



Awana Grand Prix

Event Rules and Expectations

January 2026

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1. General Rules

1.1 Qualification and Essential Materials

All registered children through 6th grade may design, build and enter cars that are eligible to race in the annual Grand Prix event by using the official Awana car kit. The addition of decals, driver, steering wheel, car trim, accessories, and painting are permitted if they do not cause the car to exceed the maximum dimensions or weight. Construction of ALL entries MUST have begun AFTER the start of the current club year. We are eager to have every child participate that wants too. If you need assistance building your car, we will have the “**Grand Prix Garage**” open on **Saturday, February 21 between 9 am – 12 pm**. Tools and volunteers will be available in the Fellowship Hall at BAC.

1.2 Competition Events:

There will be two competition events, “Speed” and “Design.” Top three finishers from both events will be awarded a trophy. No participant will receive awards in both the Speed and Design events.

- Speed Event – This will consist of multiple, timed rounds, resulting in the three fastest cars per division. We will also award a prize for the fastest car overall, between all divisions and a turtle award for the slowest finisher in each division.
- Design Event – A panel of unbiased judges will look at the cars and award three trophies for best design of car in each division. The age of the child participating will be considered when judging design. If it becomes obvious an adult completed the work, rather than the child participant, that car will be disqualified from winning a design award. Adult help is encouraged, please encourage children to participate in car building, appropriate to age & ability.

1.3 Open Division Event:

The Open Division Event is open to anyone in 7th grade and older who wishes to race (this category will take place after lunch). To qualify in the Open Division, you must use the Awana kit and adhere to the same restrictions.

1.4 Registration & Attendance:

Advanced registration is required for each participant at <http://belgradealliance.com/awana> by **February 25, 2026**. If you cannot register online, please reach out to your club director for assistance prior to this deadline. Participants may register and race one car.

Each participant MUST enter his/her own car. This means that the participant must be present at inspection and check-in to enter his/her car into competition, unless extenuating circumstances arise, approved in advance. Also, the participant must remain present throughout the race to participate.

1.5 Failure to Pass Inspection:

The car must pass inspection at check-in the day of the race, between 9:00 – 9:45 am. If the car does not pass initially, it may be modified at the “garage” as long as it passes by the end of the check-in period (9:45 am).

1.6 Impound:

No car may be altered in any way once it has been checked in and placed on the display board. ***Please be sure you are finished making any modifications prior to check-in, as you will not be able to touch your car again until it is your turn to race.*** You will not be able to make any modifications to your car or fix anything throughout the race.

2. GRAND PRIX RACE CAR DESIGN STANDARDS

2.1 Material:

Race cars shall be constructed for this event from the parts contained in the Official Awana Grand Prix Kit (referred to below as the kit) as sold by Awana Clubs International. Materials from the kit may not be replaced, but "Add-On's" may be used (see 1.1). Kits are available for purchase for \$6 on Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings at Belgrade Alliance Church. If those times do not work for you, special arrangements can be made for pickup. Kits cost

2.2 Weight:

Car weight shall not exceed 5 ounces (total weight) as determined on the official scale during the inspection and check-in. Of note, once cars are carved, they usually weigh only 2-3 ounces (make sure you include wheels and axles). If a car is too heavy, drill out some wood from the bottom. If it's a little too light, add screws to the bottom or other small weights.

2.3 Wheels and Axles:

Wheel bearings, bushings, washers and springs are prohibited. Starting devices are prohibited. Cars must be freewheeling. Wheels can be lightly sanded but must not result in substantial removal of mass or in reducing wheel width from the original kit wheels. Wheel shape may not be altered from the original condition (i.e. rounded, beveled, cupped, etc). The car shall roll on the wheels from the kit. The wheels shall turn about the axles from the kit. The axles shall be firmly affixed to the wood of the car body. When using glue (carpenter's glue or hot glue works best), be careful to not get any on the wheels. The axles may be polished, if desired. It must be obvious to the judges that the wheels and the axles from the kit are being used.

2.4 Size:

Race cars may be no longer than 7 inches, nor wider than 2-3/4 (2.75) inches, nor taller than 3 inches in overall height, as determined by the official gauges during registration. Underside clearance of at least 3/8 (0.375) inches and inside wheel to wheel clearance of at least 1-3/4 (1.75) inches is required, so that the car will run on the racetrack.

2.5 Weights and Attachments:

Weights and attachments may be added to the car and will be considered part of the car for purposes of all measurements. Weights and attachments are considered to be any material on the car that is not provided in the kit. All weights and attachments must be securely fastened to the car (e.g. by permanent glue, nails or screws), but not by "sticky substances", (e.g. tape, or tack spray). Weights and attachments shall be passive (i.e. non-moveable, non-magnetic, non-sticky, etc.). Good weight examples to use are tubular weights that can be sunk in the sides, flat weights attached to the car bottom (make sure you adhere to underside clearance, incremental weights, BB's, nuts, bolts, coins, etc. Remember, these must be glued so that they do not move.

2.6 Lubricants:

Only dry lubricants such as graphite or powdered Teflon "white lube" will be allowed for lubricating the wheels. Oil lubrication is prohibited. Lubricants may not foul the track, so all excess lubricant shall be wiped off. Once the car passes inspection and is impounded, no further lubrication will be allowed.

3. CONDUCT OF THE RACES

3.1 Scale Inspection:

The race-day "Check-In Area" will have the official scale and measurement devices. Check-in equipment will be the official equipment for the race. Should you wish to check your weight prior to race day, the scale will be available at the Grand Prix Garage event on February 21 and at club on Wednesday, February 25.

3.2 Car Handling Responsibility:

Participants shall be responsible, to retrieve their cars at the finish line (after the race has been called) and return their cars to the display board after their heat is finished. Again, once the car is checked in, you will be unable to handle your car unless it is your turn to race.

3.3 Lane Assignment:

Lane assignments will be chosen at random, using race management software. To increase fairness, each clubber will race on each of the track lanes during the preliminary and final rounds.

3.4 Call to Race:

When the participant is called by name, they will retrieve his/her car from the display board to place on their assigned lane and then report to the finish line to retrieve their car to place back on the display board. If the participant does not respond when called, his/her name will be called again. If the clubber has not presented himself/herself in time for the heat, the clubber will be disqualified for that race heat.

3.5 The Race Area:

Only race officials may enter the "Race Area" with the exception of participants retrieving cars from the finish line. This rule will be strictly enforced.

3.6 Awards and Recognition:

The most important values in the Awana Grand Prix competition are adult/child participation, good sportsmanship and learning how to follow rules. Racers will be recognized as follows:

- a) Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers for the Speed event in each division.
- b) A Turtle Award Prize will be awarded for the slowest finisher in each division. Cars must finish race to qualify.
- c) A grand champion prize will be given to the overall fastest car for the entire race, over all divisions.
- d) Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers for the Design event, in each division.
- e) No participant will receive awards in both the Speed and Design events.

Should you have questions or comments regarding these rules and expectations, please reach out to Millie Veltkamp, nextgen@belgradealliance.com or 406.388.6030 ext 203.