



PARENT HANDBOOK

The
TABERNACLE

1978 South Boston Rd
Danville, VA 24540
(434) 822-6100

ABOUT AWANA

The purpose of the Awana ministry is to help churches and parents worldwide raise children to know, love and serve Jesus Christ. Awana stands for **A**pproved **W**orkman **A**re **N**ot **A**shamed based on 2 Timothy 2:15. The Awana ministry at The Tabernacle works in unison with the other ministries at The Tabernacle to help your child learn about Jesus and to grow in Him.

AWANA MEETING TIMES

The Awana Ministry at The Tabernacle is held on Wednesday evenings from 6:45pm – 8:10 pm. The Awana rooms will be opened for children to arrive at 6:30 pm. Children will not be permitted in the rooms before that time. There is no adult supervision or childcare for children before 6:30pm. If you arrive early to club, you must provide supervision for your child. Please respect the leaders' time by allowing them to be prayerfully prepared for the Awana club night.

AWANA CLUB AGE GROUPS

The Awana Ministry at The Tabernacle has the following clubs:

- Puggles – 2 years old (Parents must remain on Campus)
- Cubbies – 3 & 4 year olds old (Parents must remain on Campus)
- Sparks – Kindergarten thru 2nd grade
- Truth & Training (T&T) 3rd - 6th grade

INFORMATION / REGISTRATION

All children who participate in the Awana ministry at The Tabernacle **MUST** have the following forms completed:

- 1) Signed and Complete Registration Form (With photography Release and medical Release) on file with the AWANA Office.
- 2) Signed Discipline Policy Statement

WHAT TO BRING TO AWANA

Your child should bring his/her Bible and club handbook (or entrance booklet) each club night - including special theme nights. Your child should wear his/her designated uniform and tennis shoes/sneakers. Proper shoes are required to participate in Game Time. Flip flops, sandals, and crocs are not considered safe for running and playing.

Your child should not bring other items to club (e.g. – Cell phone, iPod, Gameboy, CD players, radio, toys, etc.). If your child does bring something which does not pertain to AWANA and a leader sees it, your child will be asked to put it away and keep it out of sight. If a leader sees the item again, the leader will safely care for the item until the end of the AWANA club night.

There will be some nights when a special theme is being observed and your child will be asked to bring a certain item(s). In this case, your child will bring information home that will provide basic information about what he/she should bring.

SECURITY

Parents/Guardians should walk their clubber(s) to their classroom to ensure there are leaders in their class to take responsibility the child. You may not drop off your clubber(s) at the curb. Once the clubber has arrived, they must remain in their Awana areas unless given permission by an Awana leader to leave.

At the end of the Awana night:

- Puggles (2 Year Olds) must be picked up in their classroom by a parent/ guardian
- Cubbies (ages 3 and 4) must be picked up in their classroom by a parent/ guardian
- Sparks (K5 – 2nd grade) must be picked up in their classroom by a parent/ guardian.
- T & T- (Grades 3-6) will be released to the gym. It is the parents responsibility to come to the gym to pick up their child(ren).
- No Awana clubber will be permitted in the hallways, gym, or fellowship hall without leader supervision or permission.
- Parents Must NOT drop their child at the curb and leave. They Must walk their child to their designated area.

COSTS

The Awana ministry does it's best to keep costs to a minimum, however there are a few costs associated when your child participates in Awana as outlined below: The Registration fee is \$20.00 for the entire year per clubber (Maximum \$40.00 per family). This will help defray the costs of books, uniforms, patches, and awards. Clubbers will be given one book and uniform, any items that are lost or damaged must be replaced at the parent/guardians expense.

Replacement Supply Fees Are as Follows:

- Cubbies – (3 & 4-year-olds) Handbook - \$10.00 & Uniform Vest - \$10.00
- Sparks - (K5-2nd Grade) Handbook - \$10.00 (includes CD) & Uniform Vest - \$10.00
- Truth & Training (T&T) – (3rd-6th grade) Handbook - \$10.00 & Uniform Shirt - \$10.00
- All emblems & badges are \$1.00 - \$1.50

Optional Purchase Item:

- Truth & Training (T & T) – Handbook Sling Bag (optional) - \$10.00

Please do not let finances stand in the way of your child participating in Awana. If there is a financial need, please inform the Awana Commander, and he will work with you so your child may continue to participate in the Awana ministry

DRESS CODE

Children attending Awana should wear comfortable clothing, “long” pants/ shorts and “tennis” shoes to participate in the activities held on a typical evening.

WELLNESS POLICY

As we all know, illnesses are easily passed among children, affecting not only the other children in your child's Awana group, but your family and other families. Here is our established health policy for the Awana ministry.

Children SHOULD NOT attend Awana if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever – 100 degrees or higher within the last 24-hours
- Vomiting within the last 24 hours
- Diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- Runny nose if accompanied by other symptoms and/or colored discharge
- Bad Cough – coughing increases the chance of infection being spread to others
- Any rash that is suspected to be contagious
- If your child is prescribed an antibiotic, they must have been on the anti-biotic for a minimum of 48 hours prior to attending Awana

Medicine will not be administered during club hours. Please do not send medicine with your child.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

You can learn if Awana is cancelled through the following means:

- Contact The Tabernacle Church Office (434) 822-6100
- Visit the The Tabernacle website www.thetabernaclefamily.org
- Visit the The Tabernacle Awana Facebook page
- The Tabernacle strives to add cancellations to local news channels also (I.E. WSET and WDBJ)

AWANA STORE

Each child earns Awana Store points by accomplishing the following tasks each week:

- Bringing their Bible
- Wearing their complete uniform
- Bringing their Awana Handbook
- Bringing a friend

- Passing required handbook sections
- Passing extra credit handbook sections (extra points)

Awana Store Points can be used to “purchase” various items.

- Puggles and Cubbies have opportunity to pick a special prize from the Cubbies Store Cart
- Sparks will have opportunity to “order” items from the Sparks Awana Store Catalog three times per year (November, February, April)
- T & T will have the opportunity to “order” items from the T & T Awana Store Catalog three times per year (November, February, April)

DISCIPLINE POLICY

The word discipline has the same root meaning as disciple, which means learner or follower. This root meaning implies a leader-follower relationship in which the follower learns about proper conduct. The purpose of discipline is to teach Christ-like behavior, not merely a set of rules. To discipline is to teach or mold, resulting in a happy, well-adjusted individual. Discipline is something done for the child, not to the child. Discipline results in an organized, smooth-running club.

FIVE-COUNT

Awana uses two methods to deal with discipline. The first is the Five-Count and is used for a group of clubbers. The person in charge raises his or her hand and begins the five-count by slowly and loudly counting to five. By the count of five, clubbers are to be quiet and lined up or sitting straight.

THREE-COUNT

The second method is the Three-Count and is used for an individual clubber who continues to misbehave after repeated correction; this method follows the three-strikes-and-you’re-out philosophy. We will not allow an unruly child to be a distraction to the whole club.

- A **One Count** is a warning that the clubber is disobeying one of the club guidelines.
- A **Two Count** means the clubber has continued to disobey club guidelines and must talk with the club Director and/or Commander.
- If a clubber receives a **Three Count** a parent will be called. The parent will be expected to review club guidelines with their child. The clubber may return to club when they are ready to follow the club guidelines.

SUSPENSION

If the clubber agrees to behave and returns to club, but continues to cause problems and receives a **Three Count**, then the Director will inform the Commander of the nature of the problem. The Commander will inform the parents of the misbehavior again and that the clubber has been suspended from Awana for one week. Again, explaining that the clubber is welcome back to club after his/her one week suspension if they agree to abide by the club guidelines.

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Our prayer in Awana is that all children in our ministry come to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. Because a habitually misbehaving, disrespectful, and/or disruptive child could potentially keep other children from hearing or understanding God’s love, a Discipline Committee has been formed.

A Discipline Committee, consisting of the Awana Commander, a staff member of The Tabernacle and if necessary the Director of the club involved, will evaluate each suspension. This committee will determine the length of suspension for each incident. After the second suspension, expulsion will be considered. The Discipline Committee will handle the severity of discipline after the first suspension.

The Awana leaders realize family situations may affect a child’s behavior. We encourage you to let your child’s Awana leader know if there is any situation that may help us in ministering to your child. This helps the Awana leader to potentially minister to the child as opposed to just viewing a situation or action as a discipline problem.

GUIDELINES

Awana has only a few guidelines for clubbers. They are as follows:

- Clubbers must respect and obey all leaders
- Clubbers must respect fellow clubbers
- No Pushing, shoving, hitting or roughhousing is allowed at anytime.
- Respectful language should always be used. No swearing.
- Stealing will not be tolerated.

The Tabernacle Awana Club Standards

1. Doors open to clubbers at 6:30 p.m. for check-in and supervised activities. Club starts promptly at 6:45 p.m. and ends promptly at 8:10 p.m. Clubbers who arrive during the Opening Ceremony may stand at the door until the Opening Ceremony is complete, then they may join their club line.
2. Club Guidelines
 - Clubbers must respect and obey all leaders
 - Clubbers must respect fellow clubbers
 - No Pushing, shoving, hitting or roughhousing is allowed at anytime.
 - Respectful language should always be used. No swearing.
 - Stealing will not be tolerated
3. The leaders will utilize the “three-count” for individuals not following club behavior standards. Refer back to the Discipline Policy for the consequences of the “three-count.”
4. Clubbers will receive their uniforms and handbooks after they have paid their registration fee AND have completed their entrance booklet. Upon receipt of the uniform, clubbers should keep it clean and wear it to every regular Awana meeting.
5. Handbook sections must be passed by clubbers in one session. A maximum of two helps per section is allowed. Normally only three sections may be passed in one club meeting. The restriction on maximum sections in a night is to ensure all clubbers have an opportunity to complete the sections that they worked hard to memorize.
6. Awana clubbers are encouraged to regularly attend club. To receive attendance awards, the following standards must be met:
 - Perfect Attendance- No absences for the entire club year
 - Outstanding Attendance- No more than 5 absences for the entire club year
7. Game Time is a privilege. In cases of extreme disorderliness, it may be revoked for a night by the Commander or Club Director

ABOUT THE TABERNACLE

The Tabernacle is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention and has many ministries to help meet the needs of the community. Our ministries are geared to every age from infants to adults. The Tabernacle is a great place to hear from and learn through God's Word, connect with others and develop new relationships, and grow in your relationship with Christ through Worship, Service, and Missions.

We invite you to attend our worship services Sunday and other discipleship opportunities throughout the week. The schedule is below:

Sundays:

- 9:00am: Sunday School
- 10:15am: Morning Worship
- 10:15am: Jr. Church
- 5:00pm: Evening Worship

Wednesdays:

- 6:45pm: Awana
- 6:45pm: High School Fellowship
- 6:45pm: Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm: Prayer Meeting & Bible Study