

Highland Park Evangelical Free Church



Awana Guide

For Clubbers and
Their Parents
2009-2010

Highland Park Evangelical Free Church
4115 38th St.
Columbus, NE 68601
(402-564-5853)

Dear Parents:

We are happy to have your child in the Awana Program. We count it a privilege to partner with you in training your child to know God's Word and to live in a way that honors Him.

The name Awana is an acronym for the words Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed. This is based on II Timothy 2:15 which reads, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who not need be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

The key tool used in the Awana Program is scripture memory. Each child begins in Awana by working through an entrance test appropriate to his or her age level. Please encourage your child to learn each section word perfect. This will help them to get maximum benefit from God's Word and it makes our job as Leaders much easier when the clubbers are well prepared. At HPEFC we have 5 distinct Awana Clubs:

- Puggles Nursery Aged (For Children of leaders only)
- Cubbies Preschool (Must be 3 and potty trained by Sept. 9, 2009)
- Sparks K-2nd grade boys & girls
- T&T Girls 3rd through 6th grade girls
- T&T Boys 3rd through 6th grade boys

Children in the Awana Program will have the opportunity to pass one handbook for each year they are in club. The handbooks are broken down into various sections of scripture memory, Bible study, and activity sections. You are encouraged to look through your child's handbook as soon as they get it so you can be aware of their progress through the year and help pace them through it.

The Awana uniform gives your child a place to display their handbook awards. The Cubbie Uniform is a blue vest and the Sparks uniform is a red vest. The Truth & Training (T&T) uniform consists of a green T-shirt embroidered with the T&T logo. Awards are displayed on an awards badge to distinguish which rank each child is in.

The HPEFC Awana Club is held every Wednesday evening from September through early May beginning at 6:00 and ending at 7:45 p.m. Special theme nights and events are held at various times throughout the year. Parents and other visitors are welcome any time and we especially hope you can come to our Parents Night. Please watch for your invitation to join your child on this special night!

Thank you for allowing your child to be a part of Awana this year. We appreciate the commitment you make as parents to transport your children to and from AWANA; helping them prepare their verses; praying for our Awana Club; and support Awana through the payment of dues, handbook and uniform expenses. If you ever have questions or concerns about Awana please contact one of the club administrators listed. We pray that God will honor our efforts to have a positive impact for eternity on each child who comes to Awana!

Sincerely in Christ,

Kevin Bennett, Co-Commander (564-5853)
Les Bennett, Co-Commander (564-6525)
Cindy Eaton, Co-Commander (564-5853)
Jan Kleveland, T&T Girls Director (564-9612)
Dan Poppe, T & T Boys Director (564-8161)
Tammie Awtry, Sparks Co-Director (564-9079)
Joan Bennett, Sparks Co-Director (563-4162)
Candi Kohlhof, Cubbie Co-Director (564-1497)
April Reed, Cubbie Co-Director (562-8610)
Kim Webster, Puggle Co-Director (562-8380)



HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH AWANA

There are several practical things you as a parent can do to help your child get the most out of AWANA. We hope you will read the following list and prayerfully consider how you may be able to help your child in Awana.

- Bring your child to club early enough to participate in the opening ceremony. This helps set the tone for the rest of the club night.
- Make sure your child wears their complete uniform to club and help them to display their awards appropriately.
- Help them to remember to bring both their Bible and their handbook each week.
- Please send the weekly club dues with your child unless you choose to pay yearly or by semester. These are used to offset some of the cost of awards.
- Help your child prepare for club each week by spending time with them working on their handbook sections at home. You may want to learn some of the verses with them to show them that God's Word is important in your life too!
- Feel free to come to Awana with your child as a visitor anytime. We'd love to have to visit our club.
- Encourage your child throughout the club year and help pace them through their book so they can complete their handbook before the end of the club year.
- Get to know your child's handbook Leader and let them know if they can be of any help to you.
- Please have your child wear proper footwear suitable for running. To avoid injuries, we ask the children not to play games without shoes.

AWANA CLUB RULES - PLEASE REVIEW WITH YOUR CHILD

- Awana clubbers are to hang up their coat and check in with the attendance helper when they arrive at club, then go directly to music and worship time (Cubbies are to report to the Cubbie Room).
- If a clubber is attending the Awana Workers' Meal, they must either remain in the Fellowship Hall or sit quietly in the Worship Center until music time starts.
- Walking from one part of the meeting to another should be done in an orderly fashion; clubbers following their Leader single file.
- No running in the halls; clubbers seen running will be asked to return to their starting point and walk.
- All clubbers must remain inside the building. Because of safety concerns, no clubber shall be allowed to play outside either before or after club. No balls, skateboards or bicycles will be allowed!
- A "5-count" is used by the Commander and Directors to get all the children to STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN. It can be reinforced with incentives and positive peer pressure.
- There are occasions in which a "3-Count" may be used with a clubber. The "3-Count" is administered by a Club Director or Commander in the following manner:
 - #1 - Warning
 - #2 - The child is counseled in private; with another adult present.
 - #3 - The parent is notified and the clubber is not allowed to attend club the following week. They may return to club the week after. It is our desire that the clubber think about their conduct at club during that week and return with a cooperative and submissive spirit the following week. If you have any questions about your child's behavior during club any given night, please contact their Club's Director or our Club Commander.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP INFORMATION

Please drop off your children at Awana between 5:50 and 5:55 p.m. We are asking clubbers to enter into the building through the front foyer or southeast doors. After 6:15 p.m., only the front foyer doors will be accessible. We know that this may cause some minor inconvenience, but we feel that this is in the best interest of the safety of your children. We will try to be prompt in ending our club night by 7:45. Please pick up your child no later than 7:50. Cubbies and Sparks **must be picked up in their handbook room**. When picking up your older clubber, we request you send someone into the building to get them. If this is not possible, please provide clear instructions to your child on who will pick them up. We do our best to supervise children as they leave the church building, but we need your help to insure that each child knows who they are riding with and that they get safely to the correct car. If you are unable to provide transportation for your child either to or from Awana, let us know and we will try to work out a ride

for them (because of state child-seat laws, we are unable to provide rides for Cubbies). **To insure the safety of everybody who is entering and exiting the building, we request that you park in the parking lot and not by the front door.**

ILLNESS/COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

If your child stayed home from school because of an illness/disease or other health-related reasons, we request they not be sent to Awana that evening, reducing the possibility of infecting others. These diseases include: the H1N1 Virus, Pink eye, chicken pox, pneumonia, scabies, measles, whooping cough, ringworm, head lice, mumps, pinworms, impetigo, strep throat, fever, vomiting and diarrhea. If you have any questions, please contact an Awana Commander or Director.

WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS

If club is cancelled due to hazardous weather conditions, an announcement will be made by noon on 101.1 KLIR Radio Station.

BRINGING A FRIEND (Sparks and T&T Clubs)

Your child may bring a friend any club night. Your child will receive a credit to the Awana Store and their friend will receive a pencil. We have room to grow and more clubbers are welcome!

AWANA STORE

The Awana store will be open two times a year for the Sparks and T&T Clubs. Clubbers can use Awana credits they have earned to purchase an assortment of various items.

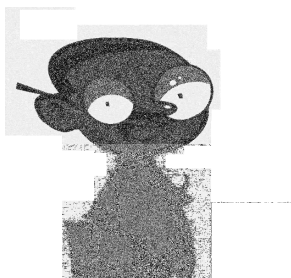
CLUB FINANCING

To help cover some of the costs of awards and supplies, clubbers are asked to pay club dues. This can be paid as weekly dues of \$1.00 per child, or as a one time fee (see the registration sheet for an explanation of the dues schedule). The one time fee can be paid at the start of the year or split in (2) with one due payment each semester.

Weekly	\$ 1.00
Half-Year	\$15/1 child; \$27/2; \$37/3+
Yearly	\$30/1 child; \$55/2; \$75/3+

UNIFORMS AND HANDBOOKS

After completing an entrance test, clubbers are eligible to purchase a uniform and a handbook. We ask that clubbers or their parents pay for these items themselves if at all possible. We will never turn a child away from club because of financial reasons. **If Awana expenses are a hardship for your family, please notify one of our Commanders and they will discuss with you the possibility of a confidential sponsorship program.**



T&T T-Shirt	\$13.00
Handbook	\$ 7.00
Sparks vest	\$10.00
Handbook	\$ 8.50
Cubbie Vest	\$ 10.00
Handbook	\$ 7.00



A NOTE TO THE CUBBIE PARENTS...

Cubbies is a weekly program designed for children in the two years prior to Kindergarten. Our purpose is to help boys and girls take their first steps on a lifelong spiritual journey. In the Bible, parents are commanded to teach their children about God's ways... in routine activities... passing along their faith, little by little, day by day. We at HPEFC desire to provide the best possible learning experience for your child. The Awana club for pre-school children is built on two premises:

- Young children can and should receive spiritual training.
- Home is the primary place for spiritual training.

Although we provide Bible-centered activities to help children begin to build a solid understanding of Christianity at an early age, Cubbies is unique because it supports parents as the primary source of spiritual nurturing. By working directly with your child on the weekly handbook lessons, you can become an active participant in your child's spiritual development. We as a club are serious about developing your child's understanding of our Savior, Jesus Christ. In order to help us, we are asking you, as a parent, to make a commitment to work directly with your child on the weekly handbook lessons. This will establish you as the primary trainer and enable us to mentor and reinforce your child's spiritual growth.

Cubbies Club will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:45 p.m. each Wednesday. Children should go directly to the Cubbie room. **Please come to the Cubbie room promptly at 7:45 to pick up your child.** As a safety precaution, we require parents or another adult you designate to pick up your child; **we cannot release your child to a sibling or let them meet you somewhere.** A more detailed evening schedule and a special Cubbie Calendar will be placed in their Cubbie Handbook.

Because of space restrictions, our club is limiting the number of registrations we can accept for the 2009-2010 club year. **In order to register, all children must be 3 by Sept. 9, 2009 and potty trained.**

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Candi Kohlhof, Cubbie Co-Director (564-1497)
April Reed, Cubbie Co-Director (562-8610)



A NOTE TO THE SPARKIE PARENTS...

Sparkie welcomes all Kindergarten through 2nd graders to another exciting year of Awana which includes changes to our curriculum. All first timers of any age will begin by blasting-off with fun during Flight3:16! The entrance booklet (Flight3:16), usually takes two weeks to complete and is a set of two simple steps to get you started:

- Come to Sparks two nights
- Learn John 3:16

September 9th is Awana Kickoff Night (clubbers are encouraged to pre-register, but it is not necessary to attend). September 16th will be the first club night to meet your Leaders and Listeners and to work on your Flight3:16 or handbook.

All Sparks must be picked up at their handbook room by a parent or other designated adult. We cannot release your child to a sibling or let them meet you somewhere.

We look forward to working with your child as we reach the children in Columbus with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Tammie Awtry, Sparks Co-Director (564-9079)
Joan Bennett, Sparks Co-Director (563-4162)

A NOTE TO THE TRUTH & TRAINING (T&T) PARENTS...

Welcome back to Awana! We have lots of fun competitions, special events and surprises planned for you this year as we learn more about God's Special Book, the Bible!

If you are new to the club, you need to pass the Start Zone Entrance Booklet, which is available prior to purchasing your book or uniform.

We will continue awarding the Clubbers upon completion of their Discovery Zones. Just a reminder that **we will only be giving 2 helps per section, not per verse**. This is the standard for Awana clubs.

During the month of September and October, teams compete to see who can bring the most guests or new members to our club. Not only does this fulfill a handbook requirement, but it also brings the gospel to other kids and their families. So clubbers, **LET'S GET INVITING YOUR FRIENDS TO AWANA!**

If you have any questions, please contact one of us or our Club Commanders!

Jan Kleveland, T&T Girls Director (564-9612)

Dan Poppe, T&T Boys Director (564-8161)

TRUTH & TRAINING AND SPARKS WEEKLY SCHEDULE

6:00 - 6:15	Opening
6:15 - 6:40	T&T Boys & Girls Council Time & Awards Sparks Game Time
6:40 - 7:10	T & T Girls Game Time
6:40 - 7:15	T&T Boys Handbook Time
6:40 - 7:10	Sparks Council Time & Awards
7:10 - 7:45	T&T Girls Handbook Time
7:15 - 7:45	T&T Boys Game Time
7:10 - 7:45	Sparks Handbook Time
7:45	Dismissal of all clubs

Thank you for promptly picking up your children at 7:45!

