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# Emerging Capital Structures in Sports

## Introductory Remarks

# SPACs and Private Investment Funds

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- SPACs
  - Some history of public company ownership of sports teams
  - Large “Diversified” public companies v. “Pure Plays”
  - Most “Diversifieds” divested and most “Pure Plays” went private
- PIFs
  - Much more limited history of sports ownership due to past PIF norms and league rules
  - Both Funds and Sports are evolving
- Why are both SPACs and Funds now interested in Sports?

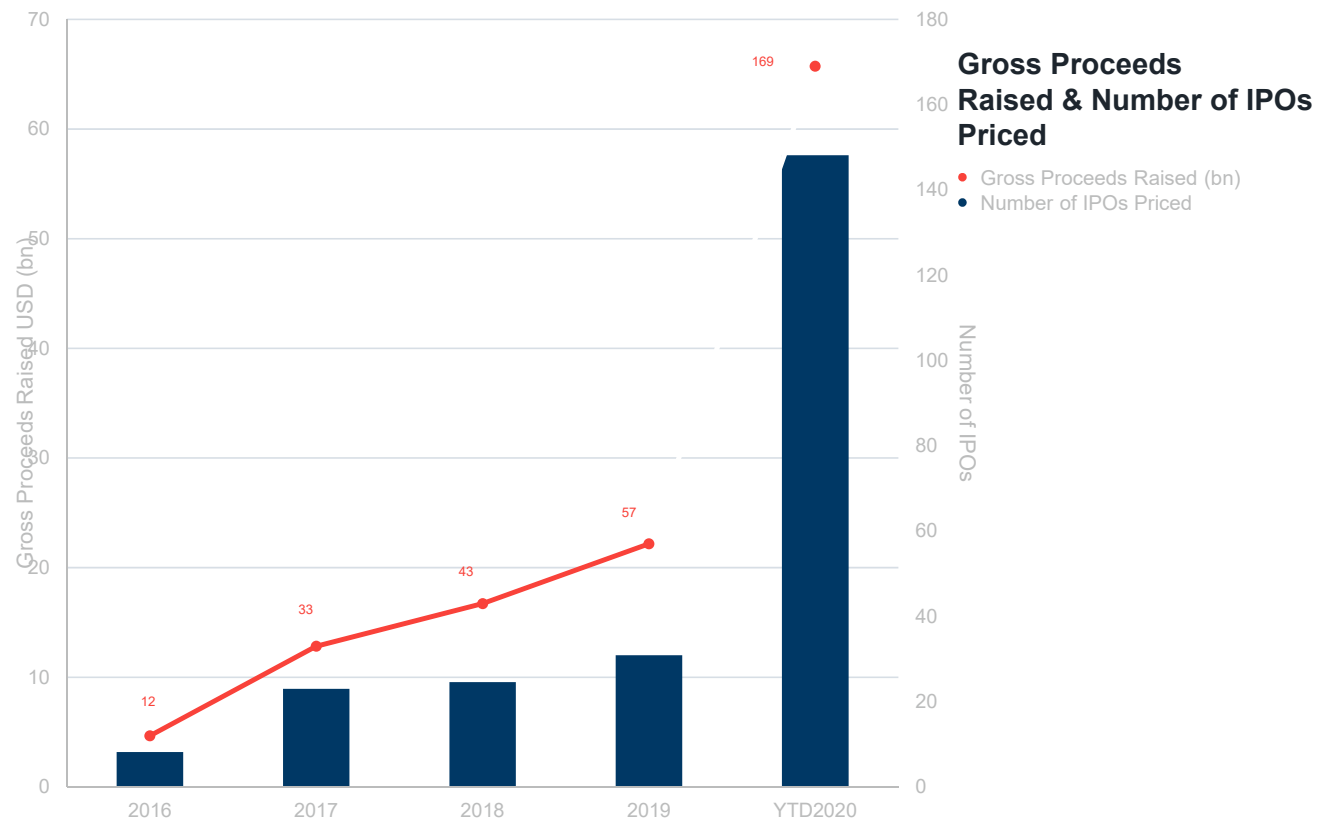


# Emerging Capital Structures in Sports

Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs)



# Market Activity Overview



Source: Dealogic

## Market Activity Overview

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There are currently over  
**175 SPACs**  
actively seeking targets with over  
**\$60 billion**  
in dry powder for acquisitions.

*Source: SPAC Research*

# Market Activity Overview

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- Active sports-focused SPACs include:
  - Acies Acquisition Corp.
  - Ascendant Digital Acquisition Corp (eSports)
  - Bull Horn Holdings Corp.
  - Redball Acquisition Corp.
  - Sports Entertainment Acquisition Corp.
  - Tekkorp Digital Acquisition Corp.
  - Vistas Media Acquisition (eSports)

*Source: SPAC Research*

## SPAC Basics

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- A special purpose acquisition company (SPAC) is formed for the purpose of raising capital through an IPO and using those funds to acquire an operating business.
- SPACs bring together experienced management teams, often comprising industry veterans, private equity sponsors or other financing experts who can leverage their expertise to raise capital to acquire, then operate, a new public company.
- Within 24 months or less, a SPAC will seek out an attractive company to acquire and, once that transaction is completed, a new publicly traded company is formed.
- If a transaction is not completed within the allotted time frame, the SPAC liquidates and public stockholders receive their investment back; however, the SPAC sponsors lose their entire investment.



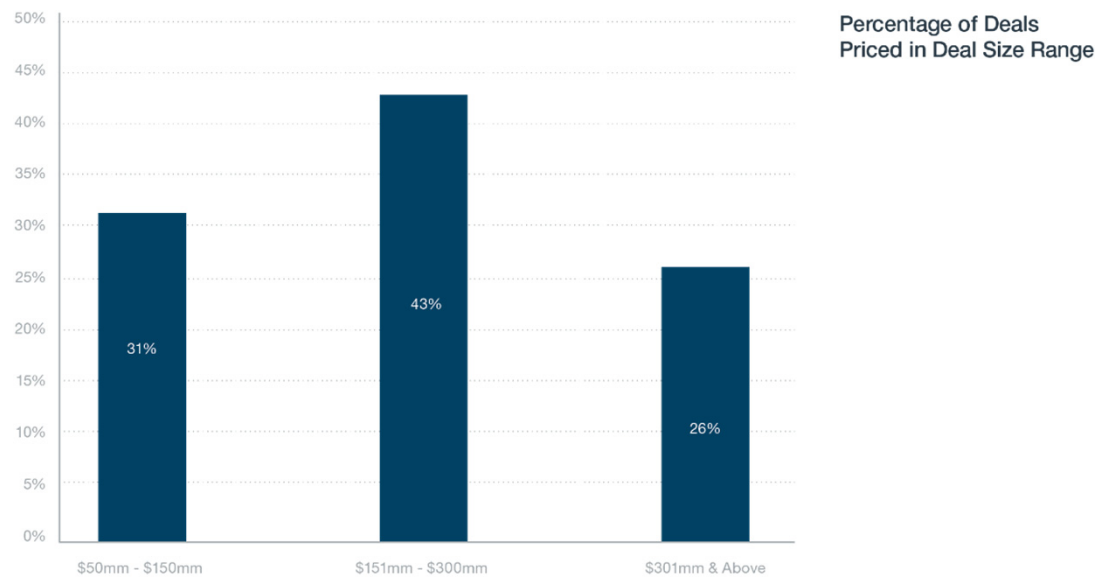
## SPAC Initial Public Offering

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- In order to raise capital, a SPAC will conduct an SEC-registered initial public offering (IPO) in which underwriters will sell the SPAC's securities to the public, often including both institutional and retail investors.
- The securities typically consist of units that are comprised of shares of common stock and warrants.
- An amount equal to the gross proceeds of the IPO is typically put into a trust account. Funds from the trust account are only released to the SPAC upon the completion of a business combination.

# Deal Size

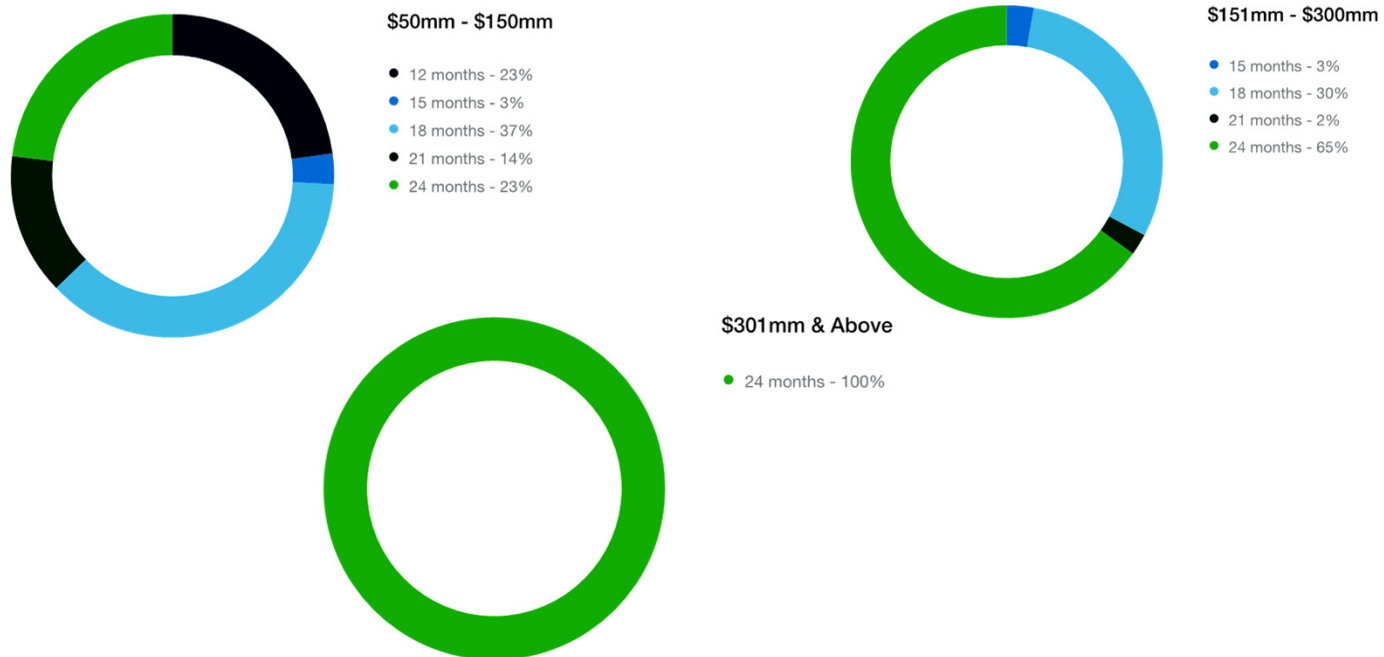
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We are seeing almost half of deals in the mid-size range, but more than a quarter by deal count above \$300mm.

*Note: YTD 2020 shown in the chart above.*

# SPAC Acquisition Period



# The Sponsor

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- The sponsor entity typically receives a 20% promote, though there is some pressure on the amount of the promote in the current "frothy" market, with targets seeking to share in the sponsor promote
  - Initially, the sponsor owns 100% of the SPAC and purchases these equity interests for a nominal amount (\$25,000).
  - As a result of the IPO, the sponsor is diluted down to an approximately 20% interest in the SPAC.
  - In the event a business combination is not completed, the promote becomes worthless.
- Unlike the promote to a PE sponsor, which typically requires that the transaction(s) achieve a defined level of financial success before the promote is earned, the SPAC sponsor's promote "vests" upon the closing of the business combination.

## The Sponsor (continued)

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- The amount earned will depend upon the share price at the conclusion of the sponsor's lock-up and the timing of the sponsor's sales of company shares.
- The sponsor may enter into certain other arrangements with the SPAC, including providing indemnity for certain claims on the trust account.
- The sponsor also may provide administrative services and office space to the SPAC or extend working capital loans to support the SPAC's operations.

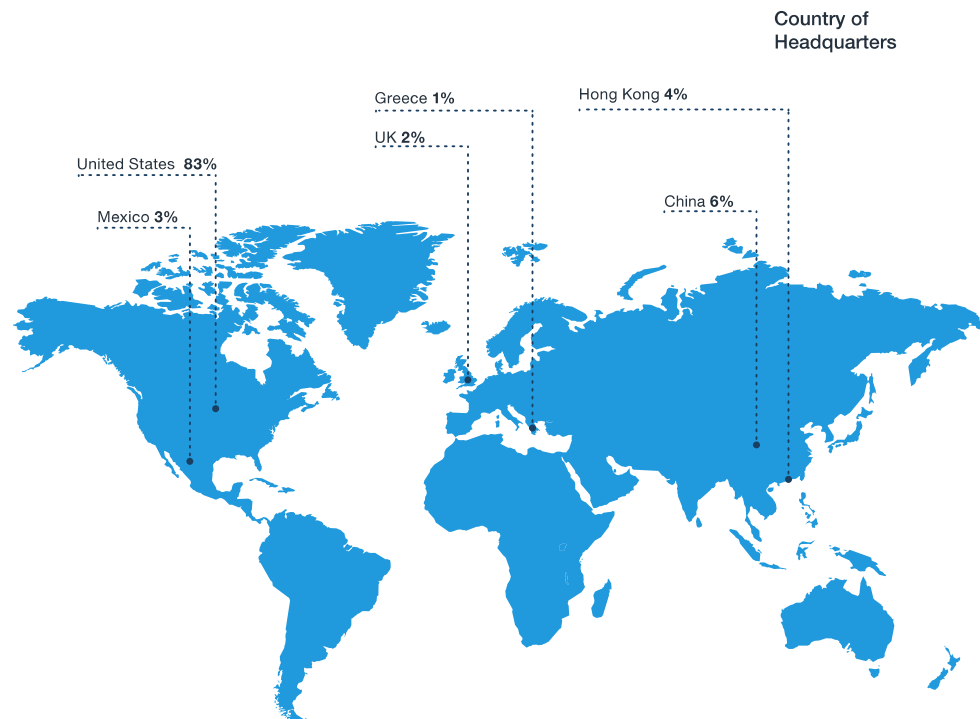
## The Sponsor (continued)

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- The sponsor is typically a Delaware or Cayman/BVI LLC and there is considerable flexibility as to the allocation of interests and securities among LLC members.
  - If it is possible that the SPAC's acquisition target will be outside of the United States, then consideration should be given to forming the SPAC offshore (Cayman, BVI, etc.).
  - Even if a domestic SPAC is initially formed, it does not mean that a foreign acquisition target is off the table.
- Asset management sponsors typically will work with established industry executives in establishing the SPAC and consummating a business combination.



# Onshore vs Offshore



76% of the U.S.-based SPACs in our study were incorporated in Delaware while 20% were incorporated in the Cayman Islands and 4% were incorporated in the British Virgin Islands.

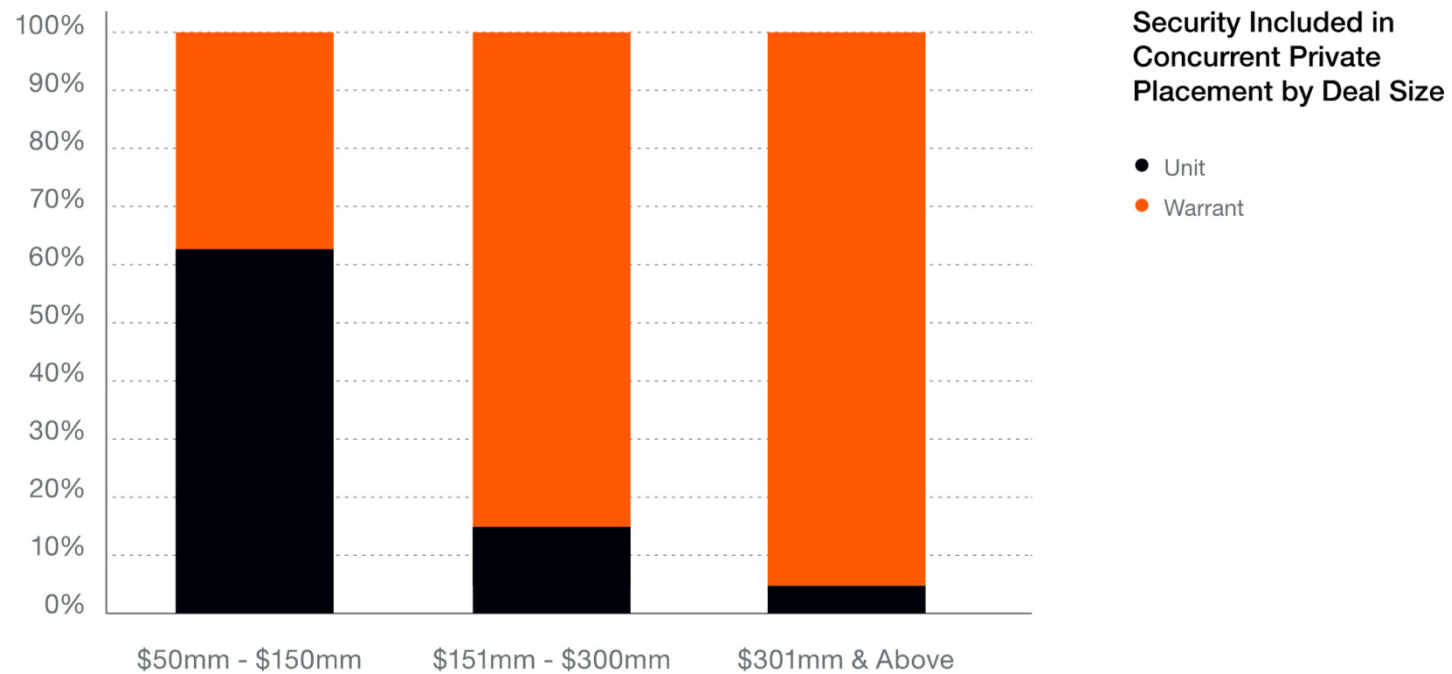
Of the non-U.S.-based SPACs in our study, 44% were incorporated in the Cayman Islands, 25% were incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, 19% were incorporated in Delaware and 13% were incorporated in the Marshall Islands.

## At-risk Capital

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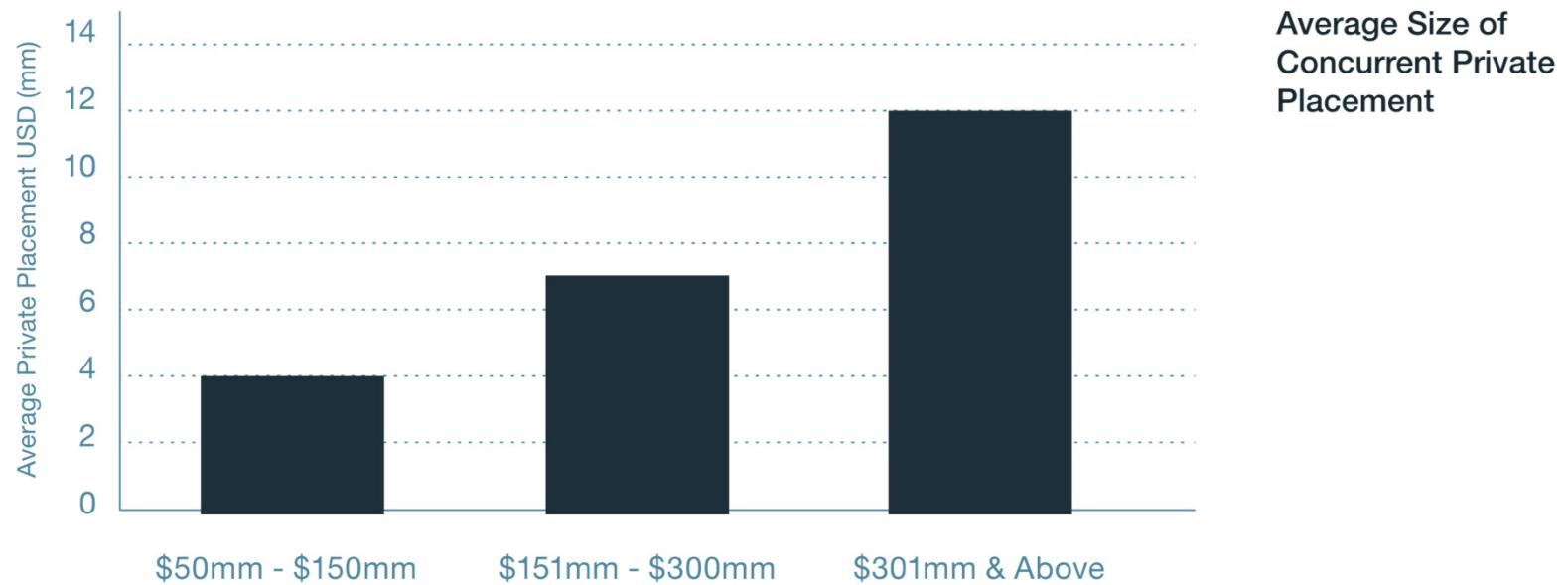
- Alongside the IPO, there is a concurrent private placement of securities sold to the sponsor to raise additional funds for the SPAC. This is the sponsor's "at-risk capital" and is approximately 3% - 5% of IPO gross proceeds.
- These additional funds are used to pay the non-deferred portion of the IPO underwriting fee (2% of IPO gross proceeds) and also provide working capital for the SPAC (between \$750,000 and \$2,000,000).
  - The underwriters are due an additional 3.5% of the IPO gross proceeds if and when a business combination is completed.
- The securities sold in the private placement consist of either warrants or units (comprised of shares of common stock and warrants).

# Composition of Private Placement Units



# Concurrent Private Placement

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# Trust Account

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- An amount equal to the gross proceeds of the IPO is typically put into the trust account.
- Amounts in the trust account may only be invested in eligible securities in order to avoid triggering investment company status.
- Cash from the trust account can only be released to the SPAC upon the completion of a business combination; interest may be used to pay certain taxes.
- If the SPAC is unable to complete a business combination, public stockholders receive their pro rata share of cash held in trust.
- Public stockholders may also elect to redeem shares for pro rata cash in connection with business combination or deadline extension votes.

## Public Units

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- In the IPO, the SPAC sells units which are typically priced at \$10.00 per unit and comprised of:
  - One share of common stock (or ordinary share)
  - A warrant or fraction of a warrant to purchase one share of common stock (or ordinary share)
- Following the IPO, the units become separable and are separately listed and traded.

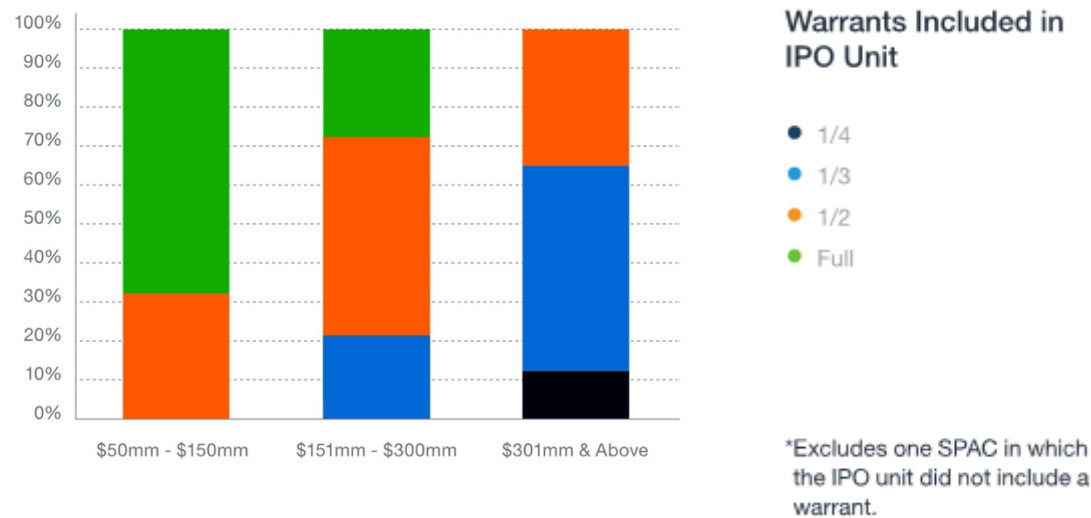


# Warrants

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- The level of warrant coverage depends on the investors' confidence in the SPAC. Usually, larger SPACs with established sponsors are able to negotiate for lower warrant coverage.
- The warrants are struck out of the money and typically have an exercise price of \$11.50 per share with a five-year term.
- Generally, warrants may only be exercised at the later of (i) 30 days after the business combination or (ii) one year after the SPAC IPO.
- The public warrants often include a company redemption feature frequently set at \$18.00 per share.
- Note that the warrants pose potential dilution and overhang following the business combination and should be properly accounted for and considered in negotiations with targets.

# Warrant Coverage



Units offered in SPAC IPOs are typically comprised of one share of common stock and a warrant to purchase one-third, one-half or one full share of common stock, exercisable on a whole-warrant basis at \$11.50 per share.

## Founders Shares and Warrants

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- The shares purchased by the sponsor constituting promote mirror the public shares, except that they may contain certain anti-dilution provisions to gross up to 20% if additional shares are issued in connection with the business combination.
- Founder shares are also typically subject to a post-business combination lock-up period of one year (though may fall off sooner if trading value is above a specified threshold for a specified number of trading days) and may not be redeemed for any cash held in the trust account.
- Similarly, founder warrants mirror the public warrants except that they do not have a company redemption feature and have a cashless exercise feature.

## Directors and Officers

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- SPACs are required to meet stock exchange listing requirements for corporate governance, including with respect to director independent and board committees.
- SPACs typically have three independent directors on a board and they are often compensated with equity from the sponsor.
- Industry operators are often given a role on the board and in leading the SPAC towards its business combination goals.
- Officers may be affiliated with the sponsor and/or can receive compensation and equity incentives from the sponsor.

# SPAC IPO and Listing Process

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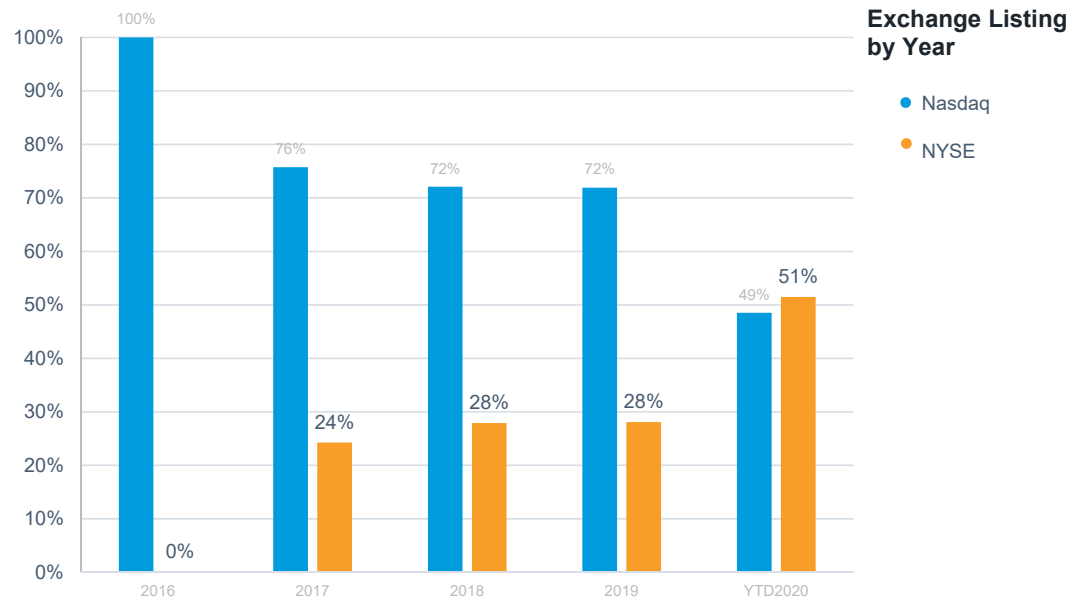
- Prepare and file Form S-1 with SEC
  - SPACs may take advantage of SEC's confidential review process
  - Initial review period of 30 days – can go from initial submission to pricing in two to three months
  - SEC comments have been focused on disclosure relating to conflicts, investor rights and management track record and experience
- Select listing exchange (Nasdaq or NYSE) and receive listing approval
- Testing-the-waters (TTW) and roadshow meetings
  - At TTW meetings, sponsor management team meets with potential investors and receives feedback on offering terms
- FINRA review process

# SPAC IPO Timeline

Phase I – Initial Preparation and Structuring (2-4 weeks)	Phase II – Kick-off and Preparation and Filing of Registration Statement (2 – 4 weeks)	Phase III – SEC Review Period (4 – 6 weeks)	Phase IV – Marketing, Pricing and Closing (1-2 weeks)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structuring considerations (including location of incorporation of SPAC and sponsor, and composition and organization of sponsor entity)</li> <li>• Draft organizational documents and form SPAC and sponsor entities</li> <li>• Establish bank accounts and make initial contributions to sponsor and SPAC entities</li> <li>• Select legal counsel, underwriters, auditor and stock exchange</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizational meeting</li> <li>• Draft S-1 registration statement</li> <li>• Commence diligence process including management team background checks</li> <li>• Complete financials and audits of SPAC entity</li> <li>• Finalize and either confidentially furnish or publicly file S-1 with SEC</li> <li>• Apply to list on stock exchange</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEC initial review period (30 days); review and respond to SEC comments; file S-1 amendments with SEC (if necessary)</li> <li>• Draft operative SPAC agreements and negotiate underwriting agreement</li> <li>• Begin preparation of marketing materials and commence testing-the-waters meetings</li> <li>• Receive conditional approval to list from stock exchange</li> <li>• Finalize S-1 and file publicly 15 days before roadshow (if confidentially submitted)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management presentation to salesforce and commence roadshow</li> <li>• Confirm stock exchange and FINRA clearances</li> <li>• SEC declares S-1 effective</li> <li>• Pricing and allocation of IPO units</li> <li>• Execute underwriting agreement and all other documents/ auditor delivers comfort letter</li> <li>• Trading of units commences on stock exchange</li> <li>• Print and distribute final prospectus</li> <li>• Closing &amp; funding of trust account</li> </ul>



# Where to List?



The NYSE has seen a significant increase in market share this year for SPAC listings.

*Note: YTD 2020 shown in the chart above.*

## Operating a SPAC

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- Pre-IPO, sponsors should **not** identify or reach out to potential targets (or traditional IPO level disclosures relating to the target would result)
- Should have majority independent board
  - Note that post-business combination company may be able to take advantage of controlled company exemption from exchange rules requiring majority independent board
- Subject to Exchange Act reporting regime (10-Ks, 10-Qs, 8-Ks, etc.)

## Sourcing and Signing the Business Combination

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- As soon as the IPO closes, the SPAC will begin sourcing and vetting targets.
- The SPAC will then engage in discussions with select targets.
- Upon the signing of a business combination agreement, the SPAC is required to announce the transaction to the market.
- In accordance with stock exchange rules, the fair market value of the business combination must be at least 80% of the value of cash in the trust account.
- If the business combination is with an affiliate of the sponsor, then an independent fairness opinion is typically required.

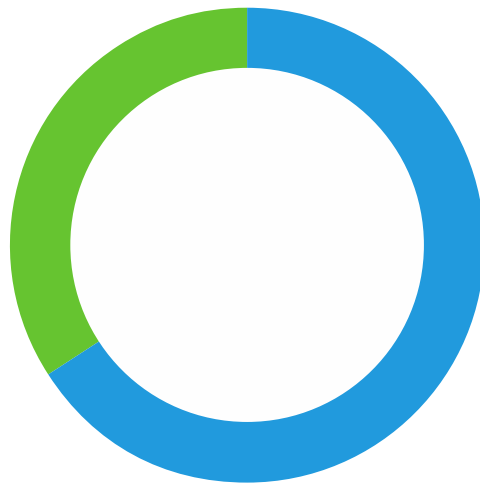
## Raising Additional Funds for the Business Combination

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- In advance of signing and announcing the business combination, a SPAC and its target will typically seek to raise additional funds in the form of a PIPE (Private Investment in Public Equity) to backstop potential redemptions and/or provide deal certainty to target.
- Business combination targets have, on average, enterprise values three to five times the gross proceeds amount raised in the SPAC IPO.
  - For example, a SPAC that raised \$200 mm in its IPO will likely acquire a business with a post-business combination enterprise value of between \$600 mm and \$1 billion.
  - SPAC shareholders typically end up holding less than a majority of equity interests in post-business combination company
  - IPO proceeds in trust often supplemented with PIPE proceeds and sometimes additional leverage
- Often SPAC stockholders end up in a minority position in the post-business combination company.

## Business Combinations – PIPEs

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### PIPE at Closing of Business Combination

- Yes - 66%
- No - 34%

\*Business Combination data excludes 1H2020 SPACs. The data on this page includes only SPACs from our study that have completed a business combination as of 7/31/2020.

Approximately two-thirds of the SPACs in our study that completed initial business combinations raised additional equity financing in the form of a PIPE (private investment in public equity) concurrently with the closing of the business combination.

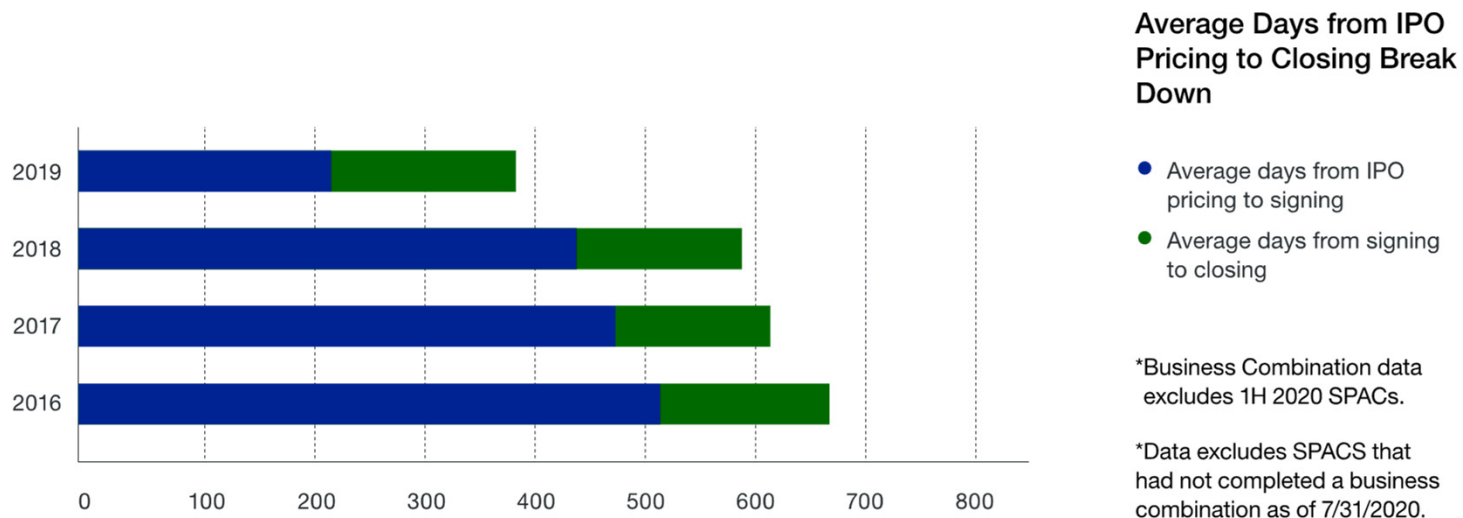
## Closing the Business Combination

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- The SPAC will almost always require a stockholder vote to approve the business combination.
- In addition, the SPAC will need to register with the SEC any additional securities issued to the target's shareholders.
- The proxy statement and registration statement require SEC review, which can take eight to twelve weeks or more.
- In connection with the vote, public stockholders have the ability to redeem their shares pro rata for cash held in trust, whether or not they support acquisition or the trust liquidates.
- If stockholders approve of the business combination, the transaction closes within a matter of days (assuming no other regulatory approvals needed).



# Business Combinations – Time to Signing



The average number of days it took for a SPAC to sign an agreement for its initial business combination was 440. It then took, on average, an additional 148 days to close the initial business combination.

## Business Combinations – Enterprise Value



**Average Announced  
Enterprise Value**

\*Business Combination data excludes 1H2020 SPACs. The data on this page includes only SPACs from our study that have completed a business combination as of 7/31/2020.

The average announced pro forma enterprise value of the post-business combination company in our study was \$889mm. This represents a ratio of 4.19 to the average deal size of \$212mm for SPAC IPOs in our study that completed a business combination.

## Going Public Considerations

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- For private companies, a de-SPAC transaction provides an opportunity to access the public capital markets similar to a traditional IPO.
  - The company can raise funds through the sale of equity capital.
  - Existing shareholders can gain liquidity through public market.
- Both the de-SPAC and traditional IPO process involve the creation and regulatory review of SEC-level disclosures.
- **Following both the de-SPAC and IPO, the resulting public company will have the same continuing reporting and other obligations to regulators and the public markets.**

## Going Public Considerations (continued)

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- A de-SPAC transaction may be more attractive to some private companies as compared to a traditional IPO
  - Valuation is negotiated by SPAC and target and not tied to market demand; large number of SPACs may be driving prices higher
  - Ability for target shareholders to share in sponsor economics
  - Marginally less expensive process because no underwriting fees paid by target (SPAC pays on IPO proceeds only), but still significant transactional expenses
  - Private companies are permitted to disclose forward-looking statements and financial projections as part of de-SPAC process (but may create liability risk)

## Going Public Considerations (continued)

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- On the other hand, a traditional IPO may have certain advantages
  - Other things being equal, an IPO produces more value for the issuer because there is no “sponsor promote”
  - Valuation from public markets may be better than what can be privately negotiated with SPAC depending on market conditions
  - SPAC may create potential significant warrant overhang
  - SPAC sponsor may seek board representation
  - Traditional IPO vetting and diligence process perceived as more thorough than de-SPAC
  - IPO process could result in better research coverage and shareholder composition

# Summary of SPAC / Going Public Considerations for Sports Teams

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- Is being Public Appropriate for Your Business and Your Ownership?
  - will you be a micro or small cap “Pure Play” or a Larger Diversified Entity?
  - is Ownership prepared for the transparency, costs, risks (litigation, activists and otherwise), and regulatory and other burdens of running a public company?
  - is Ownership prepared for a continuing public disclosure obligation?
  - is Ownership prepared to be vulnerable to all future regulatory initiatives?
- What is Ownership’s motivation for the transaction?
  - is it monetization for ownership (if so, compare debt, private LP, PIF and IPO v. SPAC)?
  - is it to have access to public capital markets (consider ramifications of market or financial performance contexts where stock price may not be robust)?
  - what does TeamCo need the capital for? is it to fund capital investments or for operating costs?

# Summary of SPAC / Going Public Considerations for Sports Teams (continued)

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- Valuation
  - recall that if you are contemplating an initial 80%-20% private/public equity split, you will still own the 80% after the big “pop” if the stock trades down, that will be your value absent a change of control or other strategic transaction
  - sports valuations are influenced by tax benefits and the value of the control premium; it is possible that neither will be recognized in the typical public company context and your public valuation may, over time, be less than your Private or Forbes valuation
  - past “pure plays” were characterized by low trading volumes, which can create price volatility; you may not be getting a sufficiently deep and liquid market for price integrity
  - with some exceptions, over time public company valuations tend to be tied to financial performance and expected profits/cash flows

# Summary of SPAC / Going Public Considerations for Sports Teams (continued)

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- Control
  - leagues will require that there be a “control person” and Ownership typically wants to retain control
  - in a SPAC or IPO’s, this may necessitate super voting or golden shares



## SPAC vs IPO

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- If Ownership crosses the public company bridge and your league will allow it (no sure thing), consider the Pros and Cons of SPACs vs IPO
- **Pro/Cons Include:**
- SPACs will set the price up-front and competition among SPACs for deals may drive a premium price
  - **BUT** markets could rise later, making an IPO preferable; private sale might achieve a similar value; also, equity markets could get disrupted between contract and closing with a SPAC, creating a closing risk

## SPAC vs IPO (continued)

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- **Pro/Cons Include:**
- SPACs are “faster” than IPOs
  - **BUT** there will be months of SEC and shareholder effort between contract and closing that eliminate some of the timing advantage; also, the SPAC sponsor gets substantial economics via the 20% carry that could be captured by Ownership in an IPO or other transaction (or needs to be negotiated in the combination); assess the SPAC costs/benefits carefully because they may not be the same for everyone

## SPAC vs IPO (continued)

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- **Pro/Cons Include:**
- SPACs sometimes have knowledgeable Sponsors
  - **BUT** will most sponsors really add management value, especially given the “Control Person” concept in sports?
- SPACs can get a company’s “story told”
  - **BUT** do sports teams really need their story told?
- SPACs make forward looking statements and projections
  - **BUT** is Ownership (and its league) comfortable? it also creates some risk

## SPAC vs IPO (continued)

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- **Pro/Cons Include:**
- SPACs can bring PIPE money and leverage
  - **BUT** some may be used in the redemption process and both sources of capital may raise league rule issues
- SPACs have a built in shareholder base
  - **BUT** data suggests that shareholder base often sells out quickly

***There will be a host of League issues as well***



# Emerging Capital Structures in Sports

Private Investment Funds



# An Introduction to Private Investment Funds

Chip Parsons  
Brian Schwartz

# What is a “Private Investment Fund”?

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- Closed-ended, pooled investment vehicle
- Generally no ability for investors to withdraw capital from or transfer investment in a fund
- Investors make capital contributions over time, up to a commitment amount
- Fixed term (often 10+ years) with periodic distributions of cash/securities
  - Often in connection with the realization of one or more portfolio investments
- Equity interests in a fund are not registered under the Securities Act of 1933
- Fund is not registered as an “investment company” under the Investment Company Act of 1940

# Types of Closed-Ended Private Investment Funds

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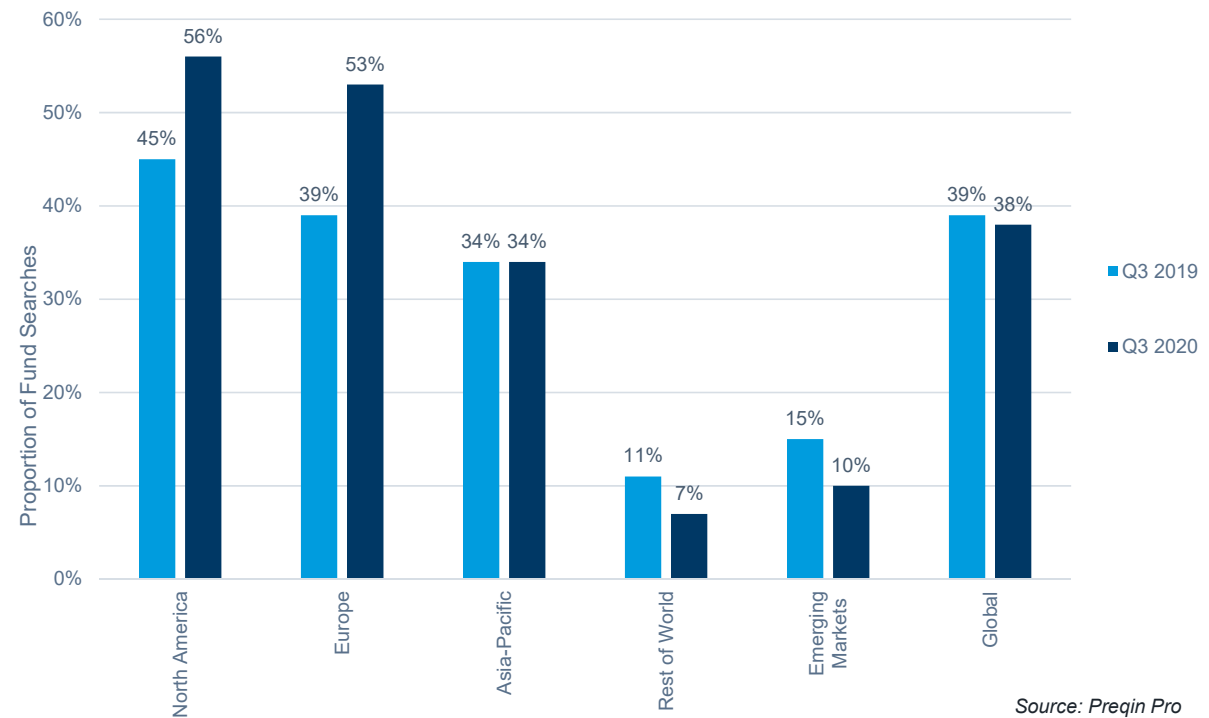
- Private Equity
  - Venture Capital
  - Buyout
  - Growth Equity
- Private Debt
  - Senior Debt
  - Mezzanine Debt
  - Distressed Debt
- Funds of Funds
- Real Assets
  - Real Estate
  - Infrastructure
  - Natural Resources and Energy
- Managed Accounts/Funds of One
- Secondary Funds



# Sectors and Geography

- Biotech & Healthcare
- Technology, Media & Telecom
- Consumer & Retail
- Industrials
- Energy
- Real Estate
- Natural Resources
- Infrastructure
- ...Sports

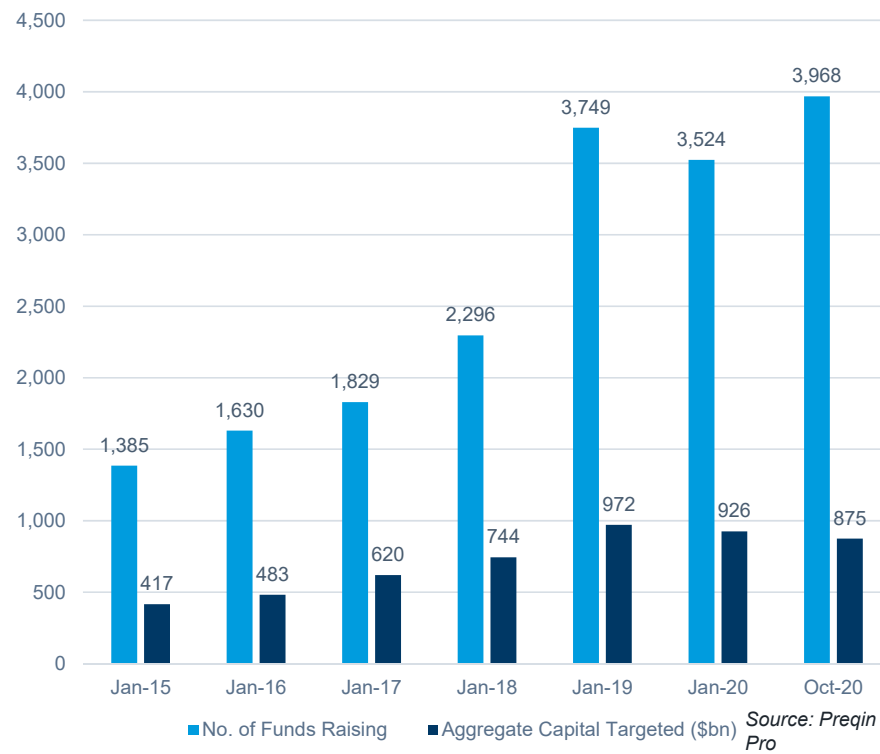
Fig. 9: Regions Targeted by Private Equity Investors over the Next 12 Months, Q3 2019 vs. Q3 2020



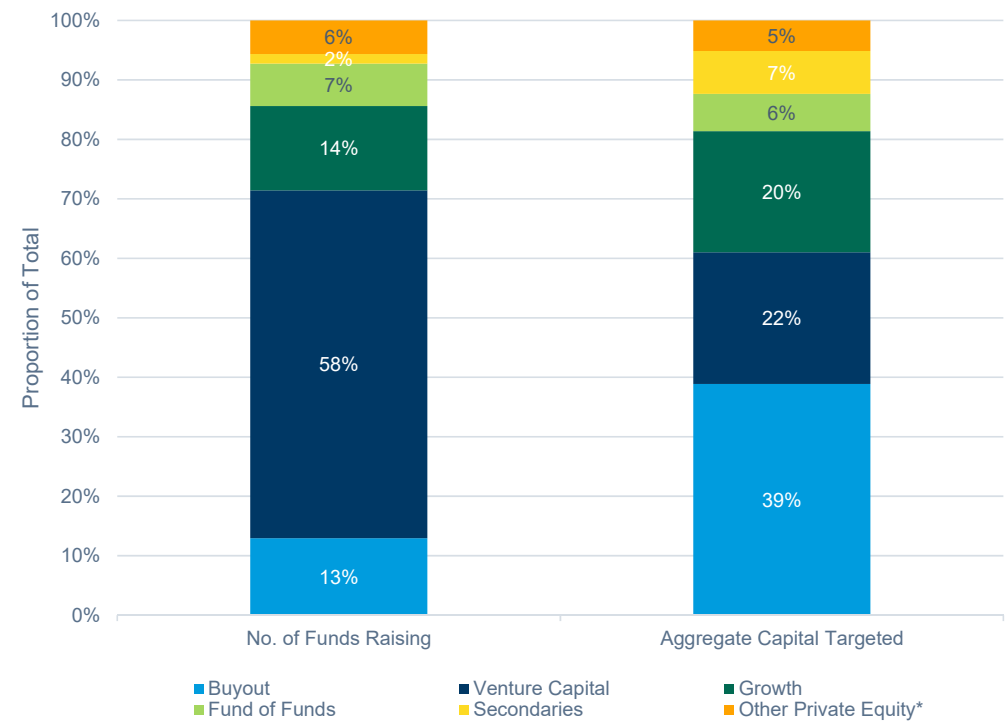
Source: Preqin Pro

# Recent Statistics

**Fig. 4: Private Equity Funds in Market over Time, 2015 - 2020**



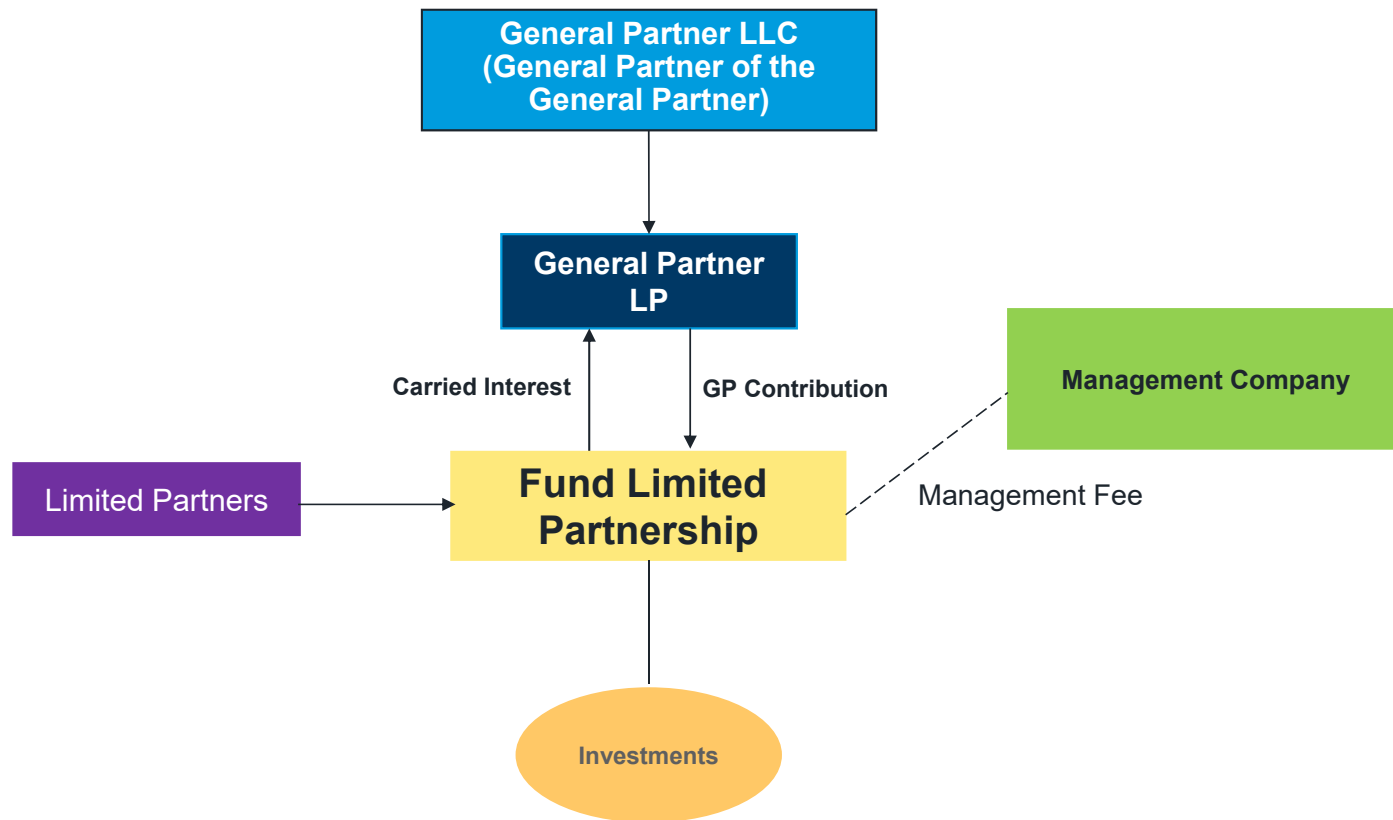
**Fig. 5: Private Equity Funds in Market by Fund Type**





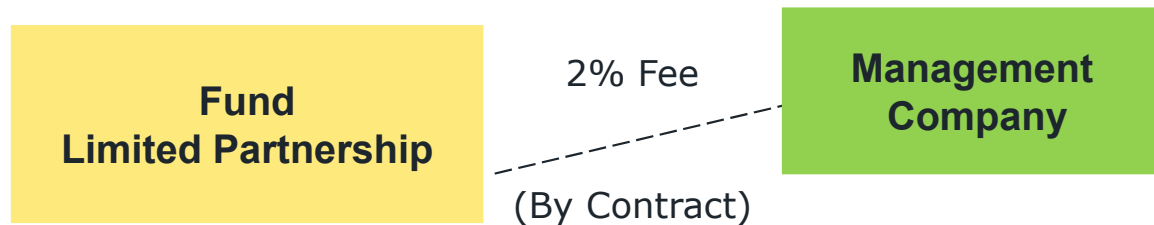
# Structure of a Fund

# Organizational Framework



# Management Company

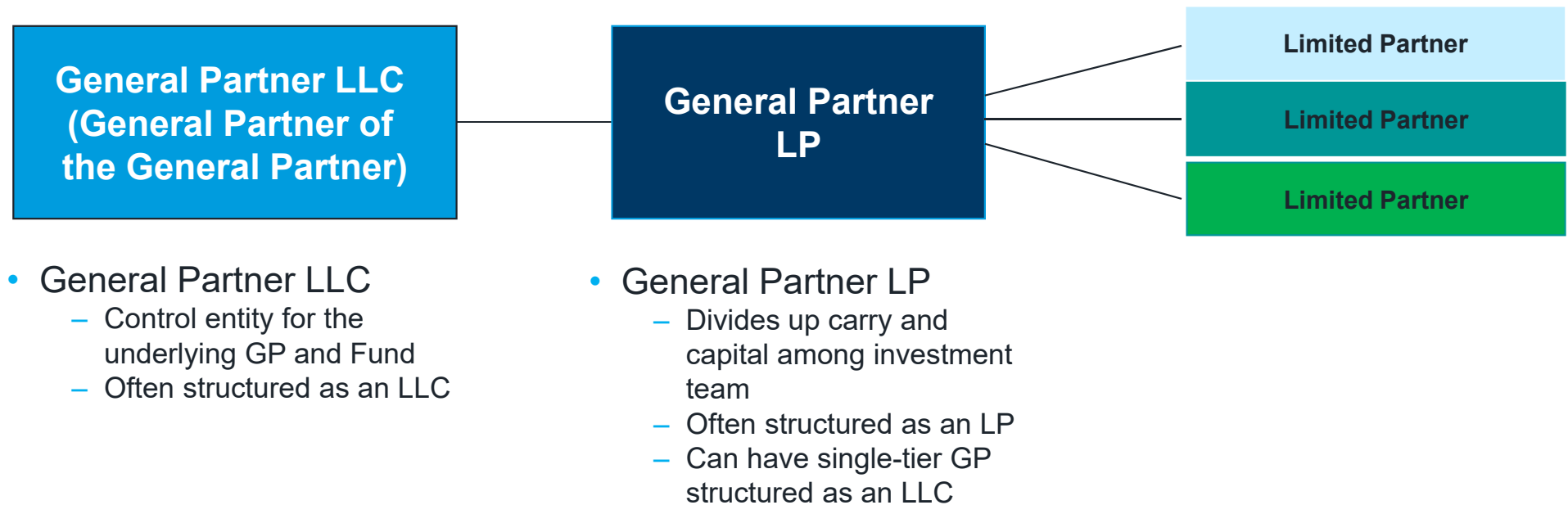
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- Management company employs the investment team, pays salaries and other overhead costs
- Management company enters into an advisory agreement with the fund
- Typically closely held by founders / senior investment professionals (but a number are publicly traded)

# General Partner (GPLP and GPLLC)

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# Common Fund Jurisdictions

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- Delaware
  - Sponsor-favorable
  - Flexible statutes
  - Up to date
  - Well-developed jurisprudence
  - Business courts
  - Known commodity
- Cayman Islands
  - Cayman partnership law is similar to Delaware partnership law
  - Tax advantages for non-U.S. investments
  - No taxes payable in Cayman Islands on fund income
  - Familiar jurisdiction to investors

# Typical Investors in a Private Fund

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- Public and private pensions
  - U.S. state and local governmental plans
  - Corporate pension plans / ERISA plans
- Sovereign wealth funds
- Endowments and foundations
- Insurance companies
- Fund-of-funds
- High-net worth individuals and family offices



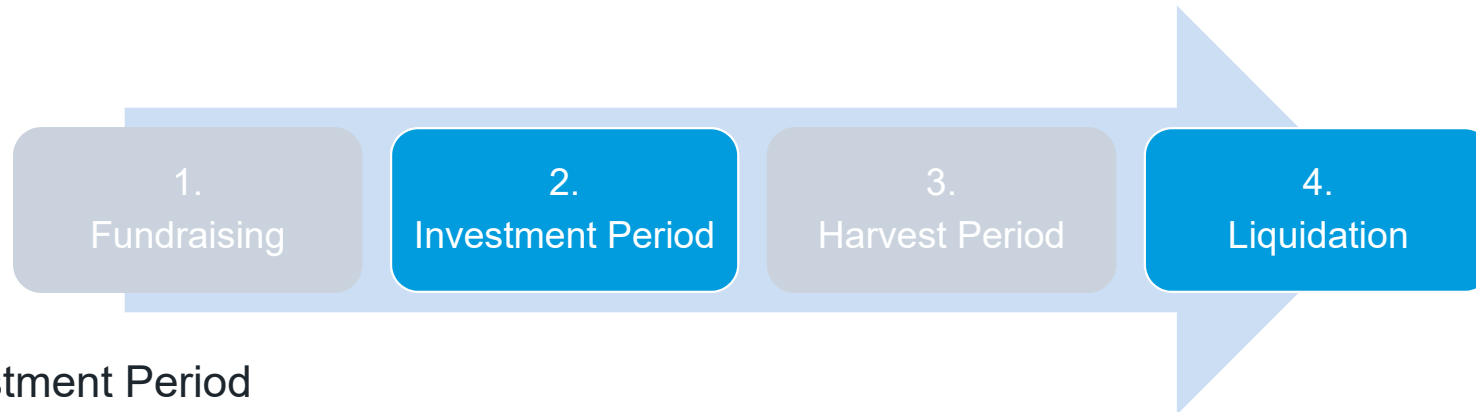
# Use of Leverage

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- Fund-level
  - Short-term capital call credit facilities
    - Borrowings can be drawn between 90-180 days
    - Reduces the need to make frequent capital calls to investors
    - Typically secured by a fund's uncalled capital
  - Longer-term leverage
    - Less common among private equity funds
    - More common among debt and real estate funds
    - Typically secured by the fund's assets
- Investment level
  - Portfolio companies generally can borrow without limitation
  - Buyout funds generally borrow at the portfolio company level in connection with leveraged acquisitions or dividend recapitalizations
  - Temporary bridge financings to portfolio companies provided by funds

# Stages of Life of a Fund

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- Investment Period

- Typically 3-6 years from closing
- After expiration, fund is prohibited from making investments in new portfolio companies
- Capital may still be called for expenses and follow-on investments (may be capped)

- Fund Term

- Typically 10 years
- Term can be extended (GP discretion, LP vote, LPAC vote)
- No time limit on post-term liquidation



# Fund Economics

Management Fees, “Carried Interest,” Sponsor Commitment and Expenses

# Fund Economics – Management Fees

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- Typical Fee
  - Venture Capital Fund – 2.0% to 2.5% of committed capital
  - Buyout Fund – 1.5% to 2.0% of committed capital
  - Debt Fund – 1.0-1.75% of invested capital
- Sliding Scale Fees
  - Decline in later years – fixed vs. formula
  - Percentage of prior year fee
  - Invested capital
- Fee period
  - Rampdown after Investment Period
  - Early Termination of Investment Period Rampdowns
  - Successor Fund Rampdowns
  - Duration of Term/Full Liquidation (Extension periods)

## Fund Economics – “Carried Interest” and Distribution Waterfalls

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- “Carried Interest” is the General Partner’s share of the profits that the fund earns after LPs have received a return of their capital
- 20% is industry “standard”
  - Certain funds may be more likely to have lower carry (e.g., debt) or higher carry (venture)
  - Variable Carried Interest, IRR Hurdles and Return Multiples
- Most funds (other than venture) require a return of invested capital (either with respect to realized investments (“deal-by-deal”) or all invested capital (“return of all capital”) plus a preferred return on invested capital before any carried interest is distributed to the General Partner
- Preferred return
  - 8% is industry standard for private equity funds, but recently has trended downwards as cost of capital has fallen. Debt funds tend to be lower 5-7% (depending on nature of underlying loans and use of leverage).

# Fund Economics – “Carried Interest” and Distribution Waterfalls (cont.)

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- Following the return of capital plus the preferred return, the General Partner is entitled to “catch-up” on its 20% share of the profits previously distributed
  - The General Partner’s catch-up rate varies from 50% (real estate funds) to 100% (top-tier buyout and growth funds)
  - Once the General Partner has “caught up” and received 20% of the profits, the split of profits returns to 20% to the General Partner and 80% to the limited partners
- Venture
  - Cash-on-Cash Hurdles
    - Return of Committed Capital
    - Return of Contributed Capital
    - Deal by deal – NAV Cushions
- Buyout
  - Deal by deal – “Disposed of” capital with or without all or some attributed expenses
    - Write offs, write downs, dividend recapitalizations, attributed expenses
  - Cash-on-Cash Preferences - “True” or “Disappearing”
- If early payouts of carried interest result in the General Partner receiving more than 20% of the profits then the General Partner may be subject to a clawback

## Fund Economics – General Partner Commitment

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- Sponsor expected to invest its own capital in or alongside the fund (i.e. “skin in the game”)
- Traditionally had been 1% of total capital commitments
  - Recent LP pressure to increase sponsor commitments; 3-5% increasingly common
  - Often focus on carry position of prior funds
- Some funds permit the Sponsor to satisfy a portion of its capital commitment pursuant to a cashless/deemed contribution mechanism

# Fund Economics – Organizational Costs and Partnership Expenses

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- Organizational Expenses
  - Fund generally pays for the cost of its own set-up; often capped at certain \$ amount (frequently, 0.1% - 0.3% of the capital commitments to the fund)
- Partnership Expenses
  - Fund generally pays for its own operating costs
  - Deal-related expenses
  - Third-party services (investment banking, consulting, legal, accounting, audit)
  - Travel for investment team
  - Regulatory compliance costs: fund v. advisor
  - Very specific expense disclosure in legal documents
- Management Company and GP generally pay for their own overhead (e.g., employee salaries, rent, utilities)





# Fundraising Process

# Fundraising Process – Environment & Competitive Pressures

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- Robust interest from investors in private funds
  - Returns from many private fund managers have often out-performed public equities
- In a low yield environment, certain LPs are seeking higher-yielding investments (e.g., pensions and endowments)
- At the same time, there is an increased number of sponsors competing for investor's money across strategies
- Increasing number of institutional investors focusing on investing with fewer managers with superior track records (reduced administrative burden and cost)
- Once a fund has been raised, sponsors must deal with an extremely competitive landscape for deal-making

## Fundraising Process – Timeframe & Closings

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- Marketing to potential investors typically begins several months prior to first closing of the fund
- Closing
  - An initial closing won't take place until a critical mass of investors is reached
  - Funds can stage rolling closings, admitting investors as they are ready to commit
  - Fundraising period is often 12 months, sometimes longer
  - Closings are typically “dry” with no money due from investors at closing
- Late Admission
  - Later-admitted investors typically participate in all investments made prior to their admission
  - Generally buy-in at cost plus interest (which is payable to the earlier-closing investors)
  - Allows late closing investors to “preview” a fund's portfolio

# Fundraising Process - Key Investor Documents

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- Limited Partnership Agreement
  - Details all terms and conditions of the investment
- Subscription Agreement
  - Securities law compliance/representations and warranties
- Side Letter
- Private Placement Memorandum
  - Detailed description of the fund's investment strategy and objectives
  - Disclosure of risks and conflicts

# Fundraising Process – Negotiating with Investors

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- Partnership Agreement Terms
  - Economic terms
    - Management fee, carried interest, expenses
  - Governance
    - Investment restrictions, advisory committee, key person trigger, sponsor removal
- Side Letter Rights
  - MFN
  - Confidentiality/Disclosure rights
  - Preferential economic terms
  - Regulatory and investment restrictions



# Certain Additional Fund Terms

# Additional Fund Terms – Capital Calls, Default, Recycling

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- Capital Calls
  - Capital is called on an “as needed” basis
  - Typically must give ten (10) days’ notice (often shorter for initial capital call)
  - Excuse/exclusion
- Default
  - Penalties and remedies
- Recycling
  - Internal recycling
  - External recycling: ability to call back prior distributions for reinvestment
  - Limit on amount that may be reinvested (for example, 110%-125% of commitments or amount of capital returned during the investment period)

## Additional Fund Terms – Governance Terms

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- Investment Restrictions / Investment Focus
  - Concentration limits, geography, hostile takeovers, debt restrictions
- Key Person
  - Time and attention requirements
  - Triggering events
  - Consequences
- GP Removal / Fund Termination
  - For-Cause vs No-Fault
- Role of Limited Partner Advisory Committee



## **Additional Fund Terms – Conflicts, Deal Flow, Successor Funds**

- Conflicts of Interest
  - Transactions with affiliates
  - Allocation of investment opportunities
  - Allocation of expenses
- Successor Fund Restrictions
  - X% “invested, committed or reserved for expenses or investments”
  - Restrictions on fund type, strategy, geography; “substantially similar”
  - Management fee step down

## Additional Fund Terms – Reporting and Information Rights

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- LP Reporting
  - Annual and quarterly reports
  - Schedule K-1s
  - Customized reporting, fund of funds reporting
- Confidentiality
  - Fund-level information
  - Portfolio company-level information
  - FOIA



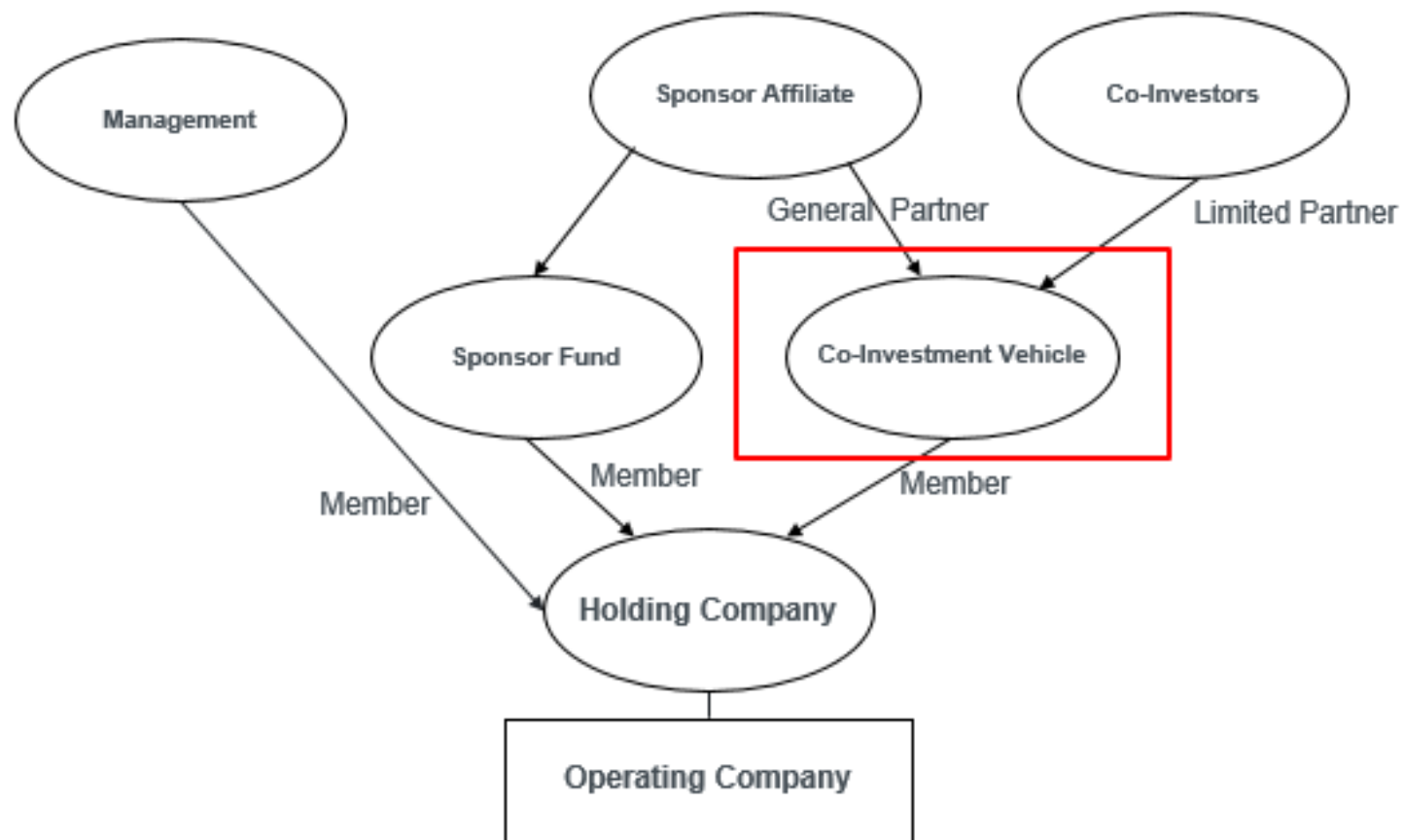
# Co-Investments

# Co-Investments

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- Investment alongside a “main fund” in a portfolio company
  - Participation by “main fund” limited partners and/or third party investors
  - Investors often piggy-back on sponsor’s due diligence
- Allows investors to have increased exposure to portfolio companies on a deal-by-deal basis
  - Most often structured through sponsor-controlled SPVs, although co-investors sometimes structured as investments directly into portfolio companies
- Co-investors generally have same securities, same rights as “main fund”
  - Tag/drag-along rights
  - Pre-emptive rights
- Economics
  - Often have no management fee, no or reduced carried interest
  - Transaction fees go to sponsor

# Co-Investment Structure (SPV)





# Alternative Types of Fund Structures

Evergreen Funds, Funds of One, BDCs, Restructurings

# Alternative Types of Fund Structures

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- Evergreen Funds
  - Open-end funds with no termination date
  - Periodic investor liquidity event
- Funds of One / Separate Managed Accounts (SMAs)
  - Single investor or affiliated investor vehicles
  - Customized for investor based on strategy/goals
- Business Development Companies (BDCs)
  - Often publicly traded; Exchange Act reporting obligations
  - Access to retail investors
  - Tend to focus on debt investments

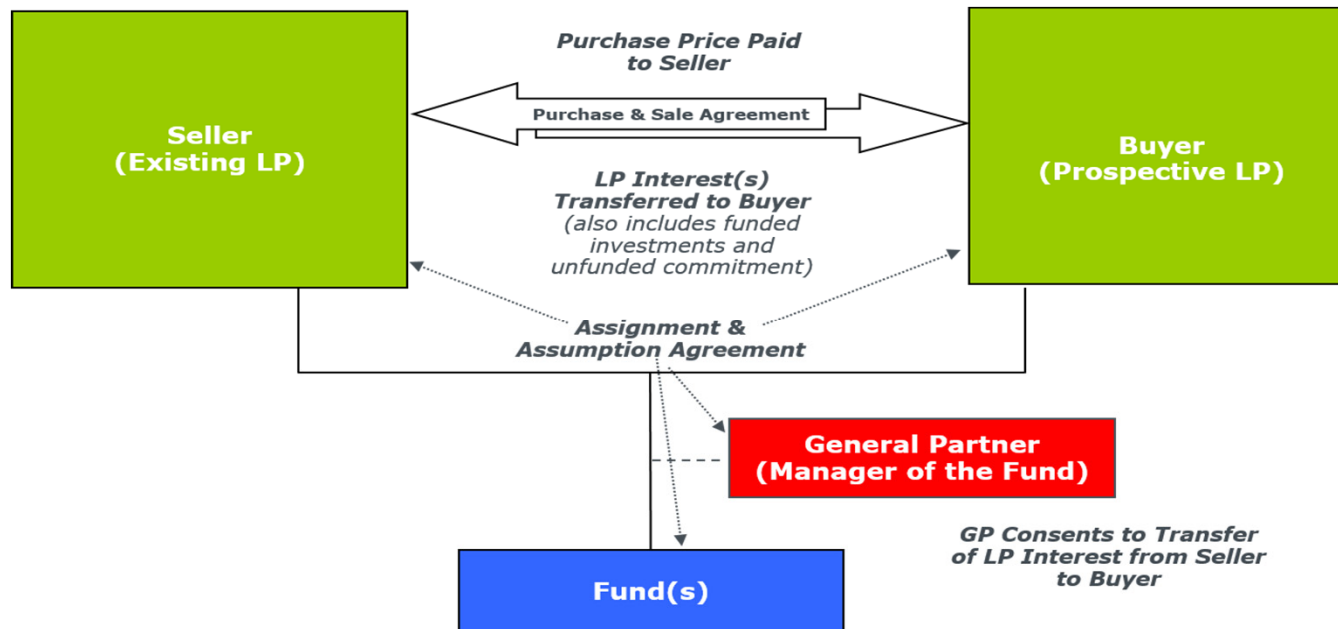




# Secondary Market



# Secondary Market





# Regulatory & Tax Issues

Securities Act, Investment Company Act, Advisers Act, Tax & ERISA

# Certain Regulatory Issues

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- Securities Act of 1933
  - Regulation D
  - No general solicitations
  - Investors must be “accredited investors”
- Investment Company Act of 1940
  - 3(c)(7) and 3(c)(1) exemptions from registration; most funds rely on 3(c)(7) – investors must be qualified purchasers
- Investment Advisers Act of 1940
  - Registered investment advisers versus exempt reporting advisers
  - Venture capital adviser exemption
  - Private fund adviser exemption (\$150 million AUM)
- EU Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (AIFMD)
- CFIUS
- FINRA

# Tax & ERISA Issues

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- Tax
  - Non-US investors and ECI
  - Tax-exempt investors and UBTI
  - Funds are generally formed using tax-transparent entities
- ERISA
  - Benefit plan investors
  - 25% Test
  - VCOC

The background of the slide is a photograph of a large stadium, likely for sports, with a complex metal roof structure. The image is heavily filtered with a blue color and a slight blur, giving it a professional and modern feel.

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