



# *FBC Delhi*

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## **Welcome to AWANA**

We are glad that you have decided that First Baptist Church is a place where your child can grow in the Lord. We are sure that our AWANA club will be a place of learning and excitement that will have a positive influence on your child. The AWANA program is divided into several age groups that range from 3 years old through Grade 6.

AWANA offers several opportunities for your child to grow spiritually through Scripture memorization and a basic understanding of biblical principles and doctrines. AWANA also provides an opportunity for children to learn to compete as a team and not just as individuals. They will learn to win and lose with a proper attitude of fair play and sportsmanship.

We ask for your support in encouraging your child to complete handbook sections. Please encourage your child to work on their handbooks at home with you.

We would also appreciate your timeliness in dropping off and picking up your children. Please have your child/children at the 5 minutes prior to club starting time in order for them to be in place before opening ceremony begins.

Again, we thank you for the opportunity to work with and minister to your child. We consider this a trust and serious responsibility that we do not take lightly.

**Gloria Eldridge: AWANA Commander**

## **The History of AWANA**

Since 1950, AWANA has grown from a one-church program into a ministry that includes more than 6500 churches in the United States and another 1300 in more than 80 countries worldwide. Local churches reach hundreds of thousands of young people every week by using the AWANA program. The goal of AWANA is to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and to train them to serve Him.

The word AWANA stands for Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed, and comes from 2 Timothy 2:15.

**"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**

AWANA is a fun and exciting way for children to learn Scripture and it works! Thank you for giving us the opportunity to acquaint you with the AWANA ministry of First Baptist Church, and how it can benefit not only your child, but your entire family.

## **What We Expect From Our Leaders**

We do have a few requirements that our leaders must meet and expectations they should follow. The following may give you some insight into the type of leadership we strive for in our program.

### **Requirements:**

- A leader must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- A leader must have a desire to work with and a compassion for children.
- Our leaders have completed a background check.

### **Expectations:**

- We expect our leaders to be on time.
- We expect our leaders to be examples by wearing clean, neat uniforms every night.
- We expect our leaders to follow the rules.
- We expect our leaders to display a proper attitude before the clubbers and other leaders.
- We expect our leaders to pray for our Club on a regular basis.
- We expect our leaders to realize AWANA is not just another program, but it is a ministry of the church, and a place of service to God.

## **What We Expect From Parents**

- Always encourage your child. Children have much more fun when Mom and Dad show interest in their accomplishments.
- Help your children to attend AWANA every week and to arrive on time, as consistency builds friendships, achievement, and self-discipline.
- Encourage your child to work on handbook sections at home during the week.
- Attend all major events. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to attend special events as a way of showing your support and approval for your child's accomplishments.
- Please review the discipline guidelines in this handbook with your child. AWANA has very few rules of behavior, but in order to ensure that all clubbers have an opportunity to learn as well as have fun, some rules of behavior will be enforced.
- Please plan to pick up clubbers promptly after club. Clubbers will not be permitted to leave the gym/building without an adult to pick them up.
- If your child needs to be excused from participating in Game Time, please send a note to that effect to their leader; otherwise, they will be expected to participate with all other clubbers in all activities.

## What We Expect From Clubbers

All rules in the AWANA clubs are for the safety and wellbeing of the children and adults who are participating.

- Check in with club's commander when arriving. (failing to do this may cause you to lose your perfect attendance status.)
- All children must attend their age appropriate class (no skipping ahead or staying with siblings allowed.)
- Follow the instructions of your leaders.
- Move quietly between rooms. Walk; do not run in the church.
- Stay in your room unless a leader has given permission for you to leave.
- Treat others with respect; no swearing, fighting, hitting or pushing. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself at all times.
- Use the school rule for illness, don't come to club if you are running a temperature or have been sick in the last 24 hour period.
- Be responsible. Keep up with your books, backpacks, and belongings.

### Discipline

In the event discipline is required, we have two procedures that will be used by all clubs; the 5-count and the 3-count. The 5-count is for all clubbers, while the 3-count is for an individual clubber.

#### 5-count

When a leader needs the clubbers to be still and quiet, he/she will count from 1 to 5. All clubbers need to stop talking immediately and be still. Clubbers who are not quiet by the count of 5 run the risk of losing shares.

#### 3-count

If a child is disrespectful or is disruptive to the club, the following procedure will occur:

- A 1-count will be given for the first offense; the Leader will identify the behavior that needs to be corrected.
- A 2-count will be given for the second offense, the child will be counseled by the Leader and Club Commander outside of the club room and then returned to club.
- A 3-count is given and the child will be removed from the activity by the Club Commander. If this occurs, the Club Commander will speak with the child's parents while the child is present to discuss the problem behavior and the consequences.
- If the clubber has to be taken to the parent a second time, they must miss the next two club meetings, and a parent must meet with the AWANA Commander and Director to discuss returning to the club.
- If a clubber is removed from club a third time, they will not be allowed back into the program for the remainder of the club year.

**It is our prayer that no situation will have to be resolved in this manner, but in fairness to all clubbers and leaders, the above will be enforced as necessary.**

## **Uniform Guidelines**

Clubbers and leaders are expected to wear their AWANA uniform to each meeting. The goal of each AWANA Club is to have 100% of its attendees in uniform. A properly worn uniform helps AWANA clubbers and leaders earn respect and credibility.

Uniform standards are as follows:

- Cubbies and Sparks vests must be clean and buttoned.
- T&T t-shirts must be clean and neat.
- Always wear tennis shoes instead of open toe shoes or flip flops.  
Because of game time it is better if the girls wear slacks or jeans. If they do wear a dress or skirt, please have them wear shorts underneath.

### **Opening Ceremony**

All clubbers will be on their line by 5:45 PM. Club Commander will instruct flag bearers to present the colors. During the pledges and prayer all clubbers and workers shall remain standing. If clubbers arrive late, show them how to respect the flags by encouraging them to stand at attention where they are. Do not disturb the line after colors have been presented. We will recite the pledges to the American flag and the AWANA flag.

### **Pledges**

#### **American Flag**

I pledge allegiance to the flag  
Of the United States of America  
And to the republic for which it stands  
One nation under God, indivisible  
With liberty and justice for all.

#### **AWANA Flag**

I pledge allegiance to the AWANA flag  
Which stands for the AWANA Clubs  
Whose goal is to reach boys and girls  
With the Gospel of Christ  
And train them to serve Him.

## **Closing Ceremony**

All groups should return back to the designated area for the Closing Ceremony 10 minutes before club ending. All clubbers should remain quietly on their line while closing announcements are made. During the Closing Ceremony clubbers will receive their rewards. Clubbers are encouraged to cheer for and support their friends who have earned achievements. Club will close with prayer and clubbers will be dismissed to their parents.

## **AWANA Shares**

Each AWANA clubber has the opportunity to earn shares. They represent good achievement and spiritual growth in the knowledge of God and His Word. Shares are earned by completing sections in the AWANA handbook. There will be 2 AWANA Stores each club year. The clubbers will get to spend their shares at the store. Shares may not be given away or carried over. There are other ways that clubbers can earn shares:

- 1 share for attendance
- 1 share for having their book
- 1 share for having their Bible
- 1 share for wearing their uniform
- 1 share for every memory verse
- 5 shares for every section finished
- 20 shares for completing their book
- 10 shares for bringing a friend who has never been to AWANA

## **Miscellaneous Information**

- A current price list for AWANA will be made available to the parents at the beginning of each year's club.
- See the AWANA commander if you have a family hardship in paying for these dues. We do not want to lose any children because of monetary problems. We will work them out.
- Supper is served on Wednesday nights in the gym. Supper starts at 5 PM. It is \$2 for children and \$5 for adults. If your child is having supper before club, please make sure they are here in time to be served and eat before opening ceremony. If they are late, they can get a go-box to carry home.

## To The Parents

We hope you have read this entire handbook for the First Baptist Church AWANA Club. This is the best way to make sure you have complete information regarding this ministry. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, please feel free to contact your child's leader or any member of the leadership team at any time.

Gloria Eldridge: AWANA Commander 318-235-6765, [gloriae234@gmail.com](mailto:gloriae234@gmail.com)

Church Office: 318-878-3724

Contact the church office or our website [delhifbc.com](http://delhifbc.com) for a listing of weekly worship times and other opportunities available for all age groups that meet at various times throughout the week.