



## 2023 POINT TO POINT FAQs

### GENERAL FAQs

#### What is the Point to Point?

This is the 22nd year of the Point to Point, a cycling event to raise funds and awareness for the Vermont Foodbank. After sponsoring and participating in the event for many years, VSECU expanded a commitment to help those experiencing hunger by adopting the event in 2018. With courses from 10 to 110 miles, there's a bike ride for everyone!

#### Why is the event sponsored by VSECU?

VSECU's mission as a not-for-profit credit union is to empower possibilities for greater prosperity and improve the quality of life for all Vermonters. The philanthropic work of the credit union focuses on the basic needs of the people of Vermont—food, shelter, heat, financial literacy, and the environment. We are proud to sponsor an event that has raised over \$2 million and provided more than 3.3 million meals through the Vermont Foodbank.

#### Where is the event?

We'll be on the State House Lawn in Montpelier on Saturday, September 23, 2023. All our bike courses start and end in front of the State House!

#### Will there be food at the event for non-participants?

Yes! We will have local food trucks on site for everyone to enjoy.

#### Will there be a beer garden at the event?

Yes! There will be a beer garden catered by Three Penny Taproom. We'll have wrist bands for those who are 21+, so bring your ID if you want to grab a pint!

#### Can those under 21 go into the beer garden?

Yes, this is a family event. You'll need a wrist band to purchase beer, but all ages are welcome in the beer garden.



### What is the anticipated schedule on event day?

6:15 AM: Rider breakfast begins

6:15 AM - 6:45 AM: Check-in for the 110-mile ride

7:15 AM: 110-mile ride start time

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM: Check-in for the 60-mile ride

8:45 AM: 60-mile ride start time

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM: Check-in for the 30-mile ride

10:00 AM: 30-mile ride start time

10:30 AM: DJ starts the music!

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM: Check-in for the 10-mile ride

11:30 AM: 10-mile ride start time

### How do I become a sponsor?

If you're interested in becoming a sponsor of the Point to Point, please contact Simeon Chapin at [schapin@VSECU.com](mailto:schapin@VSECU.com).

## FAQS ABOUT REGISTRATION

### How much does it cost to register?

Registration costs \$40 for all of the different rides available.

### What do I get when I register?

All Point-to-Point participants who join us at the State House Lawn on September 23 will enjoy a fully supported all-road ride. This includes medical services, aid stations with bike mechanics, nutritious food to keep up your energy, water, and restrooms. Don't forget about the after-party! You'll get free beer and meal tickets to use at the local food trucks and the Three Penny Taproom beer garden while enjoying an afternoon of music and games and activities in the Family Fun Zone. All participants (virtual and in-person) will also receive an event t-shirt.



### **How and when do I get my swag bag?**

If you join us at the State House Lawn on September 23, we will have a bag of sponsor goodies and your official Point to Point t-shirt waiting for you after you cross the finish line!

### **How do I register my team?**

If you have a team of riders ready to raise money for the Vermont Foodbank, [check out our step-by-step guide](#) for creating and joining a team.

### **How do I get my corporate team registered?**

If you're interested in starting a corporate team, contact Simeon Chapin at [schapin@VSECU.com](mailto:schapin@VSECU.com).

### **Can I register the day of the event?**

You bet! You can register on the spot any time before the check-in window closes for your ride.

### **How old do I have to be to participate?**

Everyone is welcome to participate in the Point to Point! For those under the age of 18, a parent or guardian needs to sign the waiver for them to participate. Participants under 14 need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian on the course.

### **Do I need to sign a waiver to ride? Where can I find a copy of the waiver?**

Yes, all participants, in-person or virtual, will need to have signed a waiver to participate on event day. As you register, you will be presented with the Point to Point waiver for you to acknowledge in order to complete your registration.

### **What is your refund policy?**

Contact Leah Jones for a refund on your registration. We do not return donations.



## FAQS ABOUT RIDING

### What are the anticipated routes for the different bike rides?

You can see the anticipated course maps for all four distances on Ride with GPS:

- [110-mile ride](#)
- [60-mile ride](#)
- [30-mile ride](#)
- [10-mile ride](#)

### Is the Point to Point a race?

No, the Point to Point is not timed or considered a race. The only races are against your own personal goals and hunger in Vermont, of course! This is a perfect event for all level riders, whether you're a beginner or looking to train for other events.

### When is check-in and bib pick-up?

You will get your bib when you check in for your ride. Below are the tentative time slots for each distance:

6:15 AM - 6:45 AM: Check-in for the 110-mile ride

7:15 AM: 110-mile ride start time

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM: Check-in for the 60-mile ride

8:45 AM: 60-mile ride start time

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM: Check-in for the 30-mile ride

10:00 AM: 30-mile ride start time

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM: Check-in for the 10-mile ride

11:30 AM: 10-mile ride start time

### Can I start my ride before the scheduled start time?

Yes, you are welcome to start your ride whenever you would like on event day. In doing so, however, you won't be guaranteed support for your ride, including access to aid stations and support and gear vehicles. We are only able to support riders during designated ride times on event day.



## How will I know where to go on my ride? Does the course have signage?

We have a few ways to make sure you know exactly when and where to turn on your ride.

- Check out your course map in advance on Ride with GPS. In Ride with GPS, you can see turns, twists, elevation gains, and other details.
- We'll have clear signs placed along your route to point you in the right direction from start to finish.
- Since cell phone coverage can be limited in certain areas of Vermont, we will give you free access to the Ride with GPS app on event day to help guide you during your ride. We highly recommend downloading your course prior to event day to make sure you're all set for your ride!

## Will there be support for each course?

Yes! In addition to rest stops, we'll have support and gear (SAG) drivers for each course. They'll be on the move to help riders between aid stations with bike parts, food, water, and other support. They'll also sweep the course to make sure everyone gets to the finish line. We will send out more information to all our participants as we get closer to the event.

## What are the rules of the road?

Please see our [guide to proper rider etiquette guide](#) for what you can and can't do as a cyclist.

## Can I ride an e-bike?

Yes, you can! Road bikes, mountain bikes, hybrid bikes, handcycles, and e-bikes are all fair game.

## What should I do in case of an emergency on my ride?

In the case of an emergency, dial 9-1-1 to contact local emergency response officials. Please remember to be responsible for yourself and bring with you everything you need to complete your ride. Here are a few items that we recommend:

- Cell phone
- License, credit card, and cash
- Two full water bottles



- For longer rides: Two to three energy bars and/or gel packets or salt tablets
- Two spare tires/tubes
- Frame pump
- Portable multi-tool

### **Can I change my course distance?**

Of course! Whether you want to take on a longer challenge or have a shorter, more leisurely ride, contact Leah Jones at [info@thepointtopoint.org](mailto:info@thepointtopoint.org).

### **Will the aid stations be open as long as I'm out there, or will they close at a certain time?**

For the purpose of rider safety, cut-off times will be strictly enforced for reaching and departing each checkpoint. Arrival cut-off times are based on an average speed of 9 miles per hour. Any participant not reaching a checkpoint before the established arrival cut-off time will be brought back to the State House Lawn.

### **What should I expect at the aid stations?**

We have volunteers on hand to give you the support you need to cross that finish line!

- Fuel for your ride: Thanks in part to some of our amazing sponsors, we'll have a variety of nutritious snacks and hydrating beverages to keep your tank on full. Some snacks include:
  - Water
  - Fruit
  - Sandwiches
  - Cabot cheese
  - Garuka bars
  - Vermont Smoke & Cure meat sticks
  - GU gel packets
  - Pickle juice



- Directions: Volunteers can walk you (metaphorically) through the next part of your course.
- Mechanical assistance: If you run into any mechanical issues along the route, we'll have people ready to fix it and get you back on your bike in no time. We still strongly recommend you have everything you need in order to fix any mechanical issues when you're out on the course and not close to a rest station. This includes items like extra tubes, plugs, pump, and hex keys, to name a few.
- Medical help: We'll have first aid kits and medical help on hand at every rest station, just in case.
- Rest rooms: Need a pit stop? No problem. You can find portable toilets at every aid station along your route.

### **What should my family and friends do while I'm riding?**

Riding your bike isn't the only way to be a part of the Point to Point.

We'd love to see your family, friends, and the entire community join us on the State House Lawn for the Point to Point festival on Saturday, September 23. They can grab a cow bell and cheer you across the finish line, and there will be games and activities in the Family Fun Zone, local food trucks, a beer garden, and non-stop music!

Another option is for your family and friends to volunteer! We're always looking for amazing volunteers that make the event possible and make sure everyone has a good time. All our volunteers not only get our heartfelt gratitude, but two free beer tickets and a variety of sweet swag as well.

## **FAQS ABOUT FUNDRAISING**

### **What organization does the Point to Point raise funds for?**

Funds raised through the Point to Point go directly to the [Vermont Foodbank](#), the state's largest hunger-relief organization, to help people in Vermont experiencing hunger.

### **Does the Point to Point have a fundraising goal for 2023?**

Yes! Our goal is to raise \$150,000 for the Vermont Foodbank. This will provide over 172,500 meals for those who don't know where their next meal is coming from.



### Is there a minimum fundraising amount I have to meet? What is it?

Please remember that, in addition to registration costs, all participants must meet the minimum fundraising requirement of \$150 (\$50 for youth and students). To help you reach and surpass your fundraising goal, [check out our page of fundraising tips](#).

### When do I need to reach my fundraising minimum of \$150?

Fundraising minimums must be met by Saturday, October 7. **Those who haven't met the minimum required amount by October 7 will be charged the balance on October 9.** On this date, the amount needed to reach your \$150 minimum will be automatically charged to the card provided at registration.

### How many meals does my \$150 provide?

By raising \$150, you provide over 170 meals to people in Vermont.

### Are there awards for raising more than \$150?

There sure are! We have great incentives to give to those who hit certain fundraising goals\* above the minimum! We will also have prizes for the top three fundraising individuals and the top fundraising team. Head to [thepointtopoint.org/fundraise](http://thepointtopoint.org/fundraise) to see what you could win for your fundraising efforts!

*\*Although you have longer to raise money for the Vermont Foodbank, fundraising awards will be based on funds raised as of 8:00 AM on Saturday, September 23, 2023.*

### Can I fundraise online?

Absolutely. When you register, a personal fundraising page is automatically created for you on [BikeReg](#), our registration and fundraising platform. This will help you reach and exceed your fundraising requirement of \$150.

### Can I donate offline, by check?

Yes! You can send a donation check to the address below. Please make it out to the Vermont Foodbank, provide your name, and note in the memo line that you are a Point to Point participant.

VSECU  
Attn: Point to Point  
PO Box 67  
Montpelier, VT 05602





### How do I confirm my donation?

To receive a confirmation of your donation, contact Leah Jones at [info@thepointtopoint.org](mailto:info@thepointtopoint.org).

### What if I have cash donations?

We cannot directly accept cash donations. You can get a cashier's check or money order for these donations to send to us. If you are collecting cash from your donors, make sure to get their addresses so they can be sent an acknowledgment of their gift.

### How do I confirm my donation?

To receive a confirmation of your donation, contact Leah Jones at [info@thepointtopoint.org](mailto:info@thepointtopoint.org).

### How do I find the URL for my personal page?

When you registered for the Point to Point, you received an email from our registration platform, [BikeReg](#), with a link to your personal fundraising page. You can also go to [Pledge Reg](#), our fundraising platform, and log in or use the search functions get to your personal fundraising page.

### How do I change my fundraising goal on my personal page?

You can raise your fundraising goal by logging into our fundraising platform, Pledge Reg. Go to "Edit my Page" and under Advance Set-up you can change your fundraising to however much money you hope to raise for the Vermont Foodbank.

## FAQS FOR VOLUNTEERING

### How do I volunteer for the Point to Point?

If you're interested in volunteering for the 2023 Point to Point, please contact Leah Jones at [info@thepointtopoint.org](mailto:info@thepointtopoint.org). There are many ways to help fight hunger!