



Position Description

Board member – Sustainable Winegrowing Australia Advisory Board

About Sustainable Winegrowing Australia

Sustainable Winegrowing Australia is the national sustainability program for the grape and wine sector. It enables members to measure, improve and communicate their sustainability performance, benchmark their practices and access the certification trust mark. The program plays a critical role in the sector's ability to manage and improve against sustainability indicators, respond to evolving ESG expectations of stakeholders, maintain market access, and promote the sustainability credentials of Australian wine.

Sustainable Winegrowing Australia is jointly supported by Australian Grape & Wine (AGW), the Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI) and Wine Australia who meet to provide Oversight, Resourcing and Direction to the program (SWORD).

Conditions

Independent contracted role.

Term aligned with governance arrangements under the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia Agreement (two or three years, may be renewed for an additional term).

Time commitment

Attendance at a minimum of four Sustainable Winegrowing Australia Board meetings per year.

Role purpose

Board Members contribute to the effective governance of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia by working collectively with the Chair and fellow Members to ensure the Program is well-governed, strategically aligned, financially sustainable, and capable of delivering on its national purpose as a sustainable, future-proofed and fit-for-purpose program.

Board Members support high-quality Board deliberations, provide independent judgement and constructive challenge, and contribute to stakeholder confidence in the credibility and integrity of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia.

Board Members are not representatives of specific sectors or organisations—they should act in the best interests of the Program and the Australian grape and wine community. This requires positively promoting the Program and acknowledging it as the national sustainability program for the Australian wine sector.

Key responsibilities

Board governance and contribution

- Participate in Board meetings and decision-making, contributing expertise, insight and independent judgement.
- Support effective, inclusive and strategic Board discussions.
- Uphold strong governance processes consistent with modern Australian corporate governance principles.
- Ensure Board decisions are well considered, clearly articulated and appropriately documented.
- Contribute to Board culture, performance and continuous improvement.

Strategic oversight

- Contribute to the development and oversight of the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia Strategic Plan for approval by SWORD.
- Contribute to development and approval of the Annual Operating Plan (AOP).
- Support long-term strategic thinking that considers sustainability outcomes, sector needs and market opportunities.
- Contribute to the continuous improvement of the program, including its ease of use and cost effectiveness for members.

Risk, compliance and financial stewardship

- Contribute to oversight of the program's risk register, including strategic, reputational, financial, operational, legal and market access risks.
- Ensure that risk mitigation strategies are implemented and monitored.
- Review and monitor program financial performance, budget adherence and financial sustainability.
- Monitor operational performance against the AOP.

Stakeholder engagement and sector insight

- Support constructive engagement with the Australian grape and wine sector and key stakeholders.
- Maintain collaborative working relationships with AGW, AWRI, Wine Australia and the Executive Officer through the Board.
- Ensure industry perspectives and advice are appropriately considered by the Board.

Data, certification and trust mark oversight

Oversight of member benefits, certification arrangements and continuous improvement of the program.

- Consider and endorse recommendations to SWORD regarding:



SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING AUSTRALIA

- Trust Mark management
- Data-sharing arrangements and proposed changes
- Material amendments to Trust Mark Rules of Use
- Support effective implementation and review of data governance policies and procedures.
- Ensure material issues related to Trust Mark compliance are escalated appropriately.

Executive Officer support

- Provide advice, guidance and support to the Executive Officer through the Board.
- Monitor performance against the program's strategic goals and objectives.
- Support succession and continuity planning for the Executive Officer role.

Required skills and experience (as set out in the Agreement)

The Board will be appointed to ensure an appropriate balance of skills, experience and independence across the Board. Collectively, Directors will demonstrate capability across the following areas, with individual Directors bringing strength in one or more:

- Grapegrowing experience;
- Winemaking experience;
- regulatory and legal compliance;
- marketing experience;
- finance, audit and risk experience;
- sustainability (cross-ag / sustainability programs) experience;
- sustainability (grape and wine sector) experience;
- strategic planning and governance experience;
- stakeholder management skills and experience;
- a level of independence from Members and stakeholders to support objective deliberation on issues and appropriate decisions; and
- trade and market access experience.

Board members should have a level of independence from Members and stakeholders sufficient to support objective deliberation and decision-making in the best interests of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia. Formal governance training (e.g. AICD or equivalent) is highly regarded.