

To TAPPS 2011-2012 Swim Coaches:

Welcome Coaches and Friends to the 2011-2012 TAPPS Swimming year. After a hectic fall, we have solidified the Region Meet schedule. **The North Region Meet will be again wonderfully hosted by Mansfield ISD on Friday February 3rd, 2012. The Southern Region Meet will be held on Saturday, February 4th, 2012.** The Southern Region Meet however has changed locations from Conroe ISD to the Pearland Parks and Recreation Facility in southern Houston, near Hobby Airport. Details for both meets will be posted shortly concerning starting times and procedures. We welcome Pearland, and Pool Director Billy Pounds, into our TAPPS Swimming and Diving family and look forward to competing in their new facility.

Let me state clearly that all coaches should go to the TAPPS.net website and do a number of the following since we have made some significant changes for this year. Please go to the swimming page and insure the following are reviewed (no matter how long you have been in TAPPS Swimming and Diving):

- 1) Please read all of the rules-Section 177-180. There are some changes in procedures.
- 2) Find the Swim Coach's Checklist, and begin checking off the requirements.
- 3) Scope training IS a requirement, especially for parents who are swim coaches.

Most of the changes have been made to facilitate requests made by school administrators to reduce time out of school, improve participation, and level the playing field between swim teams. Last year's weather crisis provided us with a great opportunity to test a new "time-finals" format at State, with significantly positive responses from a majority of swimmers, coaches, schools, and officials. Honestly, it was deafening. So, we decided as TAPPS Swimming and Diving to try it again, with some improvements, for 2011-2012. We have also modified Diving at TAPPS and will continue to support diving within our TAPPS program.

We hope this e-mail finds all of you well, and training for a very good season. I look forward to helping all of you and your teams to focus on the fun of competition, by running good meets for everyone.

Bruce Rollins