**Board Search Event** 

David Schwarz, CEO & Founder Board Appointments Group









### DAVID SCHWARZ

CEO Board Direction

- Top 10 LinkedIn user with 35,000+ Non-Executive LinkedIn connections
- International Author: "The Definitive Guide to Gaining a Non-Executive Directorship" (3rd Edition)
- Specialist Presenter at 100+ events
- Assisted hundreds of individuals in getting appointed to boards
- "The leading board appointment expert"



# THE GOOD NEWS

50%

Of companies (with boards) appoint new board members annually.

42,000

Board opportunities are filled each year in Australia across the NFP, Government and Commercial sectors.

## THE BAD NEWS

### It is a highly competitive environment.

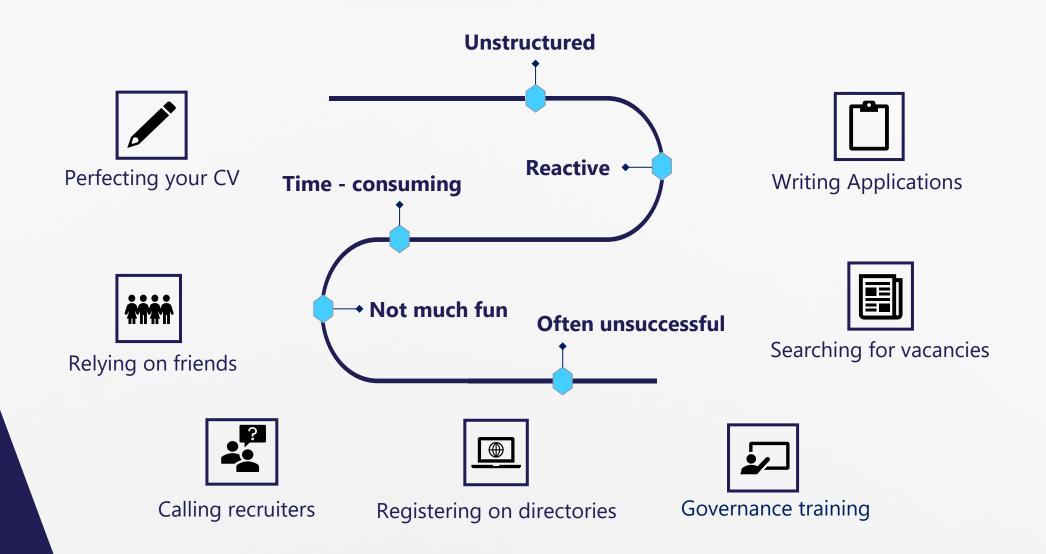
There will always be more competitors than opportunities, and you will be competing against highly experienced Directors for even minor roles.

But you knew that already.





### THE SEVEN TRADITIONAL ROUTES TO A BOARD APPOINTMENT



### THERE IS A BETTER WAY!



Find board opportunities better suited to your skills and experience

Get appointed more often

Get a greater return on the investment of your valuable time

# THE MOST VALUABLE THING YOU CAN DO?

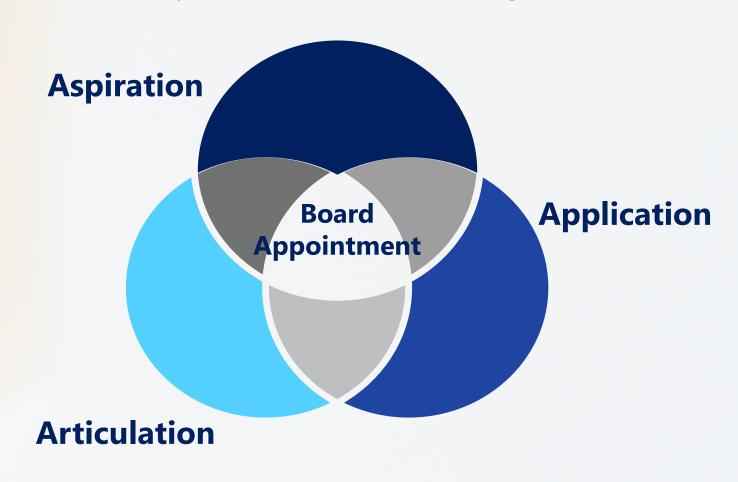
Tell people you meet and know you are looking for a **board appointment**.



### **HOW DO YOU DEVELOP A BOARD CAREER?**

Gaining a board appointment is not a journey, it is a process.

A process that has **three core pillars**.





**The first question** you will be asked: What board would you like to be appointed to?



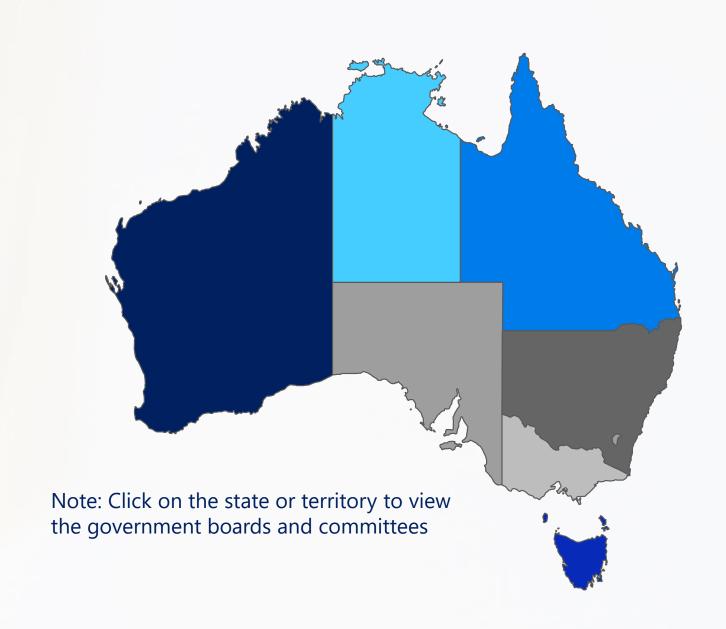
The answer must state specifically the names of your target companies.

# WHAT BOARDS EXIST and where could you find them?

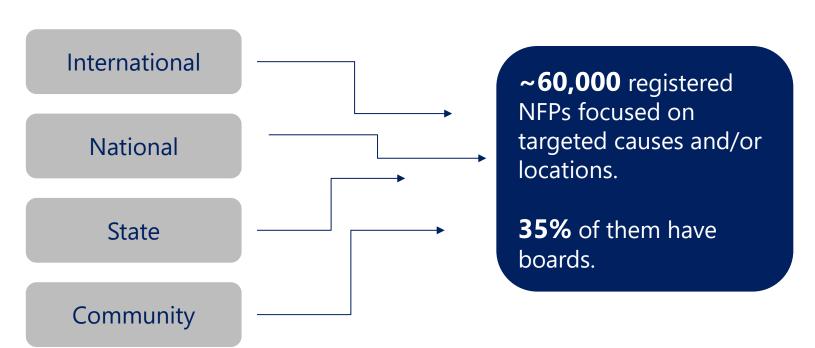
You can find board opportunities in **Government**, **not-for-profits**, **for Purpose organisations**, and **commercial companies**.



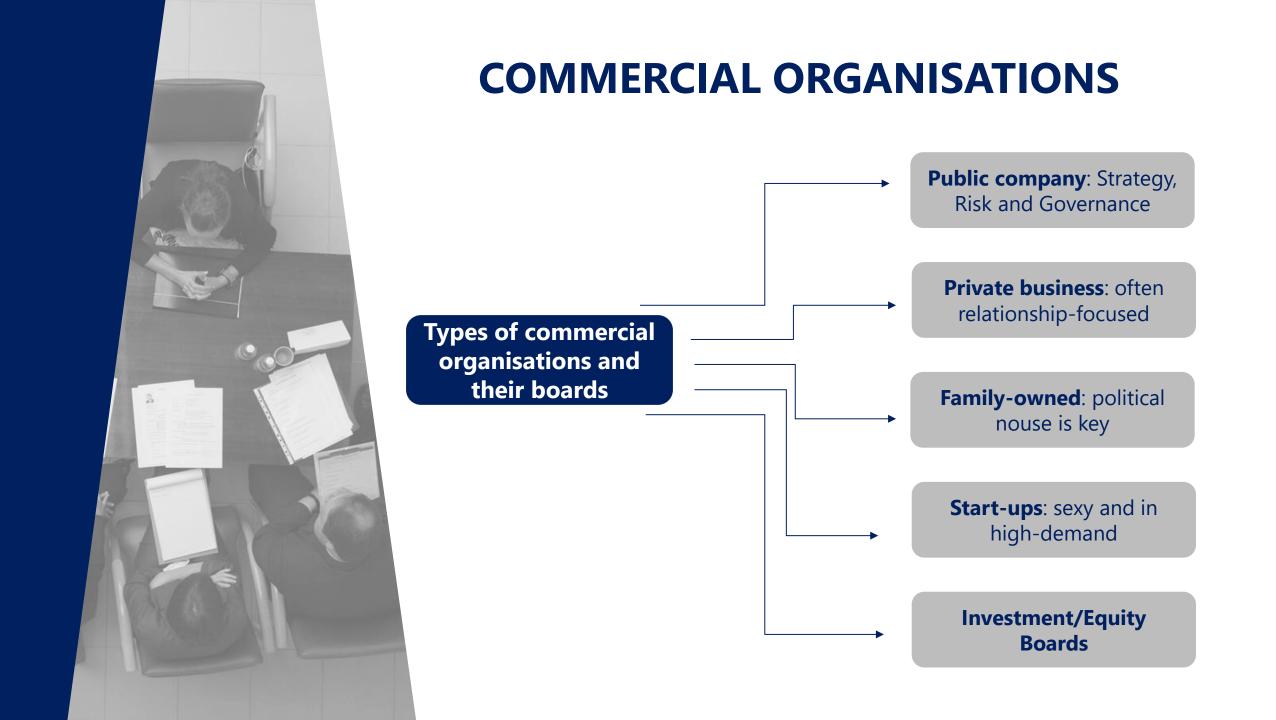
## **GOVERNMENT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**



## **NOT FOR PROFITS**







## **QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF**

**01** How much do you need to get paid?

**05** What are you passionate about?

**02** Who is going to value your skills and experience?

**06** Who will value your industry experience and related connections?

**03** What organisations are unlikely to value your skills and experience?

**07** How much preparation are you willing to do?

**04** Where do you live?

**08** How competitive are you?

Balance your **aspirations** against the **reality** of your appointment.

### WHICH ORGANISATIONS TO CHOOSE?

What are the names of your

**TARGET ORGANISATIONS?** 

You should be able to list between **SIX** and **TWELVE** organisations.

# THE SECOND PILLAR

The second question you will be asked:

Why do you want to be a NED?

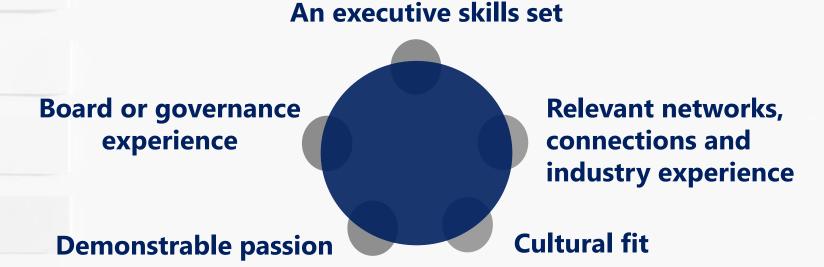


The answer must address their motivators, not yours!

### THE FIVE CORE SELECTION CRITERIA

Regardless of the scope or scale of an organisation they are probably looking for **five elements** in an ideal candidate.

Together addressing these elements answers the real question you are being asked 'Why should we appoint you to our board?' and form your board pitch.



### WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A NED?

If I met you at a governance event and I asked you why you want to be a NED, how compelling would your response be?

It must be compelling and translate into a casual conversation, elevator pitch, in your CV, a board application or in a formal interview.





# THE THIRD PILLAR

Apply the knowledge of your

board targets and your board pitch



and turn it into a board appointment.

### PREPARING TO APPLY FOR A BOARD APPOINTMENT

### **Your application documents**



A board Cover Letter

A supporting statement

Board appointments are a competitive process.

It is essential you properly articulate what you offer over your competitors.

A board CV does this – your executive CV does not.



### THE BOARD CV IS ESSENTIAL

### FirstName LastName

M: (Mobile No.) E: (Email Address)

A: Address

 I am a ... (board level titles & executive role/function, and list the relevant companies, industries and sectors you have operated in).

LI: (in/...)

- At board level I do ... (a clear statement articulating what an organisation gets if they
  appoint you the outcome of your appointment, then how you do it).
- In an executive capacity, I (current and relevant past executive titles and organisations).
- Finally, I have... (qualifications and awards/points of interest/awards).

#### NON-EXECUTIVE & EXECUTIVE BOARD EXPERIENCE

Date - Date Board Title Organisation

Company Information

- List any key responsibilities/sub-committees.
- Reason for your appointment?
- Demonstrable/Quantifiable evidence of success at board level

#### Date - Date Executive Title Organisation

List only your committees or board-level engagements.

#### **EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE**

Date - Date Executive Title Organisation

Company Information

- Key responsibilities/actions relevant at the board level;
- Reason for your appointment?
- Demonstrable evidence of success.

#### Details of previous roles available upon request

#### **EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Qualification
 Organisation
 Date

#### MEMBERSHIPS, EXTRA-PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & INTERESTS

- Memberships (personal or professional)
   Extra-Professional Activities or Awards
   Organisation
   Date
- Interests:

#### REFEREES

0	Name	Role/Title	Organisation
0	Name	Role/Title	Organisation

"With pleasure I am informing you that as a result, I believe, of using your advice and the Board CV style, I have now received an appointment as a Non-Executive Director to an organization with a bright future and potential for significant growth.

Why do I know the **Board CV was a catalyst**?

Because I asked what attracted their attention to me, to which they responded "the style, format and clearly articulated content of the CV."

Rodney Turner
InnovaDerma,
Non-Executive Director

### **WAYS TO GET APPOINTED**

### **Personal connections**

**65%** of all board appointments occur via a personal connection

1

### **The Direct Approach**

**15%** of all board appointments are made by directly approaching organisations with an offer to contribute to their board.

2

### **Executive Search Firms**

**10%** of all board appointments occur via a recruiter or executive search firm.

3

**Less than 20%** of all appointments are filled via formal application processes.

**Less than 5%** of paid board roles are filled via formal applications processes.

### Via advertisements

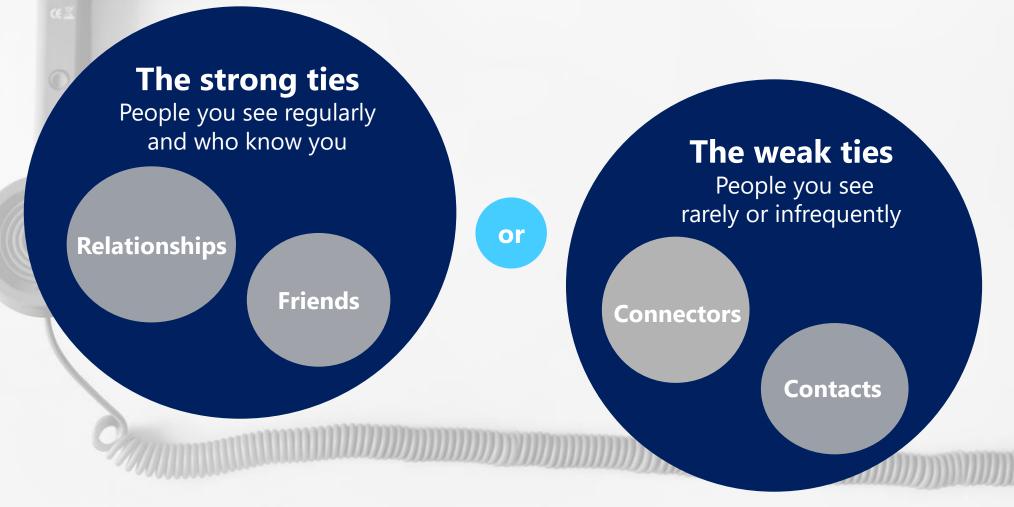
**10%** of all board appointments occur in response to an advertised opportunity.

4

### THE PERSONAL CONNECTORS APPROACH

65% of all board appointments occur via a personal connection.

But which ones and who do you call first?



### THE OLD SCHOOL TIES AND "THE CLUB"

Strong ties only give you access to others who can independently verify you for a board appointment.

Strong ties rarely result in a board appointment themselves.

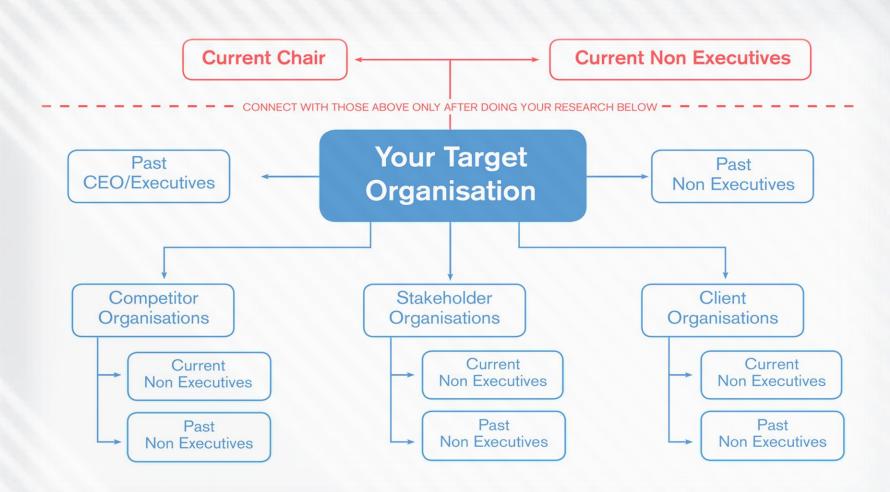
Meanwhile, **50%+** of all board appointments occur via Weak Ties - people you see rarely or infrequently.

Weak ties make you powerful.

The question is: who are they, and how do you connect with them?



### THE TARGET APPROACH PLAN





### **HOW MUCH CAN YOU BE PAID?**

No one really knows - here is a rough guide.

	Chair	Director
Listed	~\$132,000	~\$82,500
Unlisted	~\$70,985	~\$41,606
Private	~\$61,800	~\$41,200
NFP	~\$41,200 (if paid)	~\$20,100 (only 5-15% pay)

Chairs are typically paid twice that of NEDs and work three times as hard.

Half the ASX 100 and around a quarter of ASX 250 companies pay additional committee fees.

# WHY AREN'T YOU GAINING A BOARD APPOINTMENT?

If you are not gaining a board appointment then one or more of the following is likely happening:

You are targeting the wrong organizations - ones that don't balance your aspirations and reality.

**Your pitch sucks** – it focuses on your motivations rather than theirs.

**You are being reactive** - only applying for roles you stumble across.

All of the above.





# HOW LONG SHOULD IT TAKE TO GET A BOARD APPOINTMENT?

If you are able to:



and get proactive then you have the foundations in place to gain a board appointment far quicker than you ever expected.

My members are primed for a board appointment within 12 months.

I expect them to be appointed far sooner.

### WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY



"David creates unique opportunities through his incredible network. David matched my skills and experience with the right board opportunity.

This personal approach resulted in my appointment to the Mildura Airport Board."

**Stephen Angus**Mildura Airport, Deputy Chair



## **VISIT BOARD DIRECTION TO:**

gain more information about the services we provide that have helped thousands of people find and gain appointments.

access an exclusive discount that offers up to \$1,000 off our membership packages.

book a 1:1 call with David.

download the Board Appointments E-Book.

THANK YOU.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.



