





# Model Youth Board

We've taken some best practice examples from the case studies and formulated our own interpretation of a "Model Youth Board." We've also included recommendations from *The Principles of Good Governance for Sport and Recreation* to help you in your governance practices.

You'll find the key functions and associated descriptions included under each of the five headings. These can be used as guidance and tailored to suit your organisation and youth board.

**SPORT+RECREATION ALLIANCE** Structure Model Youth Board

We've taken some best practice examples from the case studies and formulated our own interpretation of a "Model Youth Board."

<p><b>Structure</b></p>  <p>Youth boards should follow a similar structure to the main board, including its term limits, size and policies.</p>	<p><b>Diversity</b></p>  <p>The youth board should be representative, and have a good balance of skills, experience, backgrounds, ethnicity and gender.</p>
<p><b>Objectives</b></p>  <p>Members should help to set their objectives but linking these into the organisation's wider strategic objectives can help to promote the group.</p>	<p><b>Traditional/Informal</b></p>  <p>Youth boards can take on a more traditional or informal governance structure e.g. replacing the role title, chair with project manager.</p>

**SPORT+RECREATION ALLIANCE** Relationships Model Youth Board

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<p><b>Buy in</b></p>  <p>Youth boards can gain 'buy in' from the wider organisation when the positive impact of their work is showcased.</p>	<p><b>Perceptions</b></p>  <p>To challenge the volunteering perception, members should be given opportunities to engage in activities with the wider organisation.</p>
<p><b>Trust</b></p>  <p>To gain trust, open and honest discussions should be encouraged, and members should support each other in decision making.</p>	<p><b>Autonomy</b></p>  <p>Youth boards should have autonomy over their work, and leaders should help to guide this.</p>

**SPORT+RECREATION ALLIANCE** Communication Model Youth Board

We've taken some best practice examples from the case studies and formulated our own interpretation of a "Model Youth Board."

<p><b>Meetings</b></p>  <p>Decide on the minimum number of meetings young board members are expected to attend during the year.</p>	<p><b>Platform</b></p>  <p>A communication platform should be set up to make sure members are interacting outside of their meetings.</p>
<p><b>Activity</b></p>  <p>Leaders of youth boards should regularly communicate the group's activity to the wider organisation.</p>	<p><b>Confidence</b></p>  <p>Opportunities such as presenting, or networking can help members to build on their confidence and communication skills.</p>





**SPORT+RECREATION ALLIANCE** Recruitment Model Youth Board

We've taken some best practice examples from the case studies and formulated our own interpretation of a "Model Youth Board."

<p><b>Criteria</b></p>  <p>Check the criteria of the application form to make sure that it represents being balanced, skilled and inclusive.</p>	<p><b>Awareness</b></p>  <p>Members should be aware of their expectations and roles and responsibilities. This should be outlined in the code of conduct and induction.</p>
<p><b>Integration</b></p>  <p>Implementing an induction process for new members will help them to effectively integrate into their role.</p>	<p><b>Process</b></p>  <p>It can be useful to hold recruitment days where existing members play a role in selecting new members.</p>

**SPORT+RECREATION ALLIANCE** Future Direction Model Youth Board

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<p><b>Volunteer Pathway</b></p>  <p>Establish and clarify a volunteer pathway before creating your youth board, and guide this either back into, or outside of the organisation.</p>	<p><b>Training</b></p>  <p>Members should be provided with continual training on 'soft' and 'hard' skills to help with their personal and professional development.</p>
<p><b>Mentors</b></p>  <p>Past members can return to the group as mentors; an effective way of passing on knowledge and skills.</p>	<p><b>Transferable skills</b></p>  <p>The volunteer pathway should lead to a place where members can transfer the skills they have acquired.</p>

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### Structure



Youth boards should follow a similar structure to the main board, including its; term limits, size and policies.

### Diversity



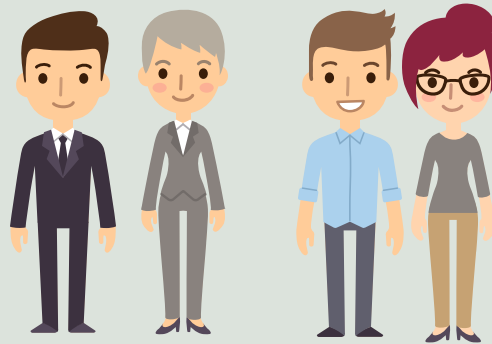
The youth board should be representative, and have a good balance of skills, experience, backgrounds, ethnicity and gender.

### Objectives



Members should help to set their objectives but linking these into the organisation's wider strategic objectives can help to promote the group.

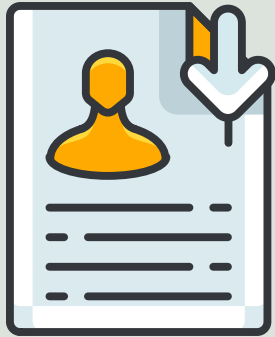
### Traditional/Informal



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## Criteria



Check the criteria of the application form to make sure that it represents being balanced, skilled and inclusive.

## Awareness



Members should be aware of their expectations and roles and responsibilities; this should be outlined in the code of conduct and induction.

## Integration



Implementing an induction process for new members will help them to effectively integrate into their role.

## Process



It can be useful to hold recruitment days where existing members play a role in selecting new members.

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## Meetings



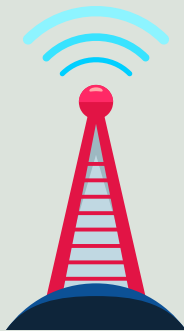
Decide on the minimum number of meetings young board members are expected to attend during the year.

## Platform



A communication platform should be set up to make sure members are interacting outside of their meetings.

## Activity



Leaders of youth boards should regularly communicate the group's activity to the wider organisation.

## Confidence



Opportunities such as presenting, or networking can help members to build on their confidence and communication skills.

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### Buy in



Youth boards can gain 'buy in' from the wider organisation when the positive impact of their work is showcased.

### Perceptions



To challenge the volunteering perception, members should be given opportunities to engage in activities with the wider organisation.

### Trust



To gain trust, open and honest discussions should be encouraged, and members should support each other in decision making.

### Autonomy



Youth boards should have autonomy over their work, and leaders should help to guide this.

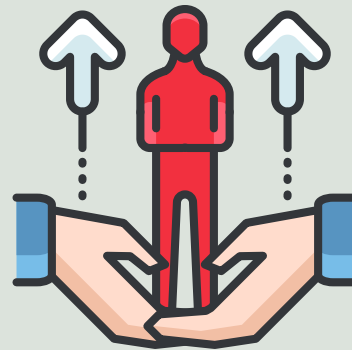
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## Volunteer Pathway



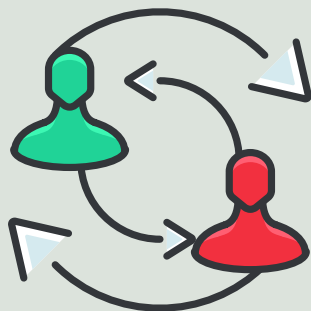
Establish and clarify a volunteer pathway before creating your youth board; and guide this either back into, or outside of the organisation.

## Training



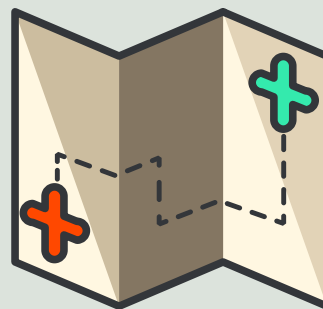
Members should be provided with continual training on 'soft' and 'hard' skills to help with their personal and professional development.

## Mentors



Past members can return to the group as mentors; an effective way of passing on knowledge and skills.

## Transferable skills



The volunteer pathway should lead to a place where members can transfer the skills they have acquired.