



Games of Texas
Summer Swimming Championship
July 25-27, 2008
Palo Alto College
San Antonio

STATE COMMISSIONER:

Kristie Weaver

kweaver@weatherfordtx.gov

817-598-4125

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER:

Curtis Morgan

curtis@paddocksw.com

713-477-3896

The TAAF Swimming Program Goal is to provide a state championship meet for recreational swimmers who have trained exclusively with a summer swim team. It is our desire to give participants a chance to compete in a sport, to be successful against swimmers of their own ability, and have the same opportunities to train in order to enhance self-esteem.

For information on this or any other TAAF sport, please visit www.taaf.com or call the TAAF State Office at 512-863-9400.

**TEAM INFORMATION SHEET
2008**

Team name: _____
(Please be sure to include city name in your team name)

Member City/Affiliate name: _____

Team Coach Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Fax Phone: _____

Email: _____

City Contact Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Fax Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please return by June 15, 2008:

Kristie Weaver
PO Box 255
Weatherford, TX 76086
Fax: 817-598-4354
Email: kweaver@weatherfordtx.gov



TAAF Games of Texas
Swimming Championship
July 25 – 27, 2008
San Antonio

- Facility Host: Palo Alto College Natatorium
1400 W. Villaret Street
San Antonio, Texas 78224
<http://www.aaaa-sa.org/pa.htm>
- Governed by: Texas Amateur Athletic Federation
- State Commissioners: Kristie Weaver
kweaver@weatherfordtx.gov
817-598-4125
- Curtis Morgan
curtis@paddocksw.com
713-477-3896
- Entry Procedures: Swimmers must qualify through a Regional Swim Meet. Entries will be forward from the Region Meet to the State Meet. Please contact your Region Meet Director for more information.
- Rules & Eligibility: TAAF Cavalcade of Sports 2007/2008
- Meet Information: This is an indoor facility. There are separate seating areas for spectators and athletes. We ask that swimmers do not sit in the spectator area. The meet will be YARD times. There will be a separate warm-up/cool-down area. We will run a ready bench and ALL swimmers will need to check-in prior to going to the blocks for their events.
- There will be a concession stand available. NO outside food or drinks allowed inside. Food is allowed in the spectator area.
- Gate Fee: Day passes are \$5.00 for Adults, \$3.00 for Youth under-6
All-Venue Passes are \$20.00 for Adults and \$12.00 under-6
Athletes are free everywhere
- Parking: This is a college campus and there will be plenty of parking. Overnight RV parking IS NOT PERMITTED. Please visit www.taaf.com for hotel information.

For more information, please visit www.taaf.com or www.gamesoftexas.com

Summer 2008 List of Deadlines

March: please contact your regional director/swim commissioner about your region swim meet

June 30: TAAF deadline for registering swimmers via www.taafregistration.com

July 11 – 13: Last weekend for region swim meets

July 18: 12:00pm (noon) State entries due to Joe Greenwell via j.greenwell@earthlink.net. Swimmers must have qualified and entered the state meet at the region meet. Please contact your region director/swim commissioner for region dates.

July 19 – 21: Proof and correct entries; email corrections to Joe

July 22: Heat sheets printed – no changes after this date

July 24: 5:30pm Check-in begins; 6:00pm coaches meeting at Palo Alto Natatorium

July 25 – 27: Games of Texas Summer Swimming Championship

Friday:

Session 1: Boys 9/10 and 15/17

Session 2: Girls 9/10 and 15/17

Saturday:

Session 3: Men 18 & over and Boys 8 & under

Session 4: Women 18 & over and Girls 8 & under

Session 5: Boys 11-14

Sunday:

Session 6: Girls 11-14

ARTICLE 31 SWIMMING

The TAAF Swimming Program Goal is to provide a state championship meet for recreational swimmers who have trained exclusively with a summer swim team. It is our desire to give participants a chance to compete in a sport, be successful against swimmers of their own ability, and have the same opportunities to train in order to enhance their self-esteem.

The state swim commissioner may implement procedures to adjust the eligibility requirements, entries, late fees, protest fees, events, awards, divisions, and meet operation procedures if the state commissioner deems necessary to assure a more effective meet for both spectators and participants. The information will be available to the member city/coaches in the state meet packet.

31.1 There will be eight (8) divisions for men and women: 8 and under, 9-10; 11-12; 13-14; 15-17; 18-24; 25-39; and 40 and Over.

31.2 Age classification for all divisions will be their age as of June 1 of the current year. Birth certificates must be from the Bureau of Vital Statistics.

31.3 Swimming is to be considered an individual sport.

31.4 RESIDENCE OF PARTICIPANTS: See Article 4.8 Individual Sports Participants.

31.5 The TAAF rulebook will be the governing rulebook. Rules not specifically covered in this rulebook will be covered by the Official High School Swimming, Diving, and Water Polo Rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

31.6 TAAF swimming is open for anyone who meets the following criteria:

.01 From January 1 of the current year to March 31 of the current year, any individual who has not participated with, trained with or competed with, any organized or unorganized swim program, will be eligible to compete at the TAAF State Age Group Swimming Championships. Exception:

- a) Any school related activity
- b) Participation in the TAAF Winter Games (swimmers may workout until the date of the Winter Games if they participate in the Winter Games.
- c) Participation in off season swim clinics not to exceed two days per month (See Rule 31.21).
- d) Any family lap swimming program.
- e) Any swimmer in Divisions 15-17, 18-24, 25-39, and 40 and over.

31.7 Age group swimming is defined as any swimming event where the participants are grouped together through the use of an upper and lower age limit. (Examples: 8 & under, 9-10, 11-12, 25 & over).

.01 A boy or girl must participate in his/her age division. No participant may change or swim in another age classification.

31.8 REGIONAL MEET: Each region must host a regional swim meet to qualify their participants for the state meet.

- .01 Regional meets must be conducted and operated according to TAAF rules.
- .02 The date for the regional meet will be held no later than two weeks prior to the state meet.
- .03 Each participant must participate in a regional meet and be certified by the regional director to be eligible for advancement to the state finals.
 - a) The 15-17, 18-24, 25 and over age groups must register and pay for their state entries at the Regional Meet. The Regional Meet Director has the option of requiring these individuals to swim at the Regional Meet.
- .04 Each participant must possess and show a birth certificate to the regional director to be certified.
- .05 Entries will only be accepted from the Regional Meet Director from each region.
- .06 For ages 14 and under, each participant may compete in no more than three (3) events.
 - a) A swimmer may be entered in any three (3) events and be listed as an alternate on any relay(s). The alternate(s) must be listed in the regional meet entries prior to the regional meet in order to qualify. If necessary, he may scratch from one event to swim a relay only if one of the teammates listed on the relay is scratched from the meet.
 - b) These changes must be made before the meet starts or be approved by the Regional Meet Director once the meet starts.
 - c) Swimmers 15-17 will be limited to four (4) entries at the state meet. For swimmers 18 & over, unlimited entries will be allowed to advance to the state meet. (Optional at the regional meet).
 - d) If a region does not allow for electronic registrations via Hy-tech, regional meet registration/entry will be done by on-line registration.

31.9 STATE MEET ENTRIES: Each region may enter a minimum of two (2) persons in each event and two (2) relay teams in each relay event in the 8 and under, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14 divisions. At the regional meet only, if a discrepancy occurs to determine which participant(s) shall advance to the state meet, the meet director must first consider the rule(s) and the timing system used, and then follows the procedures to select the correct time(s) and placement of the swimmers. If that is not successful, then a swim-off for those swimmers only must be done to determine which swimmer(s) advance to state. Ties must have a swim off. Only allotted numbers of participants per event will advance to state. Swimmers 15-17 will be limited to four (4) entries and the state meet. For swimmers 18 & over, unlimited entries will be allowed to advance to the state meet.

- .01 Additional Entries:
 - a) Additional entries to each region may be awarded by the state commissioner based on the total number of individuals registered per

region as of the region meet entry deadline (set by the region) of the current year.

- b) Each region must register a minimum of 1,000 individual participants prior to getting additional entries to the state meet. For every 500 individuals registered thereafter, the region will receive an additional entry to the state championship.
- .02 Relay events: In relay events, relay personnel will be four (4) swimmers who qualified the relay at the regional meet, plus the two (2) alternates who were entered at the regional meet. (The two alternates may be any swimmer of the same age group).
- .03 Regional Directors or his/her appointed representative responsibilities after the region meet:
- a) Certify all advancing participants by forwarding entries in the approved manner. Entry procedure will be outlined in the coaches packet (March) and on the website (June) each year.
- 31.10 ENTRY FEE: An entry fee of up to six dollars (\$6.00) can be charged per person per event, as well as having an admission charge at the gate to defray the expenses of hosting the state meet.
- 31.11 AWARDS: Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners in each event. Ribbons or medals will be awarded to the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth place finishers in the 17 and under age groups only. No high point award will be given.
- 31.12 The TAAF swim meet shall be conducted as a time final championship.
- 31.13 The time schedule of the events will be determined by the sponsoring city with the approval by the state commissioner.
- 31.14 Order of events will be determined by the state commissioner and the host city.
- 31.15 SCRATCH MEETING: At the state meet a scratch meeting will be held before the meet begins. Any changes will be made only at this meeting. Under no circumstances will any changes be made on the day of the meet. It will be the regional director's responsibility to see that all coaches and individuals understand that no changes will be made after the scratch meeting is over. Relay swimmers must be declared at this meeting.
- 31.16 REQUIRED FORM: The official Individual Sports Participant Form will be provided by TAAF and when executed will 'follow' participants and coaches to all levels of TAAF competition during the current season.
- .01 Each TAAF participant will sign a form at the lowest level of TAAF competition affirming that he/she meets the requirements of the TAAF eligibility and residency rules and that he/she has read, understood and agreed to the release and waiver of liability.

- .02 Should the participants be under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must also sign the form affirming that their minor participant meets the requirements of the TAAF eligibility and residency rules and that as a parent or guardian, he/she has read, understood and agreed to the release and waiver of liability.
- .03 Coaches will sign the form affirming that to the best of their knowledge all of the swimmers in their swimming program meet the TAAF eligibility and residency rules and that the coach will abide by all rules set forth by TAAF. If any eligibility issue arises, the coach and swimmer are subject to any disciplinary action to be taken up to and including suspension.

31.17 STATE EVENTS PER PARTICIPANT

- .01 Each participant may compete in no more than three (3) events.
 - a) A swimmer may be entered in any three (3) events and be listed as an alternate on any relay(s). The alternate(s) must be listed in the regional meet entries prior to the regional meet in order to qualify. If necessary, he may scratch from one event to swim a relay ONLY if one of the teammates listed on the relay is scratched from the meet.
 - b) These changes must be made before the meet starts or be approved by the state commissioner once the meet starts.
 - c) Swimmers 15-17 will be allowed to advance to state, however, they are limited to four (4) entries at the state meet. For swimmers 18 & over, unlimited entries will be allowed to advance to the state meet.

31.18 FALSE START RULE:

- .01 The first false start will be charged to the entire heat.
- .02 Swimmers causing additional false starts will automatically be disqualified.
- .03 The swimmer or swimmers will not be notified of disqualification until after the race is completed providing he/she does not cause other swimmers in the heat to get unfair advantage.

31.19 Official finish times: The meet director shall approve all finish times and have the authority to adjust the finish times due to problems associated with the electronic timing system/touch pads and/or manual times.

31.20 Winter Games of Texas

- .01 This event will be open to all interested swimmers (USA, YMCA, TAAF).
- .02 TAAF registered swimmers can compete with the following eligibility policy: If a TAAF swimmer wishes to compete in the TAAF Winter Games of Texas and plans to swim in the TAAF Summer Games of Texas, they will be allowed to practice after December 31st of the current year, up until the TAAF Winter Games of Texas swim meet provided they register and compete in the TAAF Winter Games of Texas. TAAF swimmers that practice after December 31st of the current year and fail to compete in the following TAAF Winter Games of Texas will be ineligible to compete in that year's TAAF Summer Games of Texas.

- 31.21 TAAF Summer only swim program – off season guidelines:
- .01 January 1 – March 31 – swimmers may participate in clinics two (2) days per month during this time period.
 - .02 April 1 – April 30 – swimmers may participate in clinics not to exceed ninety (90) minutes per week.
 - .03 Summer season work-outs can begin on May 1st each year.
 - .04 Registration/Notification – it is REQUIRED that the state commissioner be notified of clinics as to eliminate any questions or concerns that arise during the season.

31.22 EVENTS (same for girls and boys)

- .01 6 & under (optional at regional/state)

25 FREESTLYE
25 BACKSTROKE
25 BREASTSTROKE
100 FREESTLYE RELAY

- .02 8 & under and 9-10 age groups

100 MEDLEY RELAY	25 BACKSTROKE
100 FREESTLYE RELAY	25 BREASTSTROKE
25 FREESTYLE	25 BUTTERFLY
50 FREESTLE	100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

- .03 11-12 age group

200 MEDLEY RELAY	50 BACKSTROKE
200 FREESTYLE RELAY	50 BREASTSTROKE
50 FREESTYLE	50 BUTTERFLY
100 FREESTYLE	100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

- .04 13-14 AND 15-17 age groups

200 MEDLEY RELAY	50 BACKSTROKE
200 FREESTLYE RELAY	50 BREASTSTROKE
50 FREESTYLE	50 BUTTERFLY
100 FREESTYLE	100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
200 FREESTYLE	

- .05 18-24 and 25-39 AND 40 & over age groups (All relays are 18+)

200 MEDLEY RELAY	50 BACKSTROKE
200 FREESTLYE RELAY	50 BREASTSTROKE
50 FREESTYLE	50 BUTTERFLY
100 FREESTYLE	100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
200 FREESTYLE	100 MIXED FREESTYLE RELAY (minimum of two females per team)
200 MIXED FREESTYLE RELAY (minimum of two females per team)	

31.23 The state commissioner shall have the authority to select a core group of TAAF personnel to assist in running of the state meet. Those individuals selected would have their travel expenses reimbursed by the TAAF state office.

(End TAAF Cavalcade Article 31)

TAAF Athlete Registration

All athletes must be registered through TAAF via www.taafregistration.com. Affiliate Members must pay the \$5.00/athlete with a credit card while on the site to complete the registration. Member Cities will be invoiced \$5.00/athlete by the State Office. **Please ensure that your city/location name is reflected in your team name.** This will help tremendously at the state meet. For example, Weatherford Sharks vs. Sharks. If you have multiple teams (Austin, Corpus Christi, etc) this becomes even more crucial.

1. Type in www.taafregistration.com in your web browser.
2. Login with your user name and password in the upper right hand corner. If you do not have a user name and password or have forgotten yours, please contact the TAAF State Office at 512-863-9400.
3. Once you login, the screen will pull up with a red banner that has the words: 'Roster,' 'Register,' and 'Entries.' Below that is a sentence that reads, "Click HERE to Add Athletes." The list of athletes shown is all the athletes that have registered with your team in the past.
4. If you "Click HERE to Add Athletes," you will need to fill in the boxes – pay careful attention to gender and date of birth. Age up date is June 1 of the current year.
5. You may add ten athletes at a time. Repeat procedure to add additional athletes.
6. Once you have added ALL your athletes, click 'Register' in the red banner area. All of your athletes will pull up with boxes next to the names. You will need to check each box next to the athlete you wish to register. At the bottom of the page, click submit/register.
7. Print the registered athlete waiver and collect parent signatures to turn in to your region director/swim commissioner.

If registration fees are not received in the TAAF State Office by July 10 each year, your team may be declared ineligible to compete at the Region/State meet.

Region Meet Entries

Please contact your region director/swim commissioner for entry procedures to your region meet. Your region meet should be **YARD** times for easy entry to the state meet. Please have your meet referee run whistle starts to accustom your athletes to the proper procedures. **Please ensure that your city/location name is reflected in your team name.** This will help tremendously at the state meet. For example, Weatherford Sharks vs. Sharks. If you have multiple teams (Austin, Corpus Christi, etc) this becomes even more crucial.

State Meet Entries

Region directors/swim commissioners will need to enter their athletes with Joe Greenwell via j.greenwell@earthlink.net. Deadline for entries is Friday, July 18, 2008 at 12:00pm (noon). One check per region made payable to TAAF Games of Texas 2008. Entries are \$6.00/athlete, \$24.00/relay. Fees MUST be paid at the region meet. **Please ensure that your city/location name is reflected in your team name.** This will help tremendously at the state meet. For example, Weatherford Sharks vs. Sharks. If you have multiple teams (Austin, Corpus Christi, etc) this becomes even more crucial.

Joe will need the following information:

The meet manager file from their region meet. This will contain the results.

- Complete Swimmers Names (as appears on birth certificate)
- Swimmers DOB
- Swimmers TAAF number
- All alternates must be listed at the region meet.
- Team names as registered in TAAF office.
- Coaches and assistants names in the database. (Deck passes will be generated from this list.)
- Coaches Contact information in the database.

2. The meet manager file that contains their entries to the state meet. (Which is created from the region meet file.)

Please see www.swimtaaf.com for additional information or call Joe at 281-343-0618.

If your state entry fees are not received by the start of the state meet, your region may be declared ineligible to compete at the state meet.

Coaches Meeting

We will have a coaches meeting on Thursday, July 24, 2008 at 6:00pm at Palo Alto Natatorium. Check-in will begin at 5:30pm. A coach, or designee, must be present at the meeting to pick up the team packet and coach badge. Inside the packet will be heat sheets, official scratch forms and relay designation rosters. All changes must be made at this meeting. You will declare your four relay swimmers at this time. This is important for results and proper labeling of awards. Once the relays are designated, the four athletes must swim except for a medical emergency cleared by the referee. Please make sure to bring all birth certificates to the meet.

A scratch form will be in your packet. If you know at the meeting of any scratches, please fill out the form(s) and turn in. This will assist the ready bench in correct tallying of athletes per event. An athlete may not scratch an individual event in order to swim a relay unless cleared by either commissioner.

If a swimmer fails to report to the ready bench or misses an event, he/she may be scratched from the meet.

Warm-up Procedures

Lifeguards will be on duty. Please do not hang on the lane lines. No diving or otherwise hazardous entries into the pool during the warm-up period. There will be a designated time to practice starts. Due to the large amount of swimmers, we have devised a schedule for teams. We will be utilizing the entire pool for warm-ups.

Specific lane assignments will be posted at the natatorium. You will warm-up by your region. Make sure you know which region you are in.

