Steven J Stanbrook

Board Curriculum Vitae

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Board profile

Non-executive board member and former community bank chair with more than three decades of experience across agriculture, general insurance, business ownership and financial analysis. Experience includes establishing a community banking enterprise, raising shareholder capital and serving on the SafeFarms WA board.

Brings independent judgement and constructive challenge to decisions about risk, growth and long-term viability. Tests assumptions and considers downstream consequences, with a clear distinction between board oversight and operational management.

Contribution to the board

- Risk and strategy: connects insurance and operational exposures to strategic choices, including their second, third and fourth-order consequences.
- Financial scrutiny: draws on business analysis, profit and loss review, capital raising and ownership experience to question assumptions and growth plans.
- Stakeholder confidence: brings experience engaging shareholders, farmers, business owners, insurers and community partners.
- Board culture: listens carefully, challenges respectfully and supports collective accountability while keeping material concerns visible.

Board appointments

SafeFarms WA

Board Member | Current

Contributes an insurance and agricultural risk perspective to a not-for-profit organisation supporting farm safety. Focuses on the relationship between safer farming, insurability and the long-term viability of farming enterprises.

Toodyay and Districts Community Financial Services Limited

Inaugural Director and former Chairperson | January 1999 to November 2009

- Helped establish the community-owned banking enterprise in partnership with Bendigo Bank and raise shareholder capital following the threatened loss of local banking services.
- Served as the company's second chairperson and as a member of its audit committee.
- Assisted the establishment of community banks across Western Australia, sharing experience from the Toodyay initiative.
- Chaired the company when its annual report won the Australian Shareholders Association's 2007 Annual Report of the Year award.

Community leadership

Rotary Means Business WA

Chair | Current

Convenes and moderates business discussions, including Think and Meet events, encouraging respectful debate about leadership, technology and decision-making.

Rotary Club of Perth | Member since 2022

Professional experience

Westside Insurance Specialists

Senior Account Executive | *October 2019 to present*

Advises a portfolio of clients with a strong rural, transport and property development focus. Reviews business exposures and insurance arrangements, develops client relationships and contributes to portfolio growth. Experience includes development of a tailored insurance product for CrossFit businesses.

SRG Corp

Account Manager | *January 2017 to October 2018*

Managed client insurance relationships and reviewed cover in response to changing business risks and insurance market conditions.

Phoenix Property Group

Owner and Investment Advocate | *August 2015 to January 2017*

Worked with investors and investees through an advocacy model focused on stakeholder outcomes and ongoing monitoring.

Private Property Developers

Client Relationship Manager and subsequently General Manager | *February 2013 to August 2015*

Managed investor communications and the interface with the CEO. Introduced a CRM system and stakeholder database, integrated marketing communications and trained a successor. Responsibilities later expanded to staff leadership and financial visibility as General Manager.

Elders Insurance Underwriting Agency

Business Partner | *September 2009 to January 2013*

Jointly owned an insurance agency serving approximately 6,000 customers across the central Wheatbelt and eastern Perth, covering farm, business and household insurance. Earlier employed by the agency from July 2000 to June 2004.

Little Farm Australia

Founder and Managing Director | *January 2004 to October 2009*

Established and operated the business and pursued a franchise model. Its eventual liquidation provides direct experience of the consequences of leverage and expansion risk.

Elders Limited

State Business Analyst | *January 1990 to June 2000*

Analysed store, staff, product and supplier performance across Western Australia during a period in which the network expanded from 30 to 65 stores through partnership and owned-store growth.

Qualifications and professional development

Diploma of Company Directorship | Australian Institute of Company Directors | 2006

Diploma of Business Administration | University of Western Australia | 2009

Diploma of Insurance Broking FNS51220 | LMI College | 2023

Diploma of Financial Planning | International Institute of Technology | 2014

GI512 Risk Management | ANZIIF | 2012

Board interests

Agriculture and agribusiness, insurance and risk, community enterprises, and founder-led organisations developing their governance capability. Particular interest in how AI and technology affect judgement, accountability and business resilience.