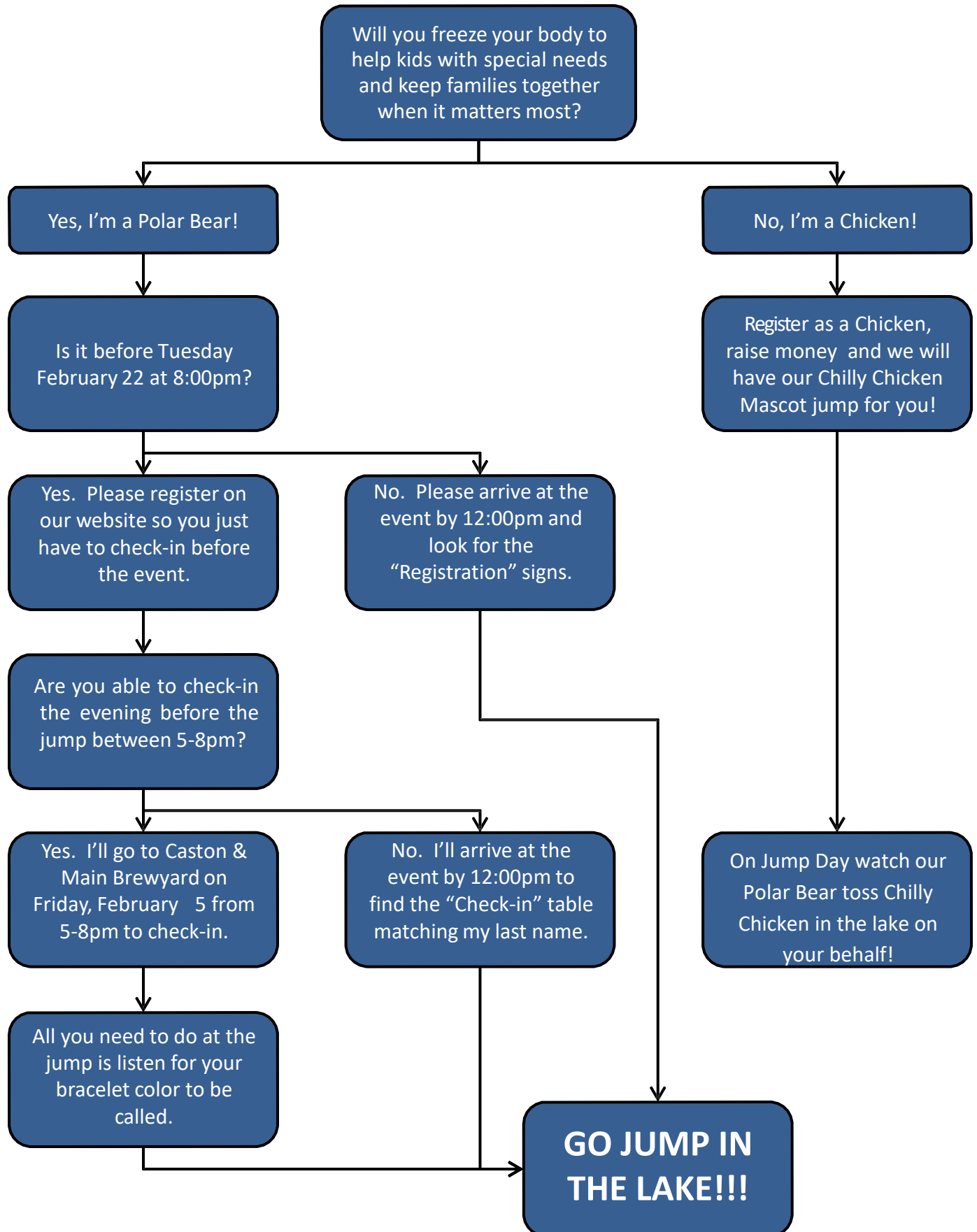
Collect \$500+ to become a VIPB (Very Important Polar Bear)!

REGISTER & FUNDRAISE ONLINE
[PORTAGELAKESPOLARBEARCLUB.COM](https://portagelakespolarbearclub.com)

PORTAGE LAKES STATE PARK AT THE SWIM BEACH
5031 Manchester Rd (Rt 93) • Akron, OH 44319



HOW TO PARTICIPATE





HELPFUL HINTS FOR JUMPERS

We're happy for your support of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank through this unique event. Jumping into frigid water in winter isn't something people do every day, so here are some tips:

SAFETY FIRST: We have an emergency personnel on-site and in the water to protect you. If you have questions about jumping with a medical condition, please consult your doctor before the event.

CARPPOOL: Parking can be crowded, so help us out by meeting friends nearby and sharing a ride to the beach parking lot. Don't let limited parking limit our fundraising efforts!

ARRIVE EARLY: Arrive by 12:00pm for registration / check-in and to get your jumper bracelet. You cannot jump without a bracelet. There will be NO registrations after 1:40pm.

TAILGATING: Feel free to bring fun and games to the event. Alcohol is prohibited in the park. Please obey and respect Park Officers and Fire Department personnel, they are here to help!

BLANKETS & TOWELS: Bring an old blanket to put down on the beach to use as a seat. As the ground might be wet or snow-covered, consider putting a plastic tablecloth down first so your blanket doesn't get wet.

SET UP CAMP: After registration / check-in, find a place for your blanket and stuff. This will save you any last minute rush when your jumper group is called. Go explore the event, get some food, buy a 50/50 ticket, meet your fellow jumpers and take photos. Don't leave any valuables unattended at your blanket.

JUMP ATTIRE: Costumes aren't required, but add to the festivities. This is a family event, so jumpers wearing inappropriate attire may be asked to leave. Wear your jumping clothes under the outfit you wear to the event. This way, you don't have to worry about changing and can stay warm longer!

PROTECTIVE FOOTWEAR: Wear something on your feet, i.e., old tennis shoes or "aqua socks," etc. to prevent cuts on your feet from the ice and to prevent your feet from sticking to the snow, ice, and dirt on shore.

DO YOU WEAR GLASSES? We suggest you use an athletic band to hold them to your face, or not wear them at all! If you lose them in the lake it's a little cold to go looking.

PROCEED WITH CAUTION! Keep in mind that the ice and docks are wet and slippery. Be careful before you jump and especially right after. Take your time as you make your way to the changing tents.

SAVOR THE MOMENT: When your jumper group is called, the jump will be over before your goose bumps know what hit them, so savor the moment out in the lake in front of your fellow Polar Bears. "High Fives" and "Loud Cheers" never feel so good and you've got 365 days until next time!

CHANGING AFTER THE JUMP: The quickest way to warm up is get your wet clothes off. We have heated women's and men's changing tents right on the beach. Have a dry change of clothes and shoe change into. A fleece works great as a base layer. Bring a plastic bag for your wet clothes.



FUNDRAISING TIPS

Thank you for committing to the Polar Bear Jump and supporting our charities. Below are some fundraising tips to help you get started. With a little ingenuity and motivation, reaching your goal should be a lot of fun!

THINK BIG: When you begin, set a fundraising goal, aim high and get motivated. **YOU CAN DO IT!**

MAKE TWO LISTS: One of people you can contact online (e-mail, Facebook, etc.) and one of people to contact in other ways (phone, in-person, etc.). These lists should include everyone you can think of.

PERSONALIZE IT: When contacting people online some group messages are okay, but individual contacts are usually most effective in getting someone to donate.

DIVIDE & CONQUER: For people you're contacting by phone or in person, divide up your list and plan to contact one or two a day, or a certain number each week. Set weekly goal and ask them to help you reach it.

TALK ABOUT IT: The more you share your participation in the Polar Bear Jump, the more your family, friends and colleagues will be aware of your support of the charities and the more likely they'll be to donate.

PUT OUT A CHALLENGE: First challenge potential donors to join you in jumping as this will ultimately raise more for the charities. If they balk at the invitation, tell them the least they can do it support your jump.

WHO DO YOU SUPPORT: Be sure to ask those who you may have bought Girl Scout Cookies from or donated to for a fundraising walk. People you help out should be very willing to support your jump.

DEAR NEIGHBOR: Especially for jumpers still in school, visit the neighbors on your block and ask your teachers and classmates to help you out. Even putting out a change jar to collect donations will add up.

CORPORATE MATCHING: Checks are made directly to the charities which are 501(c)(3) non-profits so be sure take advantage of any company matching of contributions by your or by other employees.

FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE: Put out a challenge for the person to support you with the largest donation. Give them a prize which could be picking the costume you have to jump in, or give them a Polar Bear t-shirt.

FACEBOOK FUNDRAISING: Send individual messages to friends asking each of them to donate \$10 or more. Use your status updates to let your friends and family know where you are in your fundraising goal.

LOCAL SPONSOR: If you're forming a team, ask your employer or a local business to sponsor your team. Wear apparel representing that business at the jump and bring your sponsors photos of their team after the jump.

ASK THE PROS: You spend money with your doctor, veterinarian, dentist, hair stylist, accountant, and other professionals. Send a letter asking to help raise funds for the jump, and be sure to ask for a specific amount.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS: If you're a member of an organization, ask your fellow members to sponsor you. Clubs are known for supporting individuals and services in their community.

SAY THANKS: Prepare a thank you note to send to donors. Be ready to thank people promptly so that they know their contribution mattered to you. After all, you want them to support your jump next year too.



PLEDGE FORM

2022 Polar Bear Jump Benefiting the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

Make all checks payable to the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

JUMPER'S NAME

HOME PHONE

ADDRESS

WORK OR CELL

CITY

STATE

ZIP

GROUP / ORGANIZATION (if applicable)

Sponsor Name	Sponsor Address	Phone	Pledge
Jane Doe	1234 Manchester Rd Akron OH 44319	330-555-1234	\$25.00

Your friends can also donate to you online at: www.portagelakespolarbearclub.com

\$50 minimum donation to register • \$500 makes you a VIPB (see website for details)



REGISTRATION / CHECK-IN

ONLINE REGISTRATION

With tremendous growth in the number of jumpers, we encourage you to register online to help shorten lines and improve your jumping experience. Things to know about online registration:

- Online registration will be open from Wed. Jan 15th 2022 at 12:00pm until Tuesday, February 22 at 8:00pm.
- You must still bring a minimum donation of \$5 (cash or checks) when you check-in.
- When registered online, you can check-in the evening before the event, see EARLY CHECK-IN section below.
- If you don't check-in early, on the day of the jump go to the "check-in" table that matches the first letter of your last name. Do not get in line for "registration". You should still arrive by 12:00pm for check-in.
- You will have the option to purchase extra t-shirt's online which will be given to you upon check-in.
- If jumping with a group, enter the group name when you register so we can group you together.
- The sooner you register online, the earlier you will be in jumping order.

EARLY CHECK-IN

If you have completed online registration, you can check in the evening before the event, Friday, February 25 from 5:00-8:00pm at # 10 S Main St Akron OH 44319.

- Please be sure to bring your driver's license as well as your donations or we cannot check you in.
- We will place a non-removable bracelet on you which you must wear in order to jump.
- If you complete early check-in you don't have to do anything on the day of the event aside from listen for your jumper group to be called. Please be sure to arrive early as parking will be limited.
- New registrations will not be taken on Friday. If you didn't register online, you must register at the event.

DAY OF EVENT CHECK-IN

If you have completed online registration and plan on checking-in on the day of the event, please look for the "check-in" table that matches the first letter of your last name. Do not get in line for "registration".

- Tables will be arranged alphabetically, e.g. A-E, F-J, K-P, Q-S, T-Z.
- Please be sure to bring your driver's license as well as your donations or we cannot check you in.

DAY OF EVENT REGISTRATION

If you did not get the opportunity to register in advance online, don't worry, there will be registration on the day of the event just as we have always had in the past. Get in line for registration, "not check-in".

- Registering on the day of the event doesn't mean you'll be jumping last. We will be mixing in jumpers who registered online with those who registered on the day of the event.
- Those who register earlier on the day of the event will jump earlier in the day than those who register late.

JUMPING AS A GROUP

If you plan on jumping with a group of friends, we strongly recommend each of you individually register online and be sure to type in your team name where prompted so we put you in the same flight of jumpers.

- Jumpers who entered their team name online don't have to check-in at the same time.

** JUMPERS UNDER AGE 18 **

You must have a parent/guardian present upon packet pickup or registration with identification to sign waiver.