

*Becoming a Member of
the River Forest Tennis Club*

Application Process for Full Membership

The River Forest Tennis Club depends on members who value the self-directed, working tradition of the club and who want to engage in the varied athletic, social and volunteer activities it has to offer. The membership process enlists those most familiar with the Club—its members—to actively and considerately perpetuate its growth. As such, application to the RFTC is at the invitation of current, active members. The Club hosts a Winter Party for members and their guests, to provide prospective new members the opportunity to become familiar with the RFTC.

Applications for Active and Junior active memberships are accepted once a year in the late winter. Applicants must be sponsored by two RFTC member couples with two additional couples serving as references. The Board of Directors selects the new member class from these applications in late April, after meeting briefly with all the applicants. Membership in the RFTC is limited to 225 families and the number of openings varies each year. Applicants should be prepared for at least a two-year process, as the number of applications in any one year may exceed the number of openings.

New Member Responsibilities

New members are immediately welcomed as full members, enjoying all of the tennis, pool and social privileges available to the balance of the Club members. During their first summer new members do not serve on committees. Instead, their responsibilities include co-hosting a cocktail party before a Saturday night dinner, attending all the Saturday evening events, and producing (writing, directing and performing in) a "New Member Show" for the rest of the Club at the end of their first season. These obligations have proven to cement lifelong friendships among members of a new class and are a valued RFTC tradition.

Types of Membership

Two classifications of full membership are available to new members: Active and Junior Active. Both entitle members to full use of the Club. Junior Active membership applies to those couples where one of the applicants is over 21 but not yet 32 years of age. When that member reaches 34, the couple is asked to "fly up", or join another new class and repeat the first summer fun all over again. Since Junior Active dues are 2/3 that of full members, it is financially advantageous for those who qualify to apply as Junior Actives.

In addition, there are three types of one-season memberships available: Senior, Collegiate and Junior Privilege Holders. Eligibility is dependent upon age and school attendance. All privilege holders have full use of the courts and pool during the day while Senior and Collegiate privilege holders have extended access after 4:30 PM.

For further information, contact us, visit us or speak with one of your neighbor members.



River Forest Tennis Club™

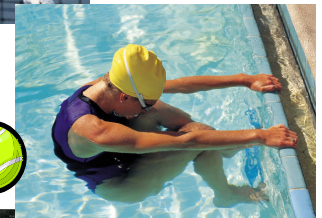
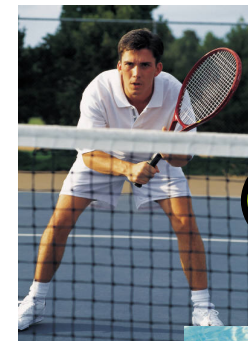
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River Forest Tennis Club™

PROSPECTIVE
MEMBER
INFORMATION



Amenities of the RFTC

TENNIS

In 2003, RFTC's ten tennis courts were renovated and upgraded to a state of the art Hydrocourt® system, providing members with continually hydrated Har-Tru™ courts that are always ready for play. Courts are open from mid spring until mid fall. During the summer months, over 50 tennis programs are offered for men, women and children. These encompass lessons and drills taught by our staff of tennis professionals, one-day and season-long tournaments and leagues, as well as tennis-centered social events. Our courts have hosted such players as Arthur Ashe, Jennifer Capriati, Jimmy Connors, and Billie Jean King through our history of clay court tournament sponsorship, and we currently host one of a series of CDTA/USTA junior tournaments. As our name implies, tennis is taken seriously at the RFTC. However, no matter what your level of play, whether you want to take lessons, play in leagues, or just hit with family and friends, you will find similarly talented players to share a court.



POOL

The 8-lane, 25-yard, stainless steel main pool and zero depth baby pool were installed in 2001 and are open daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Three sessions of group swim lessons are offered in the mornings throughout the summer by the pool staff. Private and semi-private lessons are available as well. In addition, a swim team program practices and competes during June and July, with daily afternoon practices and weekly swim meets between RFTC conference partners.



SOCIAL LIFE

A unique aspect of the RFTC that stands out from most clubs is the members' enjoyment of social activities. From opening night in mid May, through mid October, the Club hosts ten to twelve Saturday evening dinners with accompanying entertainment. Past events have included....Heaven on Seven's Cajun cuisine accompanied by a steel band on the lawn or a Greek buffet served poolside with an a cappella men's group singing in the background. Wednesday evening grill nights (burgers, chicken and hot dogs – with lots of "sides") also feature prominently in the social landscape when a mid-week break for the chef is most appreciated. Holiday family events, scheduled for Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day, offer fun and games for the entire family. Special day events are scheduled throughout the summer as well, including such temptations as Ladies' Spa Day, Bingo Brunch, and book discussions. We also take delight in providing our own entertainment, showcasing the talent of our young and old in traditional "Old Member", "New Member" and "Young Member" variety shows. No matter what the occasion,



For further inquiries,
please Email:
Club Secretary at rftcsecretary@aol.com

A Brief History of the River Forest Tennis Club

The River Forest Tennis Club was founded in 1905 by a group of individuals interested in forming a club that would be both social and athletic in nature. A clubhouse was built that year, only to be destroyed by fire in 1906. It was replaced by the current clubhouse, under the creative supervision of Frank Lloyd Wright, and has been continually upgraded over the years.

Tradition is highly regarded at the RFTC, and takes many forms. The "working tradition" of the club thrives on its members' commitment to a "volunteer spirit." Members willingly pitch in as needed in all club endeavors. Also, RFTC requires that traditional "tennis whites" be worn on the tennis courts, and swim cover-ups worn away from the pool deck.



Committees make the RFTC work. The summer months at the River Forest Tennis Club are packed with activities for the entire family. The Club is operated minimally by a club manager and staff, with the active support of "working members" who chair and staff committees that plan and implement a wide range of activities. This is a unique aspect of the RFTC not found at most clubs. For example, the Entertainment Committee schedules the entertainment for Saturday night dinners, while the Club Catering Committee schedules guest caterers. The Games Committee runs adult tennis events, and the Junior Development Committee works with our tennis pros to make sure the children's tennis program runs smoothly. All members are aware of the maxim that "No one ever says 'NO!'" when asked to help. This "working" club feature of the RFTC contributes to the energy, enthusiasm and camaraderie that make it a very special place to spend the summer.