

Awana Club Handbook 2013-2014
First Baptist Church
Kingsland, Georgia

Awana Basics

Awana is an exciting club for children ages 2 through 6th grade, with the grades based on the child's age on or before the first club night for the year. Our club is open to all children within that age bracket, whether or not they are a member of First Baptist, Kingsland; another church; or no church at all. Our Awana Club offers sound Biblical instruction, scripture memorization, organized games, great Christian Fellowship, and awards for completing scripture verses and good sportsmanship. Plus, your children will have a blast!

Awana stands for **A**pproved **W**orkmen **A**re **N**ot **A**shamed, which is taken from 2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV): "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."

Our Awana program is divided into six age specific groups for age 2 through 6th grade. Please note that children must meet the age/grade criterion as of the first club night, which for the 2013-2014 club year is **August 18, 2013**.

[Puggles](#) – Age 2 (meets for one hour during nursery)

[Cubbies](#) – Age 3 and 4

[Sparks](#) – Kindergarten through 2nd Grade

Truth and Training (T&T) [Ultimate Adventure](#) – 3rd and 4th Grade

T&T [Ultimate Challenge](#) – 5th and 6th Grade

Our Awana Club's central purpose is to help boys and girls learn and understand the Word of God in an age-appropriate manner, while also being a place where they can have fun. Our prayer, as is the prayer of Awana Clubs International, is: "That all children and youth throughout the world will come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ."

A typical club night is broken into four major parts as follows:

- 15 minutes of OPENING CEREMONY in which the pledges to the Awana and American flags are recited and the Awana song is sung; visitors are recognized; and uniforms are presented.

- 35 minutes of GAME TIME; games are played on a uniquely designed, 40 foot Awana square/circle. Our game circle is indoors in the Social Hall.
- 35 minutes of HANDBOOK TIME; Clubbers progress through age appropriate handbooks by memorizing and demonstrating an understanding of Bible passages and principles.
- 35 minutes of COUNCIL TIME; a Bible or Missionary lesson is given along with announcements, and presentation of awards earned.

Checking In

The Awana Welcome Desk is open at 4:45 pm every club Sunday for clubber check-in. It is located in the hallway between the Worship Center and the Social Hall. If this is your child's first time at our club, this is where you will register him or her. We have hard copy registration forms available at the Welcome Desk, or you may download your registration form [here](#) (requires Adobe Reader) and bring it to the Welcome Desk. We will show you where your child will meet at the beginning of the club night, and make sure you know where to pick them up. The Awana Welcome Desk is where you may also go to for any information you may need about our Awana clubs.

Along with your registration form, we ask that you provide us with a medical release form in case your child should have a medical emergency (which we pray will not happen). That form is available at the Welcome Desk or can be downloaded [here](#) (requires Adobe Reader).

We are aware that many children may have allergies or special needs. There is a place on the registration form for you to alert us to any such conditions. We will ensure that leaders are well aware of your child's special needs.

Dues

Our Awana Club asks for clubbers to pay dues to help support the club. Dues for our Awana Club are 50 cents per night or \$16.00 for the year (32 club nights) for kindergarten through 6th grade (Sparks and Truth and Training Clubs), and 25 cents per night or \$8.00 for the year for 2-4 years old (Puggles and Cubbies). Partial payments are accepted.

Ability to pay will never be an impediment to your child participating in Awana Club. Please see the Club Commander if you have a need in this regard.

Awana Uniform

The Awana uniform is a vital part of our Awana Club. It lets others know that your child is a part of our club. It is also the only way a Clubber can receive and display his or her awards. Upon completion of the Entrance Booklet, your child will receive an order form to order a handbook and Awana uniform. Once the Clubber has received his or her uniform, be sure to take good care of it and make sure to attach the awards to it as soon as you receive them.

If a clubber is out of uniform, at the leader's discretion the clubber may be restricted from club activities (such as Game Time).

We recommend that you order a larger size than the clothing your child is now wearing. The uniforms run small and may be worn over extra clothing in the winter. Also, your child may wear this uniform up to 3 years.

Uniform Costs

Below is a price list of each uniform and handbook:

CUBBIE HANDBOOK	\$10.00
CUBBIE VEST	\$10.00
Sizes 4(S), 5(M), 6(L), 8(XL), 10 (XXL)	
SPARKS HANDBOOK	\$10.00
SPARKS VEST	\$10.00
Sizes 6(S), 8(M), 10(L), 12(XL), 14(XXL), 16(XXXL)	
T&T ULTIMATE ADVENTURE HANDBOOK	\$9.00
T&T ULTIMATE ADVENTURE SHIRT	\$13.00
Sizes 10, 12, 14, adult S, adult M, adult L, adult XL	
T&T ULTIMATE CHALLENGE HANDBOOK	\$9.00
T&T ULTIMATE CHALLENGE SHIRT	\$14.00
Sizes youth M, youth L, adult S, adult M, adult L, adult XL	

Replacement costs:	Lost Entrance booklet—25 cents
	Lost Award (all except Ultimate Challenge)—50 cents
	Lost Award (Ultimate Challenge)—75 cents
	Lost Badge (Sparks)—\$1.50
	Lost Badge (Ultimate Adventure)—\$2.00

Handbook Completion

The centerpiece of Awana is for your child to learn and understand God's Word. To that end, each handbook is divided into sections which include a Bible verse (or verses) and the meaning of that verse. Through your child saying those sections, he or she will learn Scripture and also earn awards to display on the Awana uniform and points to spend in the Awana Store (as we talk about in the next section).

The handbooks are designed to be completed in a club year of 32 nights, and we would encourage you to work with your child toward that goal. We allow clubbers to say sections at their own pace, the goal being for your children to be able to **understand**, not only be able to recite, the Bible verses they are learning. There are also sections which require activities to be done at home; please work with your child to make sure those are done.

The Awana Store

One reason kids like our Awana Club is because they work to earn everything they receive. Sparks and T&T clubbers earn points (Awana money) for their participation in the Awana program. These points are saved up and 'spent' in the Awana Store. The Awana Store is held four times a year (for this club year, the stores are planned for October 6, 2013; December 1, 2013; February 23, 2014; and the last night of club, May 4, 2014). We post how many points each clubber has earned every week on the Awana Bulletin Board in the Social Hall.

SPARKS/T&T SHARES

Club attendance:	1
Church attendance:	1
Dues:	1
Uniform:	3
Handbook:	1
Bible:	1
Brought visitor:	5
Special activities:	5
Entrance book section:	1
Handbook section:	5

"Special activities" include participating in theme nights or wearing his/her uniform to school (requires note from parent attesting this).

Please help your child to remember to bring his or her Bible, handbook, and dues each week. Children need their Bible and handbook to participate in the club.

Game Time

We jump and run during game time, so be sure your child is dressed in appropriate game clothing. Children must wear non-marking sneakers to participate. **Flip-flops or any other kind of open toe shoes are not allowed during game time, nor can we allow children to run barefoot during Game Time.** Indecent or objectionable clothing is not allowed. After game time, the kids will receive a snack and drink.

Other Activities

Our club has Theme Nights once a month such as Hearts Night, Flashlight Night, Sticky Note Night, and the Thanksgiving favorite, Turkey Bowling. We recognize clubber (and leader) birthdays once a month. We will have a club [Grand Prix](#) in March. The [club calendar](#) or the Kingsland FBC Awana Club Facebook page should be consulted for event dates and details.

While Your Children Are in Club

At this time other evening activities at FBC Kingsland do not begin until 6:00pm. We understand that you may not want to sit and wait, but we ask that if you are off campus you provide a cell phone number where you can be reached in case of emergency.

At the End of the Club Night

You can pick up your children (Cubbies and up) in the Social Hall at 7:00 pm. Please come to the south door of the Social Hall (the entrance opposite the restrooms) and ask for your child and we will have him or her brought to you.

Puggles (2 year olds) will be picked up in the nursery.

Discipline

We want all Clubbers to have an equal chance to have fun and learn God's Word, so we follow these rules:

- The Clubber must take part in the entire club program unless a note is brought from a parent or guardian.
- The Clubber must remain on the church campus during club time.
- The Clubber will run and play only in designated areas.
- The Clubber must cooperate with and obey all leaders.
- Children and leaders will be treated with common decency and respect at all times.
- Hitting and/or kicking will not be allowed from any child.

We strictly enforce these rules. If a Clubber cannot abide by them, he or she will be suspended from the club.

We award positive behavior and use the "3 count" for improper individual behavior and the "5 count" in a group setting.

How the "3 count" is used when behavior problems arise:

1. The Leader or Director will discuss the required behavior with the clubber (time out).
2. The Clubber will be brought to the Commander to discuss the issue.
3. A Leader, with the Commander, will take the Clubber to his/her parent for discussion of the issue.

The Clubber starts over with a clean slate the next club night.

The "5 count" is used in a group setting to quiet and calm the Clubbers down when Leaders and Directors are giving instruction. It is used, for example, to get everyone's attention for the opening ceremony.

If there are any concerns about the 3- and 5-count systems, the Club Commander will be happy to discuss them.

Awards

Your child will receive an award for each handbook section completed. The awards vary from club to club ("jewels" for Sparks, "bones" for T&T Ultimate Adventure, custom emblems for T&T Ultimate Challenge).

Handbooks are designed to be completed in a year. For those clubbers who complete a book during a club year, they will receive a book completion award on Awana Graduation Night at the end of the club year. Book awards are as follows:

- Cubbies one book completed -- "Cubbie Bear" award
- Cubbies two books completed -- "Cubbie Bear" award + ribbon
- Sparks one book completed -- Sparks First Book Award ribbon
- Sparks two books completed -- Sparks Second Book Award ribbon
- Sparks three books completed -- Sparky Award plaque
- T&T one book completed -- Alpha Award trophy and pin
- T&T two books completed -- Excellence Award trophy and pin
- T&T three books completed -- Challenge Award trophy and pin
- T&T four books completed -- Timothy Award trophy and pin

Our club also recognizes during Awana Graduation those clubbers who, while they did not complete a book, have put forth a noteworthy effort. The criteria for such recognition are:

- The clubber has attended at least **16** club nights in the year.
- The clubber has completed at least **10** sections **in a handbook** in the year (entrance book sections do not count)

Parental Involvement

Parents are always welcome to sit in and see what happens with their child (or children) in club.

What your child does in Awana should not just be confined to Sunday night. Help your child succeed by working with him or her during the week. We know that there are a lot of demands on your child's life, not to mention yours, in the world we live in; but if you consider the eternal benefits of your child learning God's Word, we are certain the time working with your child as he or she learns Awana sections will be well spent!