

The Role of the Bicycle NSW Board

The Board exists to represent the ownership of BNSW, just as a business board represents its shareholders. It provides governance to BNSW, represents it to the community and takes the ultimate legal authority for it.

The Board consists of nine members. This complement consists of six elected members and three appointed members, who serve a three year term.

The constitution allows for three vacancies to be filled each year. Two board members are elected by the membership at the AGM, and one is appointed by the board after the AGM. Board members may stand for re-election or appointment for additional three year terms.

If casual vacancies occur during a year and are not filled, there may be additional vacancies at the AGM, depending upon whether the vacancy was created by the resignation of an appointed or elected member.

The Board

- establishes Bicycle NSW's purpose, values, goals and objectives
- employs the Chief Executive Officer
- identifies and monitors the management of corporate risks
- monitors and assesses Chief Executive Officer and organisation performance.

Bicycle NSW uses what's called a "Policy Governance" approach as the Board operating model. In brief, the Board ensures that Bicycle NSW is well managed without the Board itself becoming involved in the operations except as required by its legislation or as a consequence of exceptional circumstances. You can see the Board responsibilities more explicitly articulated in the Board Charter and in the Annual Strategic Plan. (both documents are available on the website)

What does being on the Board involve?

- Commitment to the purpose and work of Bicycle NSW
- Willingness to serve on at least one Board Committee and participate in this actively
- Preparation for, and attendance at monthly board meetings – constructive participation in the discussions and deliberations during meetings
- Attendance at the Annual General Meeting
- Being informed about what Bicycle NSW does - and publicly support this
- Being aware of, and abstaining from any conflict of interest.

In all, this represents a time commitment of at least 5-10 hours per month, including Board preparation, the meeting and committee meeting time.

What being on the Board doesn't involve

Establishing services, programs, plans or budgets

- Approving the CEO's HR program and budgetary plans
- Making any judgments or assessments about staff activity where no previous board expectations have been stated
- Determining staff development needs, terminations, or promotions (except for the CEO)
- Designing staff jobs or instructing any staff member subordinate to the CEO (except when the CEO has assigned a staff member to some board function)
- Deciding on the organisational structure or staffing requirements