

Case Study

The online course every golf club committee needs.

March 2016



Introduction

Sport New Zealand have recently launched Sport Tutor, an online learning portal created to support people working at any level of the sport sector. The launch of Sport Tutor has been eagerly anticipated by the industry and we look forward to connecting our clubs with the relevant programmes moving forward. The first programme made available is Governance 101, and it is something every golf club board/executive committee should complete.

The challenge facing not-for-profit boards is not an easy one. While similar to profit organisations, clubs are generally tackling those same challenges with a much smaller pool of resources. Golf Clubs are facing a changing industry with increasing compliance requirements. In

order to navigate this dynamic environment, clubs require strong leadership from their board. The difficulty with this is that most, if not all, golf club boards are made up of volunteers. People who dedicate their time to the support of the game and their club because they are passionate. While this is a great platform to volunteering, it doesn't specify that this person, or anyone else on the board has formal governance training, or all of the skills required to lead the club at a governance level.

Governance 101 provides not only a great introduction for "new to governance" board members, but timely reminders and refreshers for those people who have been engaged in governance for a long period of time.

Why should we bother?

Some people argue that the success of a Club is directly proportional to the quality of its leadership. While there are a number of factors that influence club success, leadership is paramount to giving your club the best opportunity to succeed.

Good quality governance will allow your club to do three things;

1. Have a strong strategic direction – planning for the future and not just reacting to what is happening here and now.
2. Limit risk – By understanding duty of care and ensuring that all legislative requirements for the club are met
3. Provide sustainability – By nature of the first two points and by sound decision making for the club moving forward.

How long does it take?

The full programme takes between 2-3 hours. However, it is broken down into 7 modules that can be completed any time within a 6 month window and allows the person leading the space to complete the module when it suits them.

How much does it cost?

Absolutley nothing.

What does it cover?

There is a lot of content including templates, videos and interactive online engagement. The following 7 areas are highlighted throughout the programme.

- The role of the director.
- The board's strategic role.
- Recruiting and inducting for the board.
- How to prepare for and participate in a board meeting.
- Board accountability, ethics and integrity.
- Provision of resources, tools and advice to help you put better governance into practice.
- A short learning check to confirm you've understood critical learnings from the programme.

What else do we need to know?

All NZ Golf Club Capability Managers have completed the training modules and understand the content. If your club would

like more support in this space, please feel free to contact the Community Golf Team on 09 485 3230.