



AUSTRALIAN MATHS TRUST

Australian Maths Trust (AMT) - Board Director Position Description

About AMT's structure

The Australian Mathematics Trust operates through a two-tier structure: a charitable trust established by deed in 1992, and its corporate trustee, AMTT Limited - a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee. AMTT Ltd's sole purpose is to act as trustee, and its Board governs accordingly. The Trust Deed requires unanimous Board approval plus consent from the University of Canberra and the Australian Academy of Science for any amendments, preserving the AMT's charitable character.

About AMT

AMT exists to promote mathematical and computational problem-solving in Australia, developing young Australians' problem-solving potential through competitions, enrichment programs, teacher development and international representation.

The Australian Mathematics Competition, running since the late 1970s, is one of the largest school-based maths competitions in the world and is a key focus of AMT's work. The AMC provides an accessible entry point for hundreds of thousands of students each year, encouraging participation and fostering confidence in mathematical thinking. From this broad base, AMT supports a progression of increasingly challenging programs, including the Australian Mathematics Challenge, enrichment activities, and pathways that identify and nurture highly talented students.

The AMT also plays a critical role in Australia's participation in international mathematical competitions. Through its Olympiad programs, involving competitions, mentorship and training, AMT selects and sends teams to represent Australia at the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad (EGMO), International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) and the European Girls' Olympiad in Informatics (EGOI). Australia's historic successes on the international stage reflects the AMT's sustained commitment to the pursuit of excellence in these fields.

The Role

A Director of AMTT Limited governs the company in its capacity as trustee of the AMT - ensuring the charitable objects are pursued effectively, sustainably and in compliance with the law. The Board's function is governance and oversight, not day-to-day management. Operational responsibility is delegated to the CEO within Board-approved limits.

Directors hold duties under the Corporations Act, the ACNC Act, and general trust law. In plain terms, this means:

- Acting with care and diligence
- Acting in good faith, in the best interests of the AMT
- Not using their position for personal gain
- Not misusing confidential information
- Avoiding and/or managing conflicts of interest, and
- Ensuring the organisation stays solvent and legally compliant.



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Key Responsibilities

Governance and strategy - Set and review strategic direction; ensure alignment with the Trust Deed and charitable objectives; monitor organisational performance.

Financial oversight - Approve budgets; oversee financial controls, audit processes, investment policy and long-term sustainability.

Risk and compliance - Oversee enterprise risk; ensure appropriate insurance, and compliance with corporate, charity, employment, child safety and privacy obligations.

CEO oversight - Appoint, support and review the CEO; approve performance objectives; ensure leadership succession planning.

Governance framework - Review and approve key policies; participate in Board performance evaluation and ongoing improvement.

Child Safety - Accountability for child safety culture and oversight of incident reporting and safeguarding systems.

What's expected of individual directors

- Attend board meetings in Canberra (typically 4 per year) and come prepared
- Participate in at least one committee if appointed
- Exercise independent judgment
- Maintain confidentiality and act with integrity
- Support collective decisions once made

Skills and Attributes

Directors should bring a combination of the following, and candidates will be assessed against the Board's current skills matrix at the time of appointment.

Candidates need to have experience in one or more of the following areas:

Child Safety and Program Delivery

- Direct experience working within or leading organisations that deliver programs to children; including schools, after-school programs, holiday programs, youth organisations, or similar community settings.
- A working knowledge of child safety frameworks, safeguarding obligations, and best-practice program governance.
- Understanding of the operational and regulatory environment for organisations serving children and young people.

Advocacy, Policy, and Government Relations

- Experience influencing policy or engaging with government at a local, state, or federal level.



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- Background in or strong working knowledge of education, science, technology, or EdTech sectors.
- Advocacy background with the ability to develop relationships within the academic maths and science ecosystem.

Commercial and Entrepreneurial Leadership

- Experience building, scaling, or advising organisations through growth or change in particular EdTech would be seen as highly valuable.
- Demonstrated ability to evaluate new ideas and initiatives and make clear, evidence-informed go or no-go decisions.
- A track record of bringing innovative thinking into governance or organisational settings without losing sight of mission and risk.

Commitment to the purpose - A genuine belief in the value of mathematical and computational problem-solving education, and in the importance of developing young Australians' problem-solving capability.

Strategic thinking - The ability to think beyond the immediate and consider AMT's long-term positioning, sustainability and impact. Directors should be able to engage with strategic questions constructively and bring a perspective that adds to the Board's collective thinking.

Governance capability - An understanding of what good governance looks like in a not-for-profit context, including the distinction between governance and management, the role of a trustee, and how effective boards operate. Prior board experience is valued, though not essential - what matters is a willingness to engage seriously with the governance role.

Financial literacy - Directors don't need to be accountants, but they do need to be comfortable reading financial statements, understanding budget variances, recognising early warning signs in financial reporting, and engaging meaningfully in discussions about financial sustainability and investment.

Risk awareness and sound judgment - The ability to identify and weigh risk proportionately, ask the right questions, and exercise sound judgment in conditions of uncertainty. This includes an appreciation of reputational, operational, financial and compliance risks in a national charitable organisation.

High ethical standards - A personal commitment to integrity, transparency and accountability. Directors are custodians of public trust. Conduct inside and outside the boardroom matters.

Collaborative working style - The ability to contribute a point of view clearly and confidently while remaining genuinely open to others. Collectively, the Board should maintain appropriate diversity of experience and perspective. Diversity of background, gender, and geography is also important to the Board's effectiveness and legitimacy.

Diversity

AMT is committed to building a diverse and inclusive Board reflecting the community it serves.

Remuneration

Directors serve on a voluntary basis. The Chair may receive an approved honorarium. Reasonable expenses are reimbursed, and Directors' and Officers' insurance cover is provided.

Term of Appointment

The initial term for directors is three years with an option to renew for two more terms.

Above all, Directors are custodians of a national institution built to develop young Australians' problem-solving capability and encourage the pursuit of excellence in mathematics and algorithmics. The role calls for stewardship, independence of mind, and a genuine commitment to that mission.

How to Apply

Applications are managed by Derwent Search on behalf of AMT. To express interest or obtain a confidential discussion, please contact Rebecca Schwarz at rschwarz@derwentsearch.com.au.

Applications Close

15th June 2026