

## Important Announcement Concerning the 2012 YMCA Short Course National Swimming Championship

As a result of the closure of the stadium bleachers at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex, site of the 2011 National YMCA Short Course, Masters and Diving Championships, much uncertainty exists as to whether these events will return to Fort Lauderdale in 2012. This serves to update you to the research and planning currently underway to expedite this announcement to our YMCA Swimming Community.

A site selection task group has been assigned from our YMCA National Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee with initial alternate sites being identified that fit the qualifications to host these events. We are committed to assuring a **minimum spectator seating capacity of 1,500 for 2012.** 

The City Council of Fort Lauderdale has placed the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex on their April agenda for discussion. We are hopeful that decisions might be reached at these meetings that would result in the renovation and restoration of the complex that would facilitate the return of our swimming championship meets. We are not, however relying strictly on these hopes.

Over the course of the next 60 days, the task group will thoroughly investigate the identified sites and prepare a recommendation to the full Advisory Committee with the intent to conduct these events according to their original pre-2011 formats. **We plan to have an announcement to the YMCA Swimming Community by June 15, 2011.** 

Contractual obligations for the 2012 event have yet to be negotiated and completed and/or signed. <u>There</u> <u>is no clear choice at this time and any speculation is both premature and not encouraged</u>. We will inform the YMCA Swimming Community once the decision is made. We appreciate the support and cooperation given to make our 2011 Championships a success and look forward to continued communication on this web site as we move on to 2012. Thank You.

Bob McDowell, Chair, National YMCA Competitive Advisory Committee John Mendell, Meet Director, National YMCA Short Course Swimming Championships Claudia Multer, Meet Director, National YMCA Masters Swimming Championships Gary Cox, Meet Director, National YMCA Diving Championships Mike Leonard, Coaches Representative, National YMCA Competitive Advisory Committee Jim Weaton, National Director of Events, YUSA/MSPS Noel Brendefur, Sports Specialist, YUSA