



Get the Governance Right: It Matters!

Effective nonprofit boards require ongoing attention, planning and work. Even if you already have an effective board - don't rest on your laurels. You might have an outstanding group of board members, but without relevant structure and practices, it will not be an effective board. Conversely, great structure and practices are worthless without the right people. There is no common litmus test that confirms whether or not your board is effective - because no two boards are alike. The following quiz will help you evaluate your board against some basic criteria, and help you consider whether or not your board is in need of a tune up.

- | | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Our board establishes and oversees the strategic direction of the organization. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Board member expectations are reviewed and signed annually by all board members. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Our board effectively recruits, orients and engages new members. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Each committee is comprised of diverse members who bring relevant expertise. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Our board has effective metrics and tools to monitor the organization's performance (e.g. dashboard). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Board meetings focus on what matters most; we do not focus on day-to-day minutiae. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. 100% of board members make an annual contribution to the organization. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Most board members participate in fundraising for the organization. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Most board members understand their role. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. The governance committee meets year-round to ensure that the board has the appropriate structure, practices and composition. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |