



**Lakewood Tennis Club – Admissions Packet 2021**  
**Deb Cronin Strymish, Membership Chair**  
**crocom13@gmail.com / cell 617-645-0326**

***Dear Applicant:***

Thank you for considering membership in Lakewood Tennis Club. Because (with exceedingly rare exceptions) members once admitted have 'lifetime tenure', the Board and Club membership consider the admissions process to be of utmost importance. Please read the following information and decide if Lakewood is right for you before applying.

**Rotation Play is the hallmark feature of Lakewood Tennis Club and occupies a substantial part of the prime playing hours.**

The communal nature of rotation places special demands on our admission process:

- Each applicant must be able to support his/her end of the game.
- Each applicant must be a person with whom other members will enjoy sharing a court.

The Board seeks to enhance the quality of rotation play for all members. We encourage recruitment and admission of both intermediate and advanced players. For players with advanced skills, Lakewood schedules several Advanced Rotation sessions every week.

***The Lakewood Tennis Club Community***

Lakewood is a volunteer-run organization. It is comprised of members, not customers. All members, new and existing, belong to the Club with the willingness to participate and help out - whether that is serving on the board or a committee, facilitating or running an event at the courts, or just keeping an eye out for the condition and neatness of the courts.

***Lakewood is Self-Governing***

Lakewood does not have a paid staff to enforce the Club's (relatively few) rules and regulations. Instead, we rely on all members to know and willingly adhere to the rules, filling in any ambiguity with common sense and good will. That said, violations of the rules are taken seriously, with consequences that can lead up to termination of membership.

**Sponsors** are personally vouching for an applicant's character and his/her level of play. To that end, the sponsor needs to have played tennis with the applicant and know them to be collegial, courteous and conscientious people.

### ***Admission Criteria***

The Lakewood Board of Directors has established the following criteria for applicants wishing to be admitted as new members:

- Members, other than junior members (children of members), must be 18 years of age or over.
- Immediate neighbors of the Lakewood courts, former members, spouses and children of members who meet the other criteria have priority.
- Newton residents have priority.
- Applicants must show a minimum tennis skill level, as described below.

### ***What Minimum Skills Must a Candidate Member Bring to the Court?***

A suitable candidate for membership in Lakewood is one who would contribute to an enjoyable game of doubles, both by their tennis skills *and* by their pleasant demeanor on the court. The minimum skills that the candidate **must possess** are:

- Dependable strokes on both sides under moderate pressure
- The strength, ability and willingness to move on the court and chase down shots
- The ability to volley at the service line and at the net
- The ability to serve with reasonable reliability

### ***Admission Process - Application Packet – due April 30.***

The completed Application Packet must be received by Thursday, April 30, by the Membership Chair. The Application Packet consists of:

- Membership Application - completed by the applicant, including passport-type photo (used only to introduce applicants to the membership)
- Sponsor's Questionnaire
- A check for \$150 (one-half of the \$300 application fee). The check will not be cashed until the club is opened.

### ***Orientation/Evaluation Sessions – to be scheduled early May.***

Prospective members will attend one of the Orientation/Evaluation Sessions, where the rules - especially those governing Rotation, Advanced Rotation, and Arranged Play - are explained. The session also includes one to two hours of rotation play and evaluation by board members and other club members at the session. This also gives applicants a

chance to experience our rotation system and judge whether Lakewood meets their expectations.

***The 'Dance Card' – One month after the Orientation/Evaluation sessions.***

After the Orientation/Evaluation Session, a Dance Card will be sent to each accepted applicant. Applicants complete their Card by coming to rotation ***at least three times including*** at least once on a weekend (Saturday/Sunday) and once on a week night (Monday/Wednesday). Applicants, like all members, must observe court courtesy and sportsmanship, and abide by Lakewood's rules and regulations at all times. The Dance Card must be completed and *received* by a date to be announced, along with payment of the \$250 dues and \$150 balance of the initiation fee (\$400.00 total). Incomplete Cards, and Cards returned after the due date, will *not* be considered. Up to this point, any candidate who is rejected or decides not to join will have their payment(s) returned.

***Provisional Membership***

Lakewood's Board will meet to determine which applicants should be granted provisional membership, consulting, as necessary, with members for their impressions of applicants' play and demeanor. Upon the Board's acceptance, the applicant becomes a provisional member of Lakewood, with all rights except voting. All provisional memberships are reviewed before the Annual meeting in November. If approved by the Board, each provisional member becomes a full member and may vote at the Annual Meeting. A provisional member not approved by the Board ceases to be a member of Lakewood Tennis Club at the end of the current season.



## **LAKEWOOD SPONSOR'S QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Deb Cronin Strymish, Membership Chair**

**crocom13@gmail.com / cell 617-645-0326**

Sponsor's Name :

Sponsor's email :

Applicant's Name :

Applicant's Address :

Applicant's phone :

Applicant's email :

Based on my playing with and against this applicant, and personal knowledge of the applicant's character, I believe that:

- The applicant will be able to support his/her end of the game (as described in the attached admissions criteria)
- Will be a person with whom other members will enjoy sharing a court
- Understands and supports the voluntary and cooperative nature of the Club.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor

(Optional) Information that could help the Board in evaluating this application: (abutter, child or spouse of member, former member):

Other applicants you have sponsored:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please send this Questionnaire, the Membership Application (with passport-style photo) with the applicant's \$150 Application Fee made payable to Lakewood Tennis Club, to Deb Cronin Strymish at 44 Otis Street Newton MA 02460.





## LAKEWOOD TENNIS CLUB – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Deb Cronin Strymish, Membership Chair  
crocom13@gmail.com / cell 617-645-0326

To the Membership Chair:

I hereby make application for membership in the Lakewood Tennis Club of Newton, Massachusetts and I certify that:

- I have read the rules and regulations and admissions criteria on the Lakewood Tennis Club web site <http://LakewoodTennisClub.org> and agree to abide by all rules and regulations that may be in force and effect.
- My sponsor has explained rotation to me and that it is a hallmark feature of the Club.
- I understand that the Club is run on an all-volunteer basis.
- I understand that I do not become a full member until I pay the initiation fee and dues, and remain a provisional member until final acceptance by the Board at the end of the season.
- I am enclosing a **check for \$150** (one-half of the Application Fee) made payable to the **Lakewood Tennis Club** and enclose (or email) a **passport-style photo**.

Applicant's Name :

Street Address :

City/St/ZIP :

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Backup

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been a member or applied for membership in the past? When?

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_