



POSITION DESCRIPTION – STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE BOARD MEMBER

ORGANISATION & ROLE

University and Tertiary Sport NZ Incorporated (UTSNZ) is the leading organisation in the tertiary sport sector. UTSNZ was established in 2015 to lead a return to quality competitive inter-tertiary sport in New Zealand and drive a renewed focus on the value, profile and delivery of tertiary sport.

Our vision is New Zealand university and tertiary student wellbeing enhanced through sport. This goal will only be achieved if students get value from the sporting opportunities offered to them, and if the tertiary and sport sectors work collaboratively and consistently to ensure opportunities are relevant and meaningful.

The role of the Board Member is:

- To govern University and Tertiary Sport NZ (UTSNZ) and to advance and protect the long-term interests of the organisation.
- To act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the organisation and in doing so, support the organisation in fulfilling its mission and discharging its accountabilities.

PRIMARY DUTIES

In concert with the rest of the board, the board member will:

- Employ and manage the Executive Director;
- Set the strategic direction and priorities for the organisation;
- Set policy and management performance expectations;
- Characterise and manage risks; and
- Monitor and evaluate organisational achievements.

Each board member shall apply the level of skill and judgment that may reasonably be expected of a person with his or her knowledge and experience. Board members with special skill and knowledge are expected to apply that skill and knowledge to matters that come before the board.

SCOPE OF POSITION

A fully accountable member of the board and is expected to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the board as set out in the Constitution of UTSNZ and elaborated upon in the UTSNZ Board Charter.

APPOINTMENT & TENURE

The board member is appointed for a period of 3 years. The role is unpaid.

For student representatives the three-year term will not apply if the student representative is no longer enrolled at a New Zealand tertiary institution. Instead, the term will end six months following withdrawal from or completion of studies.

TIME COMMITMENT

Four board meetings are held per year. Three meetings are online, each approximately 2 hours in duration. One meeting per year may be in person (half to full day as required), for which standard travel expenses would be reimbursed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The board member should be free of significant conflicts of interest and declare any matters that may impact on performance as a Director.

PERSONAL ABILITIES & SKILLS

The board member should ideally have the following abilities:

General:

- To see the big picture and the implications and impact on issues in the broader sense;
- To make sensible, astute recommendations and business decisions;
- To interpret both factual and conceptual information and make sound judgements based on that information;
- To contribute to the creation and not merely the preservation of stakeholder value; and
- To be able to distinguish between the separate but complementary roles of governance and management.

Strategic:

- To understand the position of the organisation in its markets and its relationship to key stakeholders;
- To ensure that strategies and business plans are adopted that will deliver the organisation's vision and mission; and
- To look beyond the short-term and ensure that the board adopts a longer- term, stewardship approach.

Sport

- Knowledge of, experience in, or empathy for the tertiary sport sector.

Analytical:

- To interpret financial statements and statistical information and the significance and meaning of appropriate performance indicators;
- To question and probe information, assumptions and assertions in a quest for improved understanding and better decision-making; and
- To remain objective and measured under pressure.

Social:

- To participate actively and harmoniously, respecting and valuing the contributions of others and contributing to effective teamwork;
- To articulate a point of view in a coherent and persuasive manner without dominating the board's proceedings; and
- The strength of character to maintain an independent point of view when others disagree.