HAULOVER BEACH AMBASSADOR TRAINING

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South Florida Free Beaches / Florida Naturist Association (SFFB/FNA) is the naturist organization that created and continues to look after the clothing-optional section of



Haulover Beach in Miami. FL. B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation Institute is SFFB's nonprofit, educational and charitable adjunct.



Keeping Our Beaches Bare

A key factor in keeping the naturist beach a safe and pleasant place to visit is the Beach Ambassador (BA) program. It was covered by the Program Partnership Agreement that existed between B.E.A.C.H.E.S. and the Miami-Dade County Department of Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, which operates Haulover Beach and the park that surrounds it. SFFB administers the program for B.E.A.C.H.E.S.

Beach Ambassadors, identifiable by their distinctive, teal safari hats (see photos), are volunteers that serve as beach monitors and greeters. They are extra eyes and ears for Ocean Rescue (lifeguards), park staff, and local police, observing and reporting any problems, welcoming "nudecomers" to the beach, providing information on park

A Day in the Life of a Beach Ambassador

What's it like to be a Haulover Beach Ambassador? By special courtesy of The Naturist Society (TNS), we can share with you this feature article from the winter 2012 issue of Nude & Natural (N) Magazine, the quarterly publication of TNS. Join TNS to receive this magazine regularly along with many other member benefits.

From the log of Richard Mason, President, South Florida Free Beaches (SFFB)

Sign in at parking lot attendant booth at 9:12 a.m. I enjoy the beach in the



mornings, before the sun gets too intense. Lighter crowds as well. I know other Beach Ambassadors (BAs) like the after 2 p.m. crowd the best.

I face my first conflict of the day. The parking is free for BAs so I personally saved six bucks. But as an officer in South Florida Free Beaches, I want the parking revenues to be high so that we can brag about all the money Miami-Dade County is making from the naturists. I quickly overcame the conflict by dedicating the six bucks to a six-pack of non-alcoholic beer. Read more...

rules and guidance on naturist etiquette, answering questions about SFFB and B.E.A.C.H.E.S., and sharing with visitors their knowledge of Haulover Park amenities, local hotels and restaurants, etc.

Training for Beach Ambassadors is not currently scheduled on Haulover Beach in Miami.*

We invite you to join this wonderful and essential corps of volunteers. To attend a training, RSVP to Ken, Beach Ambassador Captain, at ken_tauer@yahoo.com.

What does it take?

- 1) A minimum of eight hours per month on the beach with your BA hat and ID badge. (Call in your hours to the BA Captain.) You don't have to be walking the beach all the time; just let the nearest lifeguard know you're there, keep your hat visible while you're sitting in your spot, and be available to respond to requests from lifeguards, park staff, or police for assistance in solving problems.
- 2) Attend two trainings (this one counts toward that) and two SFFB Board meetings per year.

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- 3) Pass a criminal background check. (It costs \$20, which you'll more than make back in savings from **free** parking see below.)
- 4) Approval by SFFB Board of Directors
- 5) Occasional assistance at SFFB information booth

What do you get?

a) A unique, teal baseball cap with "Beach Ambassador" written on it and a Beach Ambassador ID badge. (Photos show the previous version, which was a safari hat.)



- b) Free parking on your duty days. (You will be given a decal to affix to your windshield.)
- c) A good excuse to introduce yourself to strangers and a chance to have a lot of fun conversations
- d) A sense of accomplishment and pride for your role in helping keep your beach safely nude, and the gratitude of beachgoers for that

What does training involve?

- 1) Study the **BA** training manual in advance.
- 2) Briefings from lifeguards, park staff, police, and SFFB Board members on laws, rules, and guidelines



- 3) Practice "BA Stroll" (at Haulover Beach) -- walk the beach with experienced BAs. You'll get one-on-one training on how to approach and talk to beach patrons and answer questions, as well as how to receive donations and sign up new SFFB members.
- 4) Familiarization with SFFB information booth operation and materials
- 5) When trainings start in the morning, lunch is provided. Donations are appreciated, but not mandatory.

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Training details

TBD

* Location: North Chickee (thatch-roofed shade structure) near lifeguard tower 15 on Haulover Beach.

Agenda (Check back here for details.)

Presenters

• TBA

The above officials will appear in accordance with their schedules.

Program

• Specific training and practice. A number of beach mentoring groups have been invited to attend.