

First Baptist Church Gulf Shores



AWANA Club Handbook
2009-2010

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First Baptist Church
AWANA Parent's Handbook for 2009-2010
www.fbcgulf.com/children/awana.php

What AWANA Stands For

AWANA is an acrostic taken from the scripture verse found in 2 Timothy 2:15 and it stands for:

Approved
Workmen
Are
Not
Ashamed

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. 2 Timothy 2:15

The Purpose of AWANA

The goal of AWANA is to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and to train them to serve Him.

For more on AWANA International, see their website at www.awana.com.

The Five Principles of AWANA

The five principle of AWANA are:

1. Centered on the gospel
2. Focused on scripture memory
3. Exciting to young people
4. Trains youth to serve
5. Built on leadership

Hours

For children 3 yrs - 6th grade

Our AWANA Club meets Sunday Nights from 5:15 to 7:15 PM. from August 23, 2009 to May 16, 2010. Parents are required to sign-in and sign-out their children. Check-in starts at 5 PM. All children should be checked-in by 5:15 PM. Children must be picked up by 7:25 PM.

A Note To Parents

This booklet of information is designed to introduce you to the 2009-2010 First Baptist Church Gulf Shores Awana Clubs. We appreciate you allowing your child to attend our club's meetings. Our goal is to help build young people into men and women who are well balanced spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially.

We want your child to become an active part of our club. Our club night consists of four periods. They are game time, handbook time, message time and meal time.

Awana presents an opportunity for each child to grow in self-worth as well as their relationship with God and with others. You can help your child grow in these areas through Awana if you:

- **Encourage your child to come each week**
- **Help your child with their handbook memory work**
- **Show an interest in your child's achievement**
- **Communicate with us about any special needs**

Experience has shown that the only clubbers who have completed their handbook are those who have had support at home.

We encourage you to join us on our parent's nights which are Aug. 30, 2009 and Dec. 6, 2009. Our year end activity is the Awana Awards Night scheduled for Sunday, May 16, 2010 where we honor clubbers for their achievement during this year's AWANA.

AWANA Leadership

One of the goals of the Children's Ministry here at First Baptist Church is to provide a safe environment for all children. As part of reaching that goal, all AWANA Leadership will complete the standard Children's Ministry screening process. This process includes completing a detailed application process, a national criminal record search, a multi-state sex offender search, reference interviews and a personal interview with the First Baptist Church Minister of Children. While we will use helpers who are not part of the official AWANA Leadership, these helpers will always be under the direct supervision of a screened AWANA Leader.

Communication

Email

It is important for us to keep in contact with you the parent. We want to do this in the most effective way possible. Therefore, we are asking all parents who have email to provide their email address to us so we can send you our eNewsletter by email. You can also provide us with your child's email address if they have their own email. We will not give out your email address and will use it only to notify you of important AWANA information and upcoming events. To sign-up for our eNewsletter go to www.fbcgulf.com and click on the "Join Our Mailing List" button. Select the "Parents of Children" option.

Google Calendar

If you have a Google Calendar account you can add our public AWANA calendar so that you can see all of our events right in your own calendar. Our calendar's public name is FBC AWANA Schedule.

Website

You can also see our AWANA Google Calendar on our AWANA webpage at www.fbcgulf.com/children/awana.php You can download this handbook, see pictures and read about our AWANA program as well.

Contact Information

Church Phone	251-968-7369
Email	children@fbcgulf.com
Website	www.fbcgulf.com/children
Snail Mail	FBC Children, PO Box 394, Gulf Shores, AL 36547

Points, Bucks and Teams

Every child goes through check-in each Awana night and receives check-in points as follows:

Attendance	100 points
Dues	200 points
Bringing their handbook/entrance booklet	100 points
Bringing their Bible	100 points
Wearing their uniform	100 points
Attending Sunday School that day	100 points
Attending M&M the Wednesday night before	100 points
Bringing a friend who has never been to our Awana	500 points
Special Bonus Points (watch newsletter or see website)	100 points

In addition to the check-in points, each child will have the opportunity to complete sections from their handbook/entrance booklet. Each section they complete that night will earn them an additional **300 points**.

The total of their check-in points and their handbook points will earn them Awana Bucks. Each 100 points will earn them 1 Awana Buck. They will receive their Awana Bucks the following week. Please help your child keep up with their Awana Bucks. They will bring them back when we have the Awana Store to purchase items in the store using their Awana Bucks. The Awana Store will **ONLY** take Awana Bucks.

Each child will be placed on a team identified by one of the colors green, red, blue, yellow. These will be the teams they play on during game time. Team points will be awarded according to the following table

1 st Place	200 points	2 nd Place	150 points
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3rd Place 100 points

4th Place 50 points

The total team score will include the game time points plus the individual check-in and handbook points for each clubber on that team. At the end of the night, 1st and 2nd place teams will be announced. Members of the 1st place team will each receive 5 Awana Bucks and members of the 2nd place team will each receive 1 Awana Buck

Theme Nights

In order to enhance the fun of AWANAs, we will have theme nights. Please see the calendar at the end of this handbook or visit our online calendar for our theme nights.

Parental Involvement

The parents are encouraged to sit down with their child and go over the handbook. **Some activities require the parent to participate with the child and then to initial their participation.** Please do not just initial the page without doing the participation. These activities are designed to strengthen the bond between parent and child as well as develop character and a spiritual foundation in the child.

Parents are also encouraged to listen to their child as they practice their scripture memory. Parents wishing to get more involved may wish to volunteer to help during handbook time, providing snacks, or even become an AWANA leader. To get more involved, see the AWANA Commander or one of the directors.

Costs

Dues

\$1 per night

Dues for Awana are used to cover costs of the meal, awards, rewards, and other costs associated with Awana. The dues for this year will be \$1 per week. A clubber will receive 200 extra points toward their individual and team scores each night they bring their dues.

Uniforms

Uniforms are an important part of the award system. The clubber can purchase a uniform when he or she completes the entrance test. The entrance test is given free to all children attending for the first time. Uniforms reinforce the club program, help promote pride in the club, and give clubbers a place to display their awards. Clubbers must be in uniform when they attend the club meetings. Clubbers in uniform get an additional 100 points toward their individual and team scores. Clubbers can wear the same uniform for their entire time in each club.

Cubbies (3 & 4 yr. olds)	\$ 10.00
Sparks (K-2 nd)	\$ 10.00
Truth & Training (3rd & 6th)	\$ 13.00

Handbooks

Cubbies	\$ 8.00
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Sparks	\$ 9.00 (Climber Books \$7.00)
Truth & Training (T&T)	\$ 7.00

Replacement Items

Entrance Test	\$ 1.00
Membership Card	\$ 1.00
Jewels/Awards	\$ 0.50

Scholarships

It is our desire that all children be able to participate in our AWANA program regardless of their financial situation. Scholarships are available for children of families who are unable to pay for uniforms and handbooks. Scholarships are also available to pay the weekly dues if necessary. However, scholarships for dues will not count toward points or AWANA store bucks.

PLEASE NOTE: Scholarships are not available for replacement items such as lost entrance booklets, handbooks, uniforms, jewels or awards. Only one scholarship per child per year.

Discipline

No form of corporal punishment (spanking) is used at First Baptist Church. Discipline for individual clubbers is called a 3 count. The first count for a clubber who individually continues to misbehave is a verbal warning letting the clubber know their behavior is disruptive. The second count is for those clubbers who continue to misbehave after the first count warning. On a second count, the clubber is taken to the commander and must sit out the rest of the club meeting that night. If the clubber persists in misbehaving after a second count, the clubber will receive a third count. Once a clubber receives a third count, the commander will call the clubber's parents to come and take the clubber home. A clubber receiving a third count must miss the next AWANA meeting. After that, they are welcome to rejoin the group. This is only used for extreme cases of misbehavior. An automatic 3 count will be given to any clubber fighting or cursing. In an extreme case where a clubber persists in being disruptive and their parents have been called repeatedly to come get the clubber, the clubber may be expelled from the club. However, it is our desire to work with the parents in making a positive change in the clubber's behavior.

Rules

To maintain a safe, learning environment for the children, we have established some basic rules. Please go over these rules with your child.

1. All clubbers should wear their uniform and bring their handbook and Bible to club.
2. All clubbers should wear athletic shoes and for safety those shoes designed to have laces must have them.
3. All clubbers should bring their dues of \$1 to each meeting
4. Please walk, don't run except during game time.
5. All clubbers will be expected to participate during game time unless the club director has been contacted.
6. Clubbers will only recite their memorized handbook work to leaders within their own club during handbook time.
7. The maximum number of helps given a clubber is two (2) per handbook section.
8. Each individual section must be passed in its entirety in one sitting during handbook or sparkle time. No sections will be said over the telephone.
9. All awards are given to clubbers at no additional cost but the dues must be current.
10. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. After two warnings in any one meeting a clubber's parents will be called to come get the clubber.
11. Clubbers must stay in the building.
12. Clubbers must always be with an adult
13. Clubbers must be kind to each other.
14. Clubbers must obey the leaders.

AWANA 2009-2010 Calendar

August

Sunday	Aug 23, 2009	5:15 pm	Balloon Night – Welcome back, each clubber gets a balloon.
Sunday	Aug 30, 2009	5:15 pm	Parent's Night - Bring your parents and count them as a friend (bring either parent or both and get 500 bonus points). Parents get to play the games, listen to you say sections and even eat the food!

September

Sunday	Sep 6, 2009	5:15 pm	NO Awana – Evening services cancelled for Labor Day Holiday.
Sunday	Sep 13, 2009	5:15 pm	Fake Injury Night – 100 bonus points for coming with a fake injury. Put your arm in a sling, come in on crutches, wrap your foot in an ace bandage, wrap your head in a bandage, etc
Sunday	Sep 20, 2009	5:15 pm	Popcorn Night – Everyone gets popcorn. The Great ShakeUP – 1 st Night
Sunday	Sep 27, 2009	5:15 pm	Secret Agent Night - 100 bonus points for dressing like a secret agent. Wear black (with your uniform of course), sunglasses, spy gear, etc. The Great ShakeUP – 2 nd Night

October

Sunday	Oct 4, 2009	5:15 pm	Funny Face Night - Put on clown make-up, wear goofy glasses, glue on a beard. Do something to make your face look funny and you'll get 100 bonus points! The Great ShakeUP – 3 rd Night
Sunday	Oct 11, 2009	5:15 pm	Fall Festival – Dress as a Bible character and come to our Old Fashion Carnival. Bring a friend and get DOUBLE bonus points! Club Attendance Awards
Sunday	Oct 18, 2009	5:15 pm	Give Your Leader The Measles Night – 100 bonus points for dotting your face with the measles (red dots) and you get to put a red dot sticker on your leader for every section you complete.
Sunday	Oct 25, 2009	5:15 pm	NO Awana – Come to Judgement House

November

Sunday	Nov 1, 2009	5:15 pm	NO Awana – Judgement House recovery
Sunday	Nov 8, 2009	5:15 pm	Lights Out Pajama Party Night – 100 bonus points for bringing a flashlight. You'll need it! Also, 100 bonus points for dressing in PJs and bringing your favorite stuffed animal.
Sunday	Nov 15, 2009	5:15 pm	NO Awana – all evening activities cancelled for church picnic
Sunday	Nov 22, 2009	5:15 pm	Pilgrim & Indian Night – 100 bonus points for dressing like a pilgrim or an Indian.
Sunday	Nov 29, 2009		NO Awana – all evening activities cancelled for Thanksgiving weekend

December

Sunday	Dec 6, 2009		Holiday Cookie Night – Get 100 bonus points for bringing 6 of your favorite holiday cookies to share. Awana Store Night – Use your Awana bucks to buy Christmas presents!
Sunday	Dec 13, 2009		NO Awana – Family caroling and chili instead.
Sunday	Dec 20, 2009		NO Awana – all evening activities cancelled for Christmas
Sunday	Dec 27, 2009		NO Awana – all evening activities cancelled for Christmas

January

Sunday	Jan 3, 2010	5:15 pm	NO Awana – all evening activities cancelled for Christmas
Sunday	Jan 10, 2010	5:15 pm	Winter Carnival – have fun at our Winter Carnival! Begin earning cotton balls – 1 cotton ball for every section completed
Sunday	Jan 17, 2010	5:15 pm	Pet Night – 100 bonus points for bringing a picture of your pet.
Sunday	Jan 24, 2010	5:15 pm	Pirate Night – 100 bonus points for dressing like a pirate. Walkin' the plank if'n you don't talk like one. Club & SS Attendance Awards
Sunday	Jan 31, 2010	5:15 pm	Black Out! Night – 100 bonus points for bringing a flashlight. You'll need it!

February

Sunday	Feb 7, 2010	5:15 pm	Campfire Night – Exchange your cotton balls for marshmallows to roast on a real campfire.
Sunday	Feb 14, 2010	5:15 pm	Heart Attack Night – 100 bonus points for coming covered in hearts! Grand Prix Registration Begins! Cost is \$10
Sunday	Feb 21, 2010	5:15 pm	Hilarious Hair Night – 100 bonus points for wearing hilarious hair. Put on a wig, spray your hair green, put it up in a dozen pigtails!
Sunday	Feb 28, 2010	5:15 pm	Go West Night – 100 bonus points for wearing western clothing (cowboy).

March

Sunday	Mar 7, 2010	4:30 pm	Mandatory Grand Prix Workshop – all entrants MUST attend
		5:15 pm	Dress your Dog Night – Decorate a hotdog at home and bring it in and get 100 bonus pints! Be creative! Grand Prix Registration Deadline!!!!!!!!!! – Cost is \$10
Sunday	Mar 14, 2010	5:15 pm	Wearin' O' the Green Night – 100 bonus points for wearing green. (pinching for NOT wearing green). Club Attendance Awards
Sunday	Mar 21, 2010		NO AWANA
Sunday	Mar 28, 2010	5:15 pm	Grand Prix - This night will be devoted to the great Grand Prix. Clubbers who have entered and built their own Pine Derby cars will compete. Everyone gets to watch. Sports Night – 100 bonus points for wearing clothing supporting your favorite sport/team!

April

Sunday	Apr 4, 2010		NO AWANA
Sunday	Apr 11, 2010	5:15 pm	Farmer Night – 100 bonus points for dressing like a farmer.
Sunday	Apr 18, 2010	5:15 pm	Obstacle Course Night – Come race on a 35' inflatable obstacle course.
Sunday	Apr 25, 2010	5:15 pm	Fisherman's Night – 100 bonus points for dressing like a fisherman.

May

Sunday	May 2, 2010	5:15 pm	Aloha Night - 100 bonus points for wearing something Hawaiian (colorful shirt, grass skirt, flipflops, native hat, etc.). Awana Store Night
Sunday	May 9, 2010	5:15 pm	NO AWANA
Sunday	May 16, 2010	5:15 pm	Awana Awards Banquet - Founder's Hall - Banquet & Awards Ceremony. Must Have Reservations! Cost: \$5 per family Club & SS Attendance Awards

Our Children's Activities

Sunday

Sunday School 8:45 am

We have a class for every age that uses lessons that are geared specifically for that age-group

Children's Sermon 10:15 am

Children who are 4 years old and up are brought into our worship service for a special interactive, object oriented sermon just for them.

Children's Church 10:15 am

After the Children's Sermon, the children are taken to a high energy, interactive, creative worship service designed just for them which uses puppets, games, video, drama, music and objects to teach them about God's Word and how to worship.

AWANA 5:15 pm

Our AWANA program is an exciting children's program which helps build young people into men and women who are well balanced spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially.

Wednesday

Family Meal (\$5/person) 4:45 pm

The whole family is invited to join us for a delicious meal before our activities begin. The maximum cost per family is \$15. Reservations are required.

Music & Missions 6:00 pm

In our M&M program our children learn how to read music, how to sing, how to perform in front of an audience. Then they break up into Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors (boys) & VeggieTales.

Our Regular Schedule

Sunday

Sunday School 8:45 am & 10:15 am

Morning Worship 8:45 am & 10:15 am

Evening Worship 6:00 pm (Fall small groups – 5:30 pm)

Wednesday

Family Meal (\$5/person) 4:45 pm

Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 pm

First Baptist Church Gulf Shores
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