

Encouraging Lionesses to Become Part of the Lions Family



At the April 2018 LCI International Board of Directors Meeting in Miami, Florida, USA, the decision was made to encourage all current Lioness clubs to join the Lions family by extending the Join Together program effective until June 2021. Following are some frequently asked questions about the Lioness initiative under the Join Together Program.

Who is considered part of a Lioness Club?

Per LCI Board policy, the definition of a Lioness club is a sponsored activity of an active Lions Club. Sponsorships of Lioness Clubs are covered in the Board Policy Manual, Chapter V, Section I and states:

The purpose of Lioness clubs shall be:

- a. *To provide community service opportunities for individuals under the jurisdiction of the sponsoring Lions club.*
 - b. *To cooperate with the sponsoring Lions club in carrying out its service programs and activities.*
 - c. *To unite its members in friendship, fellowship and mutual understanding.*
2. *Sponsorship: No group or organization shall be recognized as a Lioness club unless sponsored by a Lions club. The sponsoring Lions club is responsible for organization, supervision and guidance of its affiliate Lioness club.*
 3. *The board of directors shall and hereby does withhold official recognition of any proposed Lioness club entity other than local affiliate clubs.*
 4. *Lioness clubs, as Lions club affiliate activities, will have the same program of comprehensive general liability insurance available at no cost as is provided to Lions clubs.*

What is the Join Together Program?

Join Together is a special program that was created to grow the capabilities of Lions Clubs International by encouraging **other service minded organizations** to join us on this journey of hope. We know that every caring man and woman matters in our mission of service. That's why we're inviting Lionesses to become active members and join our global force for good. The Join Together invitation has been tailored to recognize and honor Lionesses' service efforts prior to their decision to accept membership. There are other initiatives under the Join Together Program in addition to that targeting Lioness. For more information on the Join Together Program, please email membership@lionsclubs.org.

Are there special incentives for a Lioness club to become a Lions club?

Yes. We would love to have Lionesses serving with us as Lions. That's why we are offering existing Lioness clubs with special incentives to become Lions clubs, including:

- No minimum number of members required
- Charter fee for existing clubs will be waived
- The years as a Lioness carry over to Lions membership

How can a Lioness club become a Lions club?

Lioness clubs that want to join our global force would need to provide the following information:

- Letter from a sponsoring club verifying **the club's years** of service emailed to newclubs@lionsclubs.org.

- Use the [Join Together Charter Application Worksheet](#) to collect club information that will be submitted online via [MyLCI](#)
 - Please indicate in the “Comments” section that the new club is part of the Join Together Program and is a Lioness Club affiliated with the (Sponsoring Club Name) Club.
- Use the [Report of Charter Membership Worksheet](#) to collect all member information to be submitted online via MyLCI. *The Membership Worksheet does not need to be submitted to MyLCI (this is just to help gather the information required for submission)*
- [Lioness Conversion Form](#) for each Lioness to ensure recognition of their past service.

If you need assistance or additional information about chartering a Lions club please contact newclubs@lionsclubs.org.

Can an individual Lioness become a Lion?

Yes. In June 2018, the LCI Board of Directors voted to extend an entrance fee waiver to individual Lioness members joining an existing Lions club. The individual would still maintain full dues, but would not have to pay the entrance fee upon joining. This would entitle the new member to the full benefits of being a member of our international association.

For those Lionesses who have a family member that is a Lion, they would potentially be eligible to join the same club as a “family member,” which would entitle them to discounted international dues.

An individual Lioness needs to complete the Lioness Conversion Form, including the signature from the previous (Lioness) club’s president and a signature from the incoming Lions club president.

What are the advantages of being a Lion?

There are so many great benefits of being a member of Lions International. Members get to vote, attend convention and hold leadership positions that give them a greater voice in Lions. Members receive the support of Lions International, which provides service planning resources, professional development opportunities, and other critical benefits like insurance, legal counsel and advocacy so that members can serve with confidence. Plus, they receive the LION Magazine and access to great technology like the MyLion mobile app and the lionsclubs.org website and its resource center. And they get the pride of being an official member of the largest service organization in the world.

Can a Lioness Club still keep their identity as Lioness in their Lion’s club naming convention?

Yes. When you are chartering your club as part of the Join Together Program, we request that you use the naming convention of Municipality (city, town, village, prefecture, county, etc.) and then a “distinguishing designation” if desired, which could include the word Lioness. For example, a Lioness club in Hyderabad, India could be named as: Lions Club of “Hyderabad Lioness”

Additional club name rules can be found in Chapter X of Board Policy. Clubs that do not utilize this naming convention will require special approval from the Membership Development Committee.

Who can I contact with specific questions about the Lioness initiative or Join Together Program?

For questions other than chartering a Lioness club into a Lions club, please email any questions that were not answered above to membership@lionsclubs.org.