

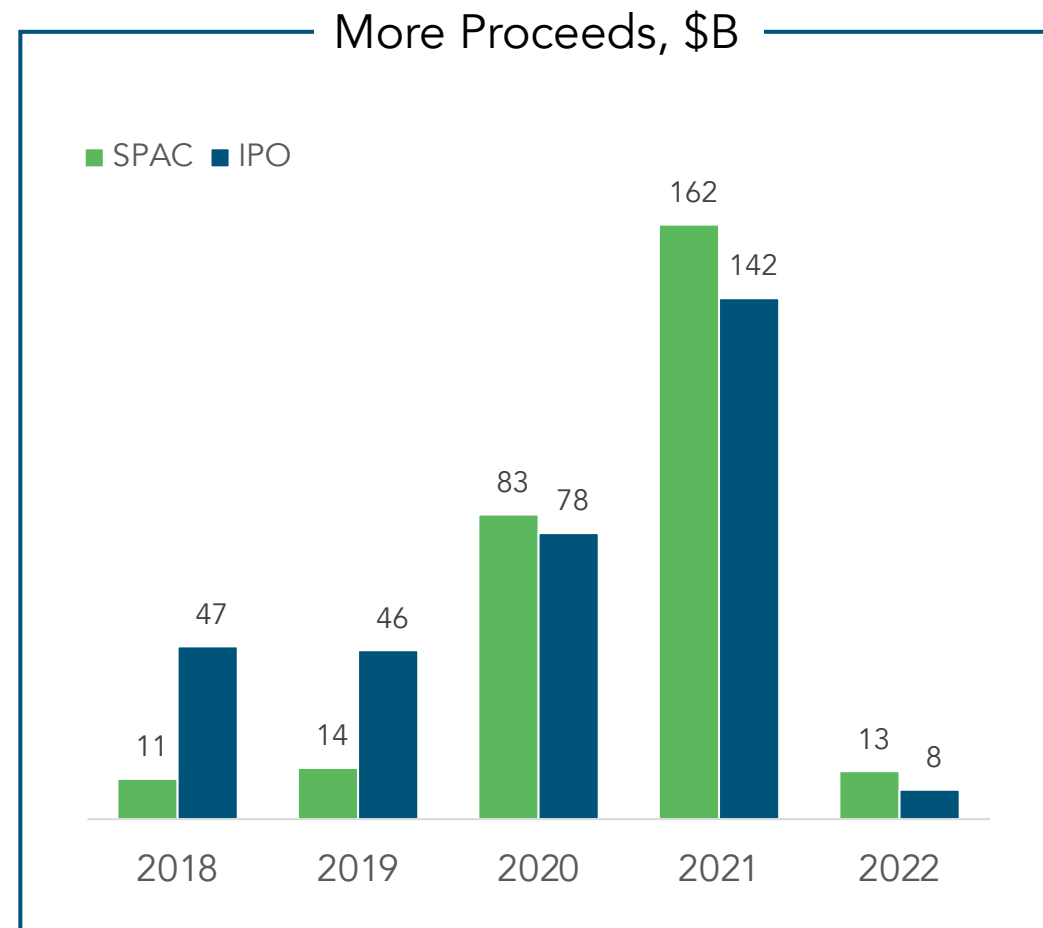
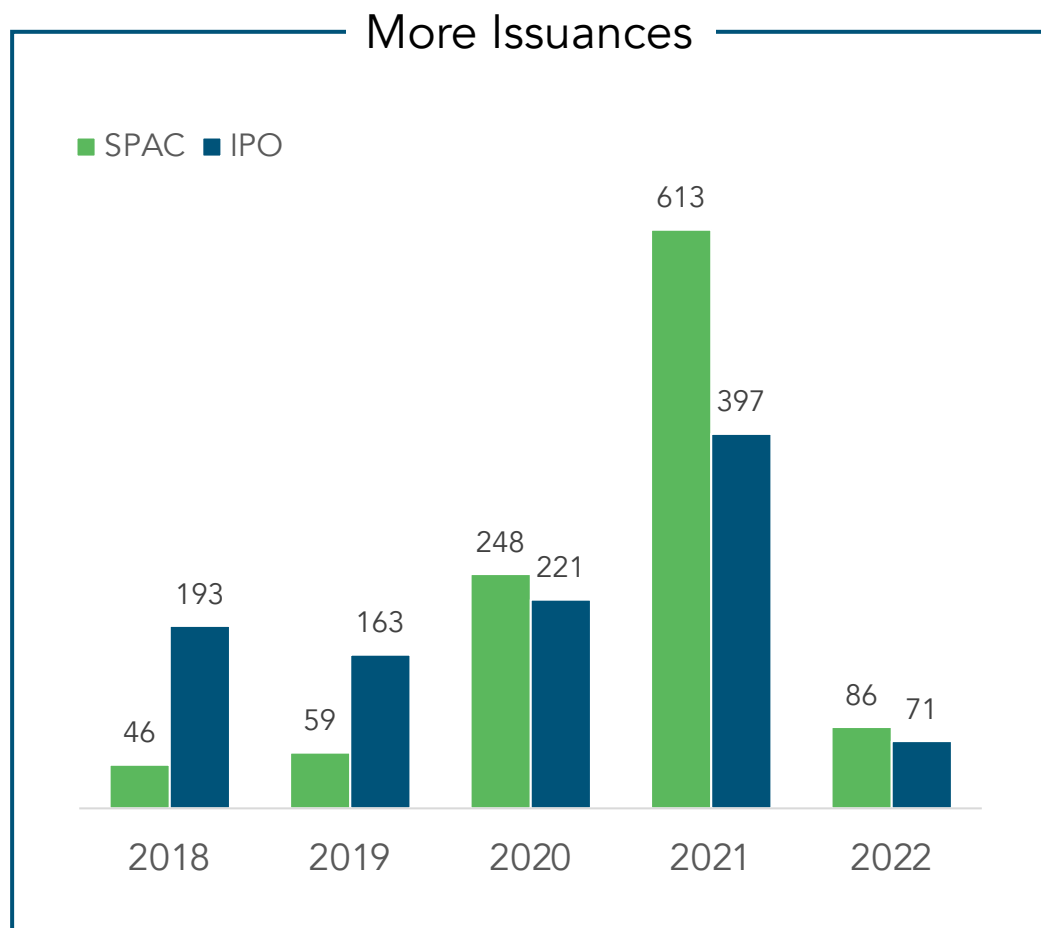
# RE-IMAGINING SPACs

Rajiv Shukla

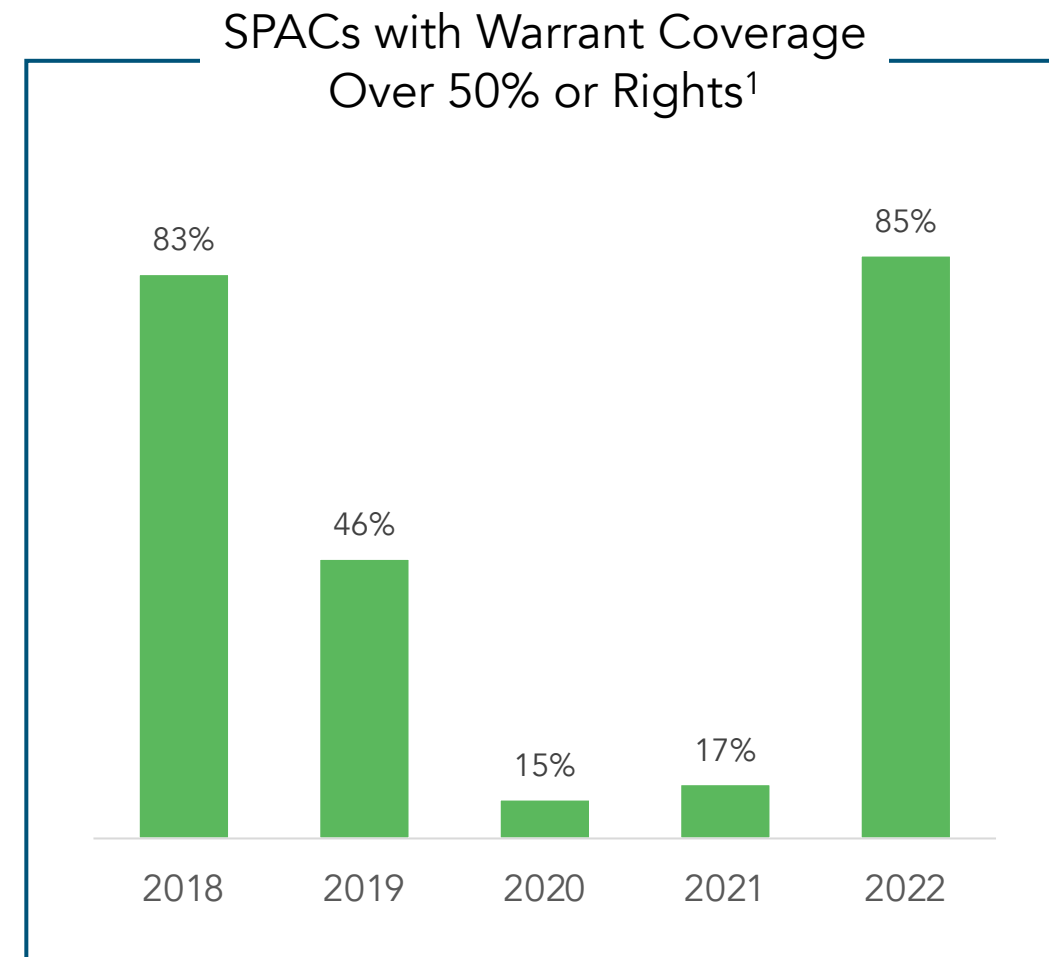
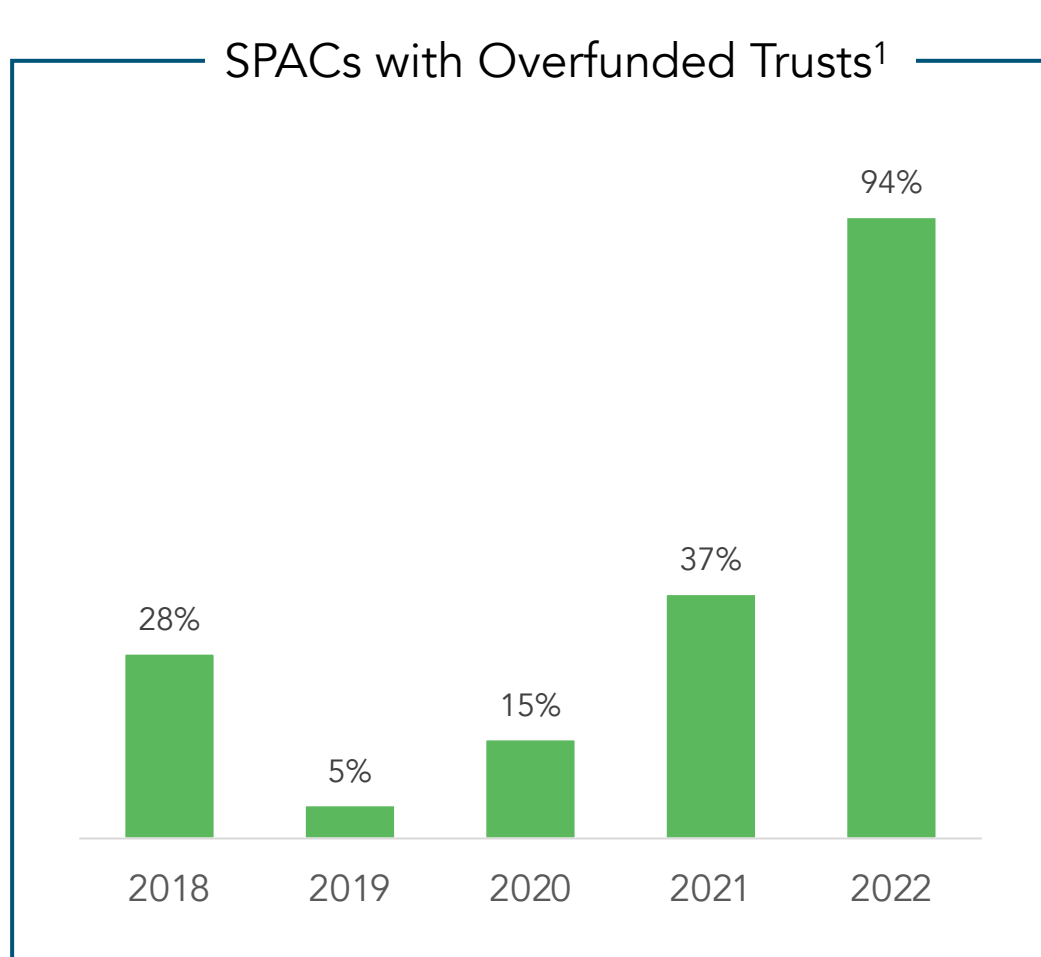


The SPAC Conference, Jun 29, 2023

# DURING THE PANDEMIC, SPAC IPOs GREW



# DURING THE PANDEMIC, QUALITY OF SPAC IPOs IMPROVED



1. Lower is better: indicates smaller structural inducement at IPO implying more attractive SPAC Sponsor

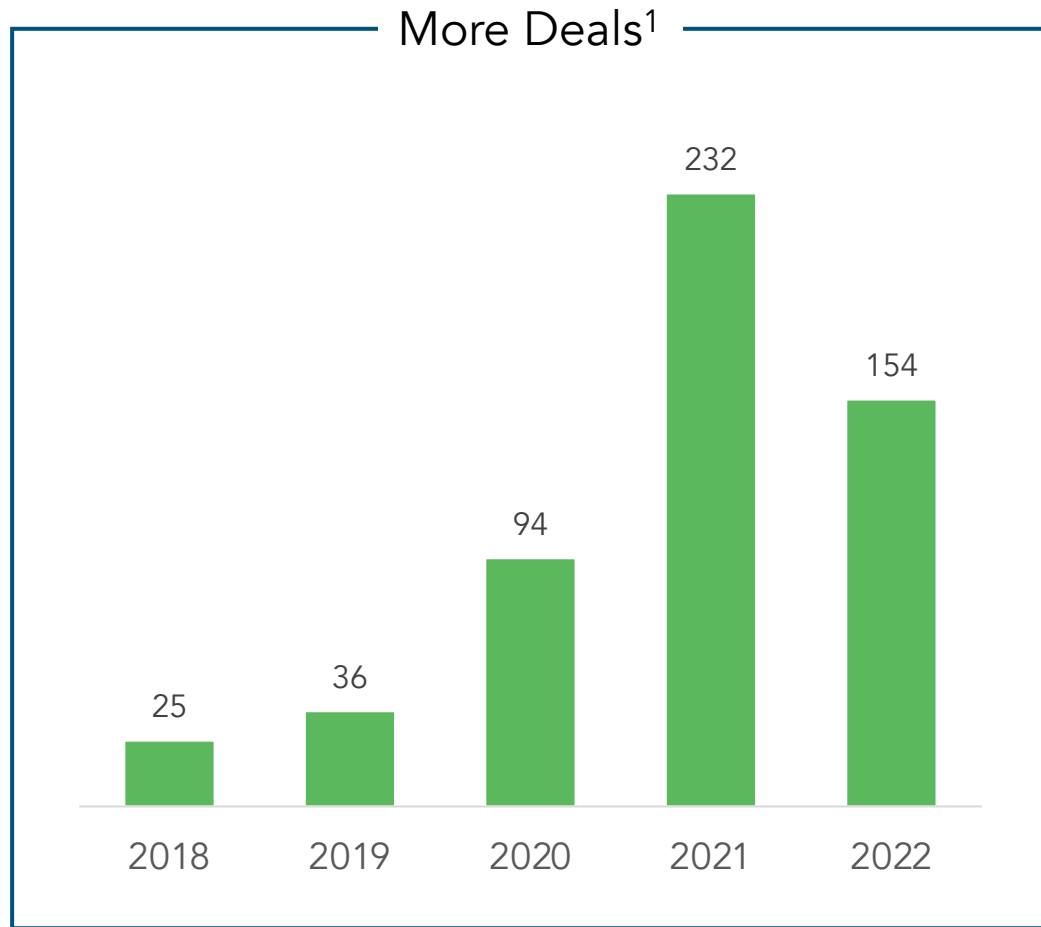
# DRIVEN BY HIGH QUALITY STAKEHOLDERS

SPAC Sponsors*		
Alec Gores	Eli Casdin	Peter Thiel
Apollo Global Mgmt	Foresite Capital	Reid Hoffman
Ares Mgmt	Fortress Investment	Riverstone Holdings
Bain Capital	Guggenheim Capital	RTW Capital
Barry Sternlicht	HIG Capital	Softbank
Betsy Cohen	InvestCorp Group	Suvretta Capital
Centerview Capital	L Catterton	TPG
Chamath Palihapitiya	Michael Dell	True Wind Capital
Chinh Chu	NGP Energy Capital	Victory Park Capital
Deerfield Mgmt	Oaktree Capital	Vinod Khosla

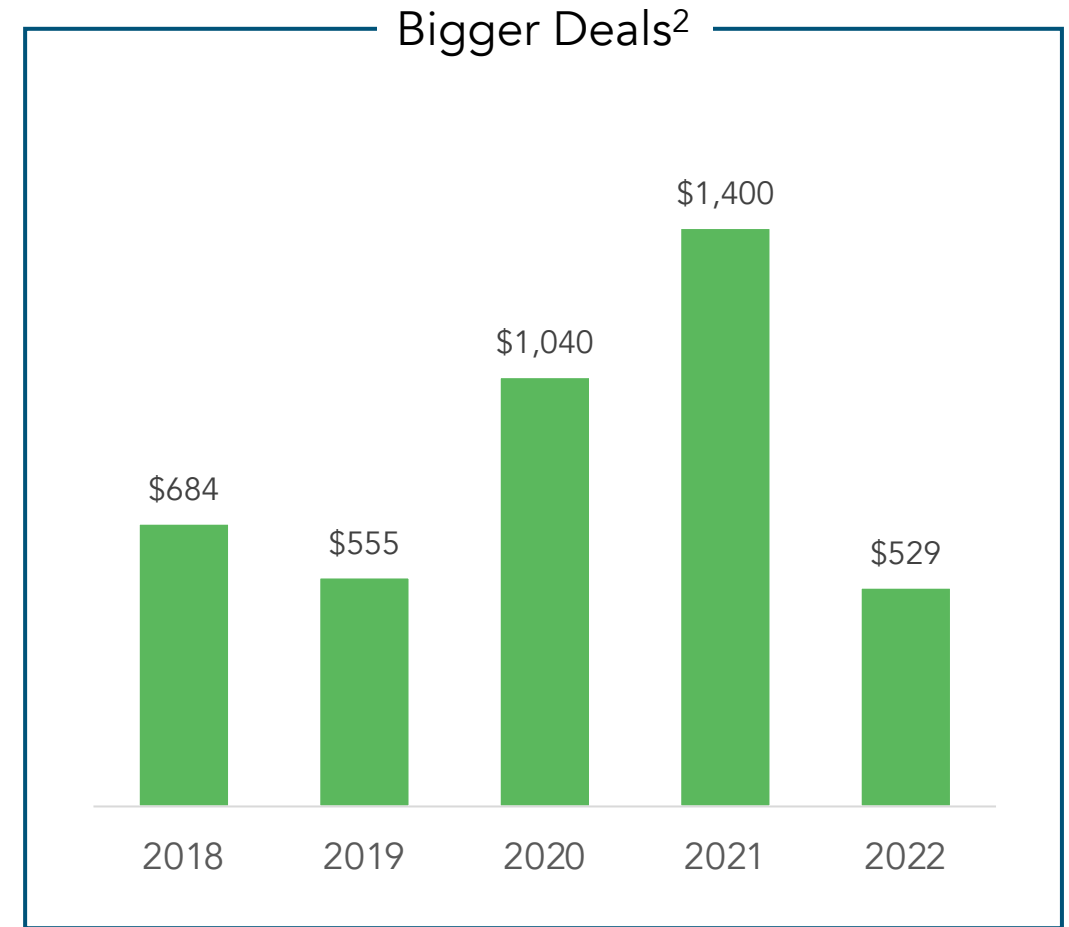
Rank	IPO Underwriter	2020 SPAC IPOs
1	Credit Suisse	41
2	Citigroup	40
3	Goldman Sachs	31
4	Cantor Fitzgerald	25
5	Jefferies	23
6	UBS	22
7	Morgan Stanley	23
8	Deutsche Bank	23
9	J.P. Morgan	17
10	BofA Securities	18

\* Not an exhaustive list

# DURING THE PANDEMIC, SPAC DEALS GREW

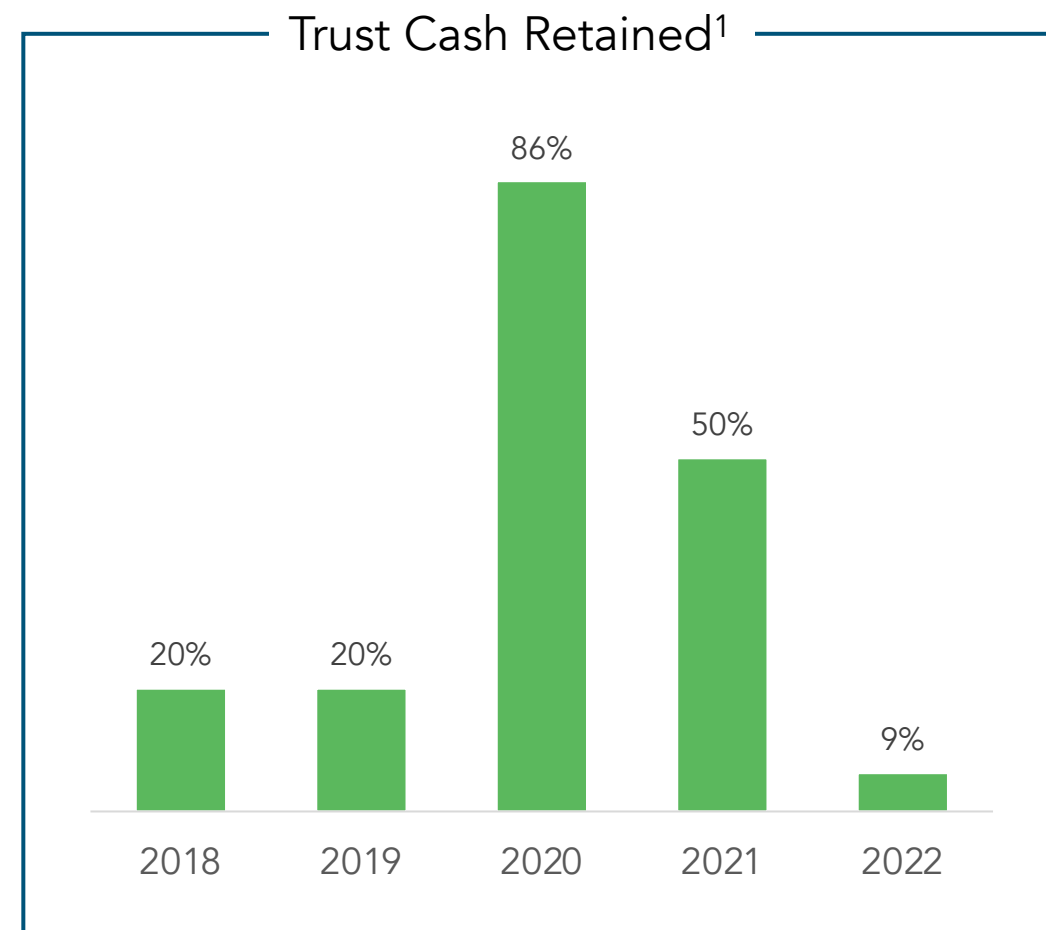
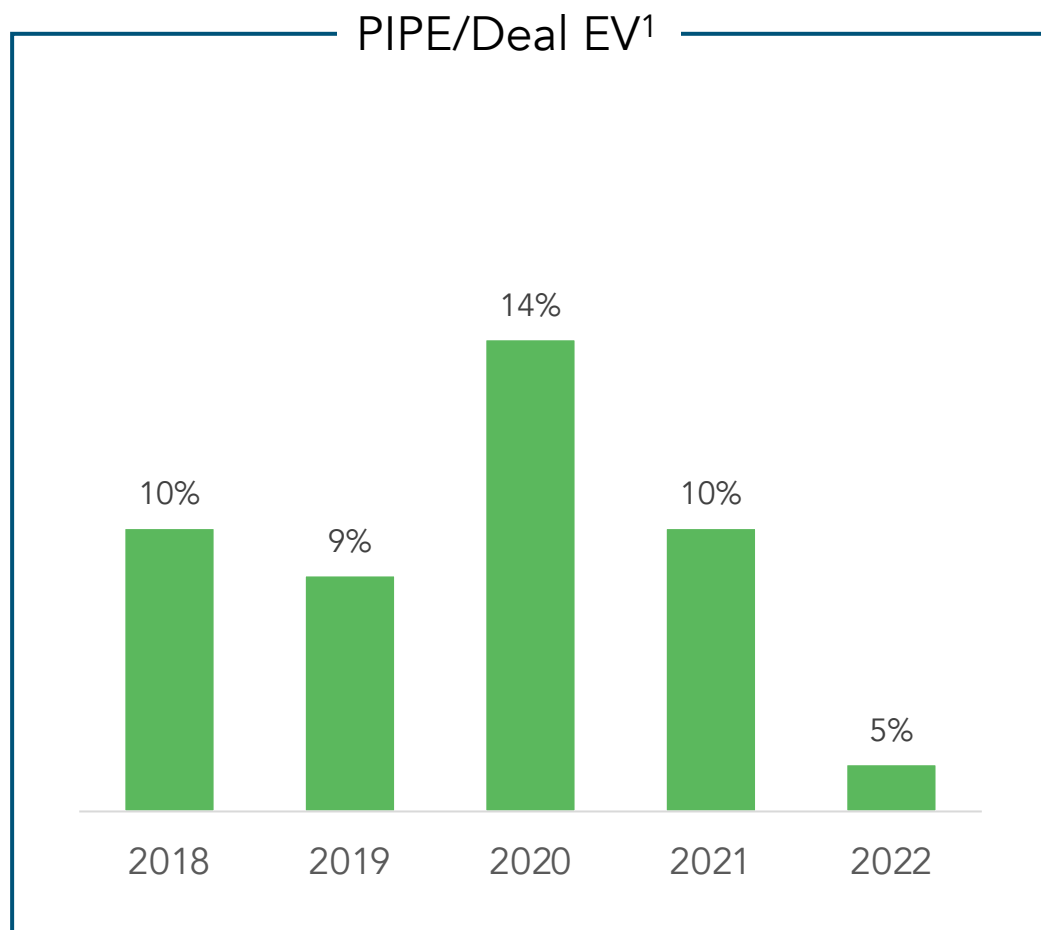


1. Deals announced in respective year



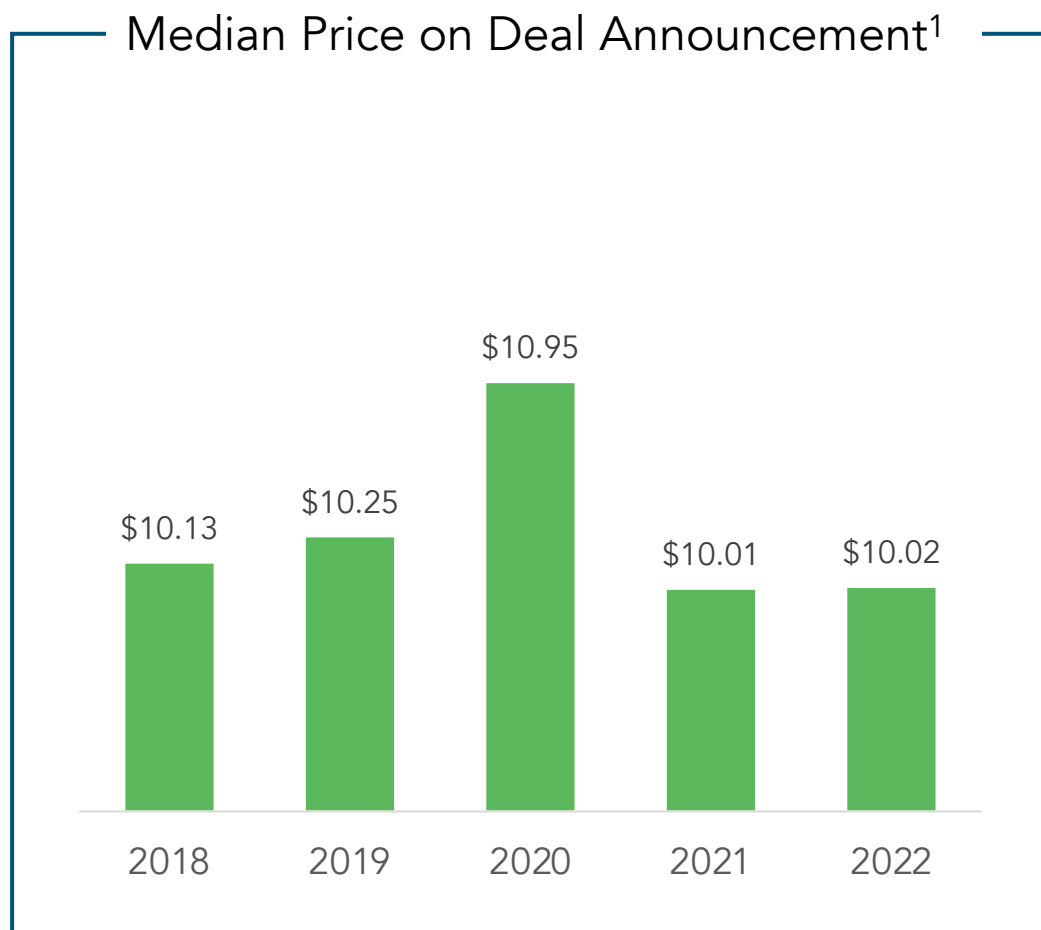
2. Median enterprise value in \$ million

# DURING THE PANDEMIC, QUALITY OF SPAC DEALS IMPROVED

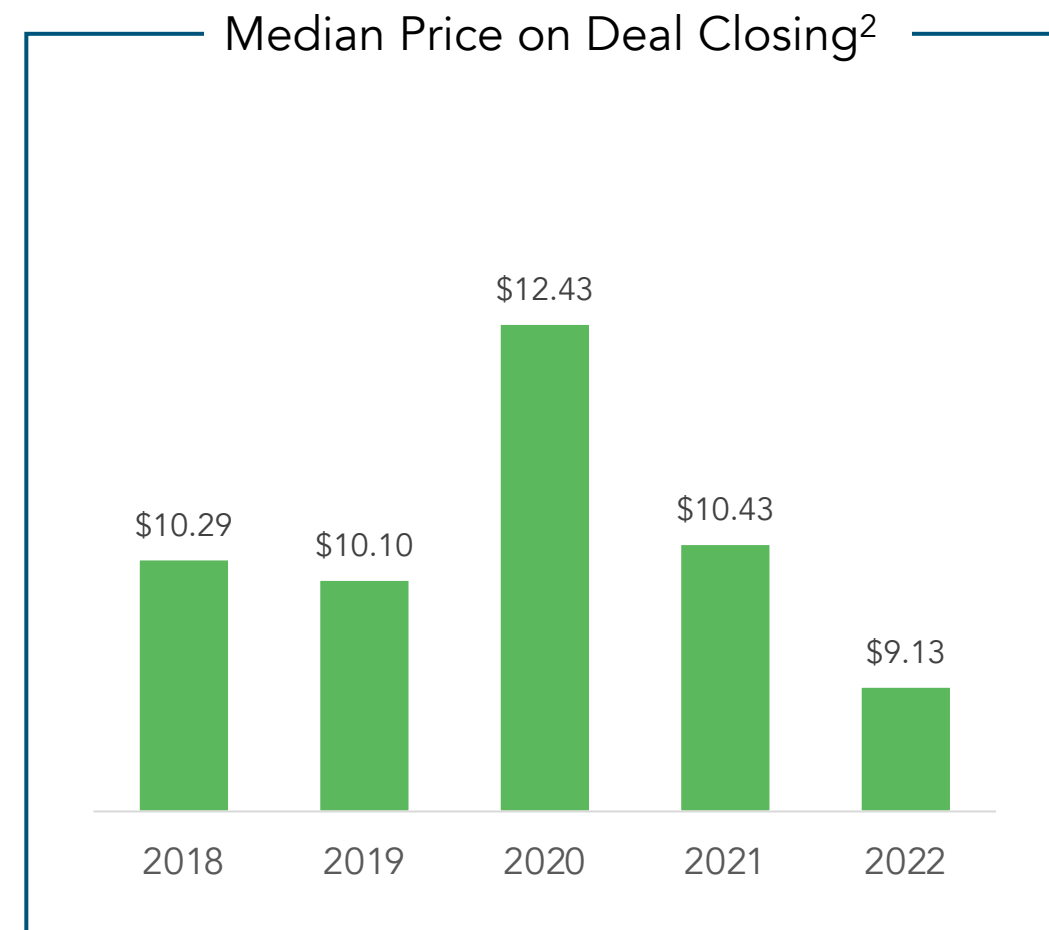


1. Higher is better: indicates more cash financing at Closing

# DURING THE PANDEMIC, SPAC PERFORMANCE WAS STRONG

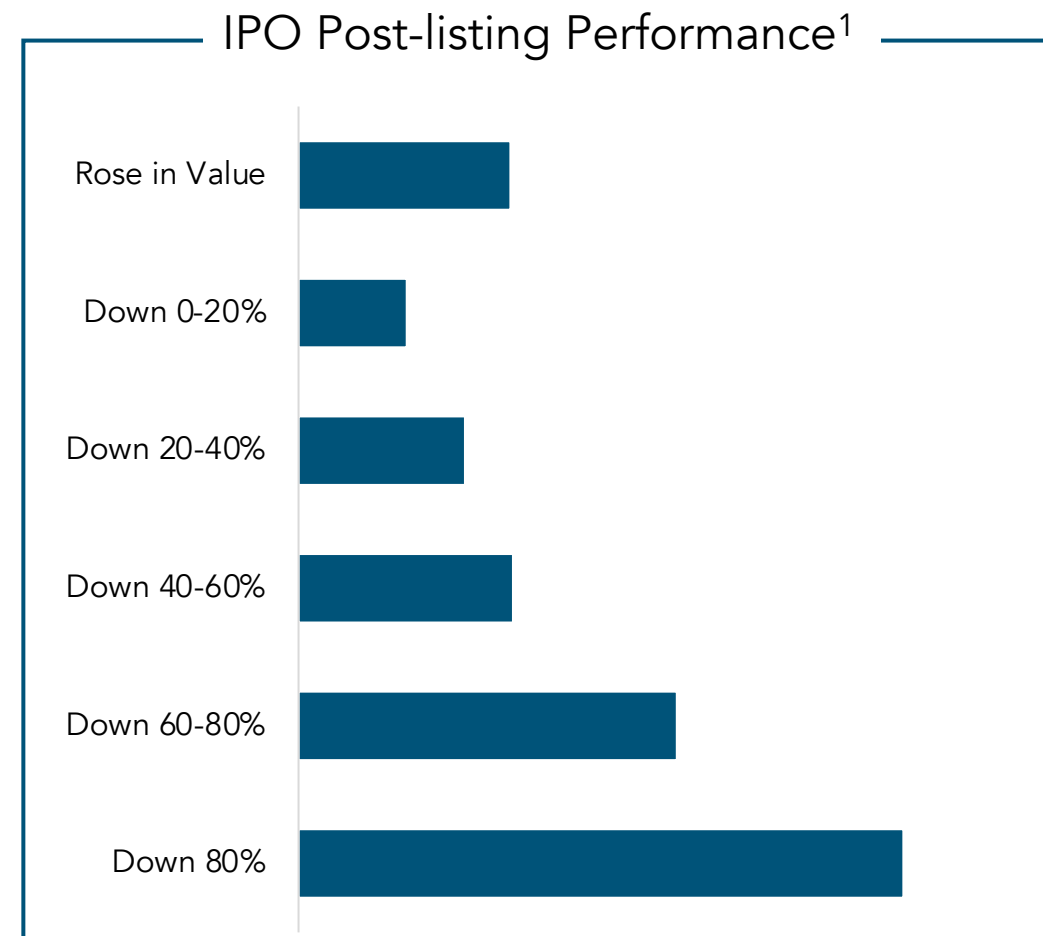
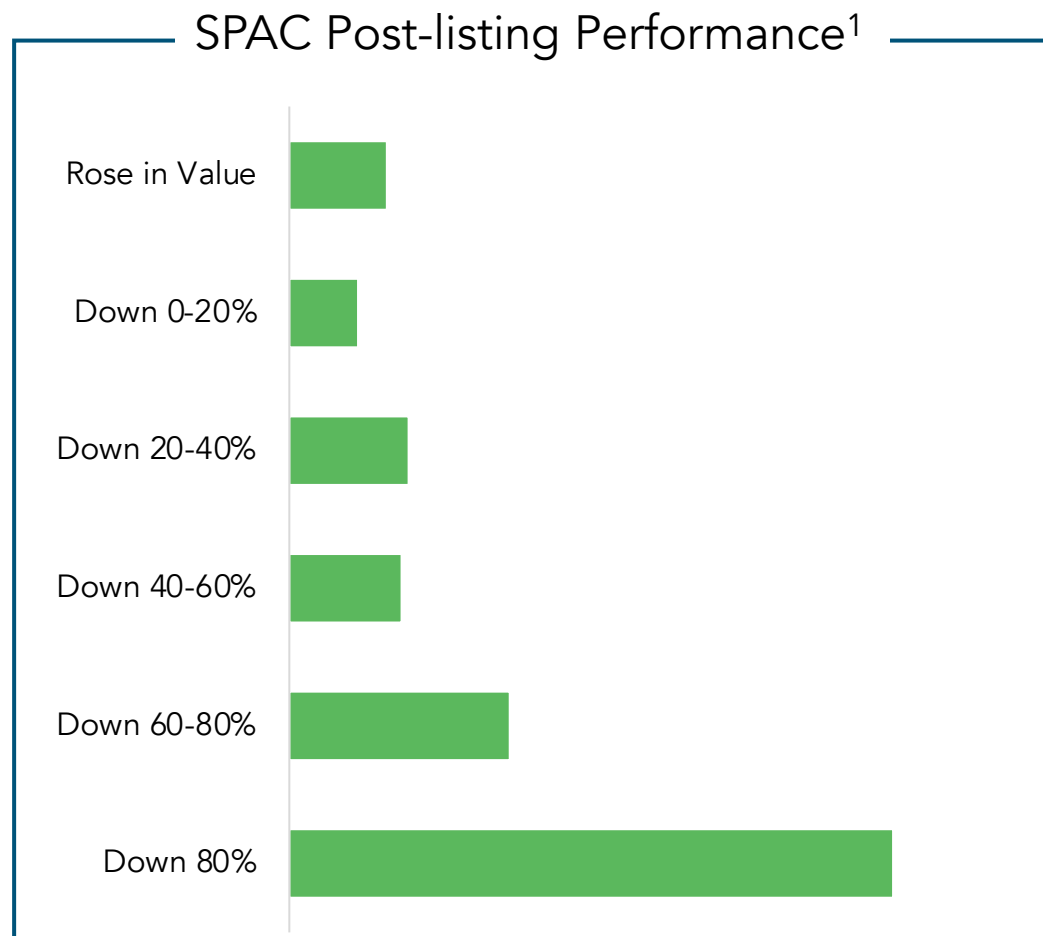


1. Price on day after deal announcement



2. Price on day of deal closing (Merger Proxy is publicly available weeks in advance of closing)

# THEN, CAPITAL MARKETS TURNED CHOPPY



1. Companies that either IPO'ed or completed SPAC mergers between 2020-2022. Price as of Apr 30, 2023



# NIPPING A BUDDING SPAC MARKET BEFORE IT COULD MATURE

	2020	May 31 YTD 2023	Trend
SPACs with more than 50% warrant coverage or any rights	15%	100%	Worsened
SPACs with under 24-month tenor	25%	93%	Worsened
SPACs with overfunded trusts	15%	100%	Worsened
Median Redemptions at Deal Closing	14%	96%	Worsened
Big banks* in Top 10 league table	100%	0%	Worsened

\* Need more than 2 deals to qualify on the league table. Big banks are Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, BofA, Citi, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, UBS, J.P. Morgan, Jefferies, Cantor Fitzgerald.

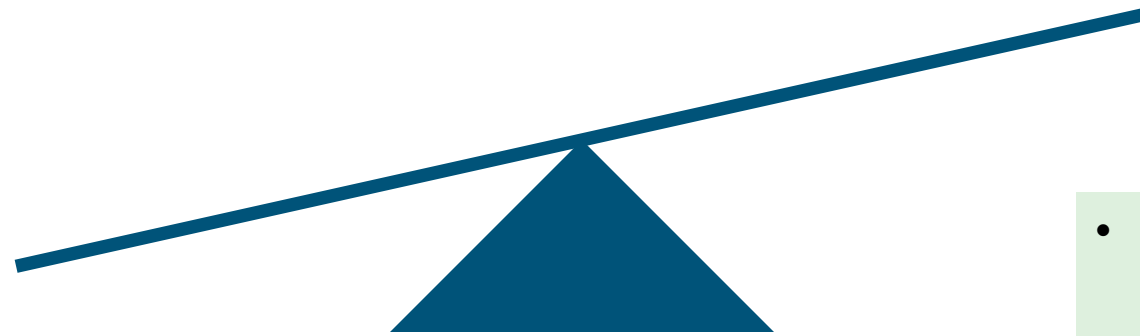
# "SKY IS FALLING ONLY ON SPACS" NARRATIVE HASN'T HELPED

Narrative	Reality
"2020 market led to SPAC bubble which led to poor quality SPACs"	2020 SPAC cohort had superior IPO terms, de-SPAC performance and higher quality Sponsors, Bankers and Investor participation
"Regulatory changes are making the SPAC market better"	IPO terms and de-SPAC performance have worsened over the last 2 years
"SPACs significantly underperform IPOs"	No meaningful difference in performance by sector
"SPAC sponsors are making fortunes"	SPAC sponsors have lost \$2.2 billion in cash over last 12 months while VC/PE fund sponsors earned fees through the market tumult
"Retail investors are losing heavily by investing in SPACs"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retail participation at IPO is principally to satisfy Exchange listing round lot holder requirements – typically under \$0.5 million investment</li> <li>• 13F holders account for more than 95% of SPAC shares currently</li> </ul>
"Just do a good deal. It will drive stock price above redemption price lowering redemptions"	Unlike VC/PE who can take advantage of poor markets/low valuations, SPACs face high redemption pressure when volatility (VIX) is high

# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

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Retrograde  
retreat into  
market niche?

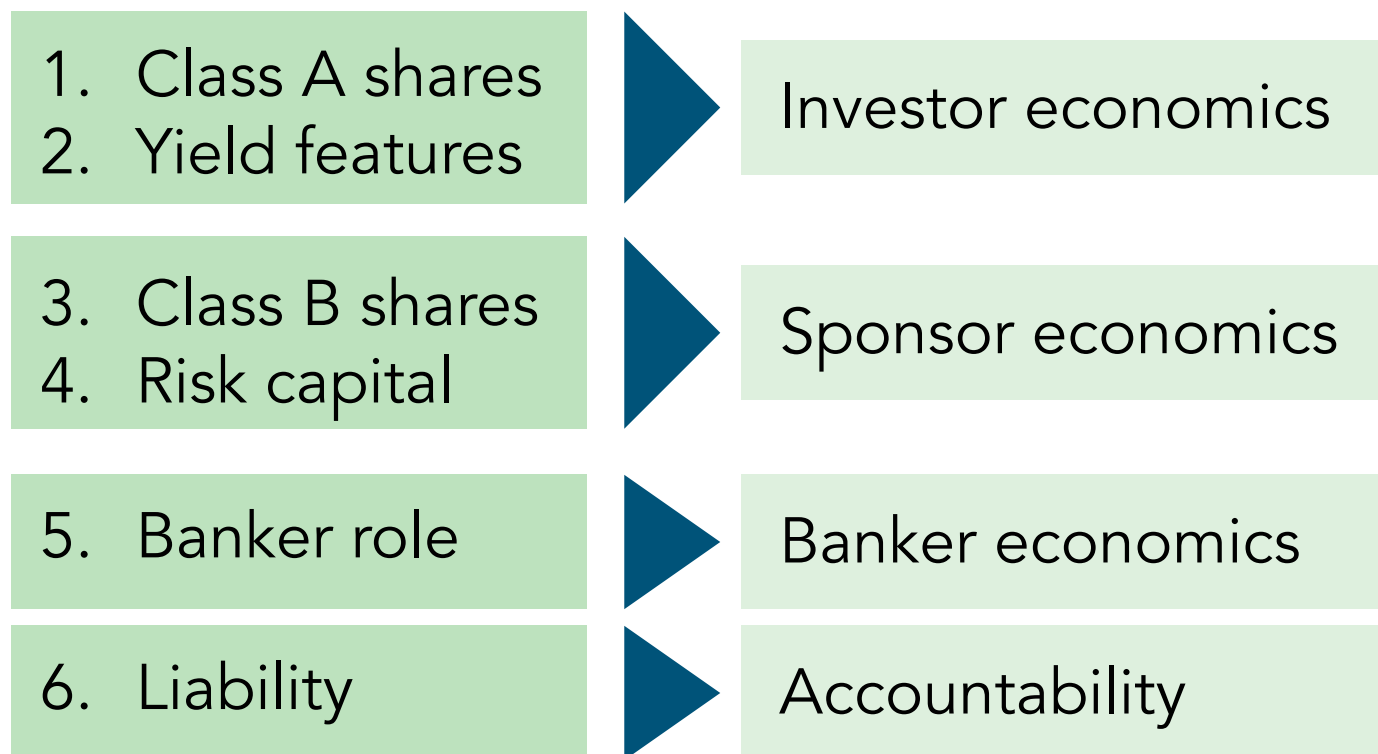


March forward  
in a better  
direction?

- Using precedents that worked in a healthy market  
And,
- Extending best practices to create a new and better SPAC structure

# RE-IMAGINING KEY STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS OF SPACs

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# ISSUE #1: DEAD MONEY THAT WALKS WHEN YOU NEED IT

SPAC IPO Investors	Other Blind Pool LPs: VC/PE/Hedge Funds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dead money: IPO capital parked in a Trust Account results in high underwriting expenses</li> <li>Free lunch: Sponsor pays for parked capital through Warrants, Rights, Overfunded Trusts, Tenor Extensions.</li> <li>IPO investor takes zero risk for holding to "maturity"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LPs pay 2% management fee per annum on AUM</li> <li>For 8 to 10-year closed end funds, 16-20% in fees on capital that has not been fully deployed</li> <li>LPs pay fees at risk up to 10 years before profits are realized</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital can be redeemed when it is needed</li> <li>100% redemption of IPO capital permitted &amp; rewarded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital is called when it is needed</li> <li>Forfeit all invested capital on ignoring capital call in closed end drawdown structures – typically VC/PE funds</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% protection of invested IPO capital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No protections for invested capital</li> </ul>

Guaranteed yield for IPO  
investor and bankers

- Incentives are heavily skewed in favor of IPO investors due to "dead money" structure: IPO capital can stay un-invested for up to 2 years
- No incentives for De-SPAC investors – crescent term protects IPO investors' free lunch
- Cost of free lunch borne by Sponsor, TargetCo and De-SPAC investors

# RE-IMAGINING THE IPO UNIT STRUCTURE

*Reduce Incentives For Transient Capital or Move Away From Dead Money Structure*

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## Non-detachable warrants/rights:

- No free lunch for redeeming IPO investors
- Warrants/rights only for investors staying invested

## Precedents:

1. Zero warrant SPACs: 60+ SPACs
2. Tontine warrants: Bill Ackman SPAC
3. Class 1 & 2 warrants: Kensington Capital
4. Bonus shares to non-redeemers: 10+ SPACs

## Non-redeemable capital:

- Limit redemption rights to *force majeure*/key man events

## Precedents:

- None in the US capital markets.
- London SPACs e.g. Martin Franklin

Or

- Move away from Dead Money by creating “opt-in investment rights” at Closing by bundling non-redeemable Class A share with non-detachable \$10.00 strike warrants that expire at Closing

Precedent: None? Ackman's SPARC used Rights

# ISSUE #2: NON-STANDARD SPONSOR ECONOMICS

	SPAC Sponsor	Other Blind Pool GPs: VC/PE/Hedge Funds
Management Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unlike any parallel in Asset Management industry, overhead costs are borne by Sponsor resulting in part-time/moonlighting focus on SPACs</li> <li>No "management fee" from investors despite similar activity as VC/PE fund negotiating private transactions</li> <li>Sponsors have lost billions of invested cash in last year while "zombie" VC/PE funds draw management fees even after liquidation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically, 2% management fee per annum</li> <li>Mega VC/PE funds heavily criticized for earning more in management fees than their actual overhead expenses</li> <li>VC/PE funds also charge advisory fees from portfolio companies in some cases</li> </ul>
Carried Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% of common shares at IPO</li> <li>Not an ironclad commitment, (re)negotiated constantly</li> <li>Often shared with IPO investors, De-SPAC investors, Bankers and TargetCo</li> <li>Typically amounts to 2-5% of post-merger TargetCo but is subject to lockups and forfeiture clauses linked with negotiated performance targets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Carried" interest is typically 20% of profits paid in cash</li> <li>No negotiated reductions after fund documentation</li> </ul>

# RE-IMAGINING SPONSOR ECONOMICS

*Align With Asset Management Industry Standards*

## Management Fee:

- Eliminate “risk capital”:
  - IPO capital should not be 100% redeemable
  - Interest income used for audited deal expenses

Precedents: ~40 SPACs where interest income could be used for overhead expenses

- Make Sponsors accountable for their job:
  - No moonlighting.
  - File quarterly (blinded) disclosures on deal pipeline activity
  - Expenses are already PCAOB audited so this is superior to VC/PE fund disclosures

Focused SPAC team: TPG Pace, Eagle, Gores, Cohen, etc.

## Carried Interest:

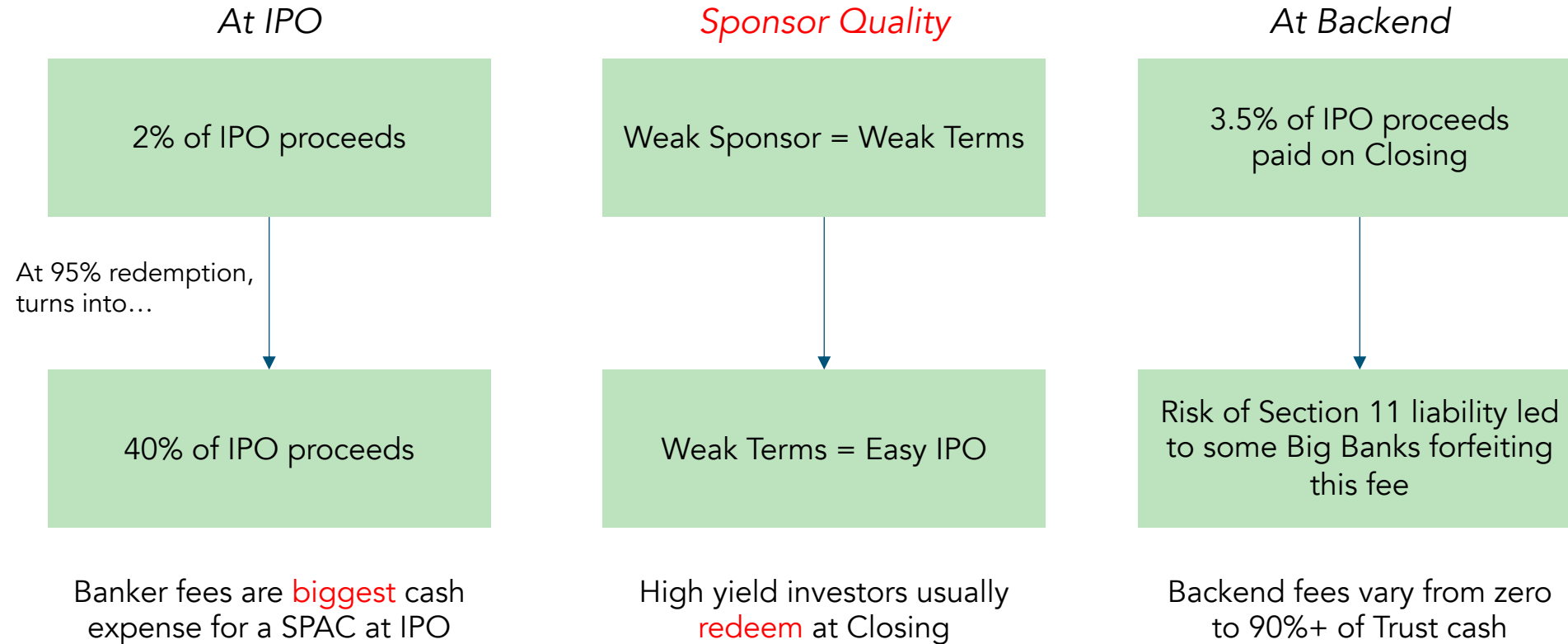
- Eliminate “Class B/Founder” shares at IPO
  - Sponsor makes money when investors make money above \$10.00 IPO price
  - Sponsor receives 2-5% of TargetCo in the form of \$11.50 strike warrants at Closing – the percentage can be negotiated *inter se* with the TargetCo and PIPE investors

## Precedents:

- Bill Ackman SPAC used warrants instead of Class B shares
- Sponsors that used price-based structure: Betsy Cohen SPACs, General Catalyst (CPAR), NGP Energy Capital (SWBK). Over 20 SPACs with Class B shares linked with price targets at IPO.



# ISSUE #3: NARROW UNDERWRITER ROLE



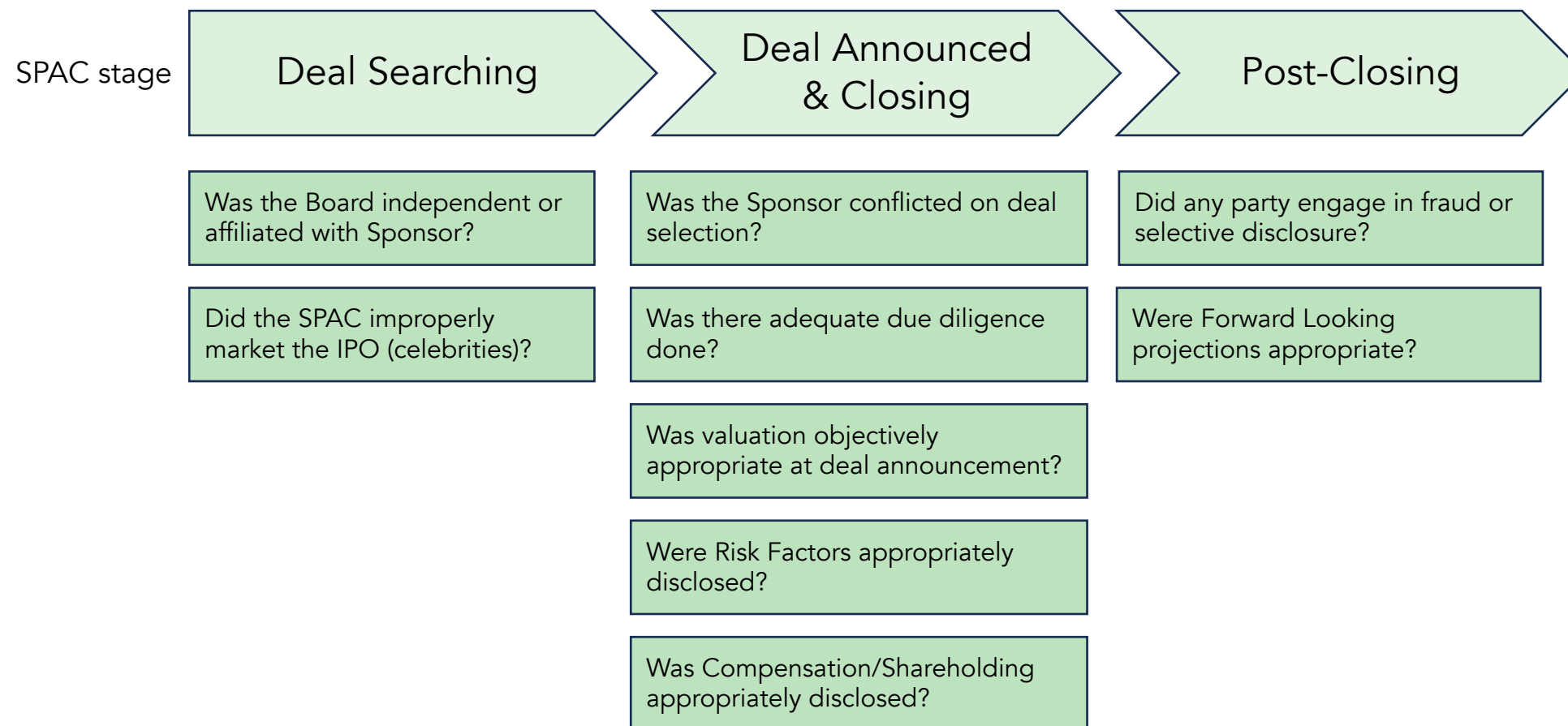
# RE-IMAGINING SPAC BANKER ROLE

*Trusted Ombudsman of SPAC, TargetCo and Investors*

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- Re-orient banking relationship:
  - Shift from IPO focused to a “start to finish” partnership
  - Where parties share risk and reward to achieve the SPAC’s goals.
  - Precedent: Underwriters investing in risk capital or accepting part payment in equity such as Cantor Fitzgerald, Jefferies, BTIG, Mizuho
  - If the bank cannot avoid liability, then they should be fully involved in the deal making process – this will assure deal quality and improve PIPE traction
- Banking fees:
  - Fees paid at Deal Closing instead of upfront: 5% on cash consideration
  - M&A fees on Closing: 1-2% of equity consideration
  - Precedent: 1% upfront fee or entirely back-ended fees
- Overall fee terms more aligned with deal success (and higher for banker)

# ISSUE #3: CAVEAT EMPTOR STRUCTURE



# RE-IMAGINING SPAC LIABILITY

## *Building Investor Confidence Through Structural Improvements*

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- Disclosure standards are fairly well established:
  - SPACs have more disclosures than IPOs and Mergers
- Institutionalize best practices in the SPAC structure:
  - Financial DD: independent auditor
  - Legal DD: legal counsel
  - Target valuation: fairness opinion
  - Forward Looking projections: SPAC D&O and Banker
- Governance:
  - Board members should not be affiliated with Sponsor across multiple SPACs or other businesses
  - Sponsor should have some degree of influence on post-Closing business management – justifies both the liability and the Sponsor economics

# SUMMARY

	Current Structure	Re-imagined Structure
Investor Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit structure incentivizes IPO investors at the cost of all other shareholders – assured dilution, not capital</li> <li>Dead money in a Trust Account serves no purpose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No rewards for redeemers (also raises the bar for an IPO)</li> <li>Smaller IPOs with ability to raise capital through bundled \$10.00 strike warrants or rights that expire at Closing - no need to pay for parking</li> </ul>
Sponsor Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sponsor does not get paid to manage capital but instead pays investors who take zero risk for holding to redemption</li> <li>Class B shares amount/lockup: only partly linked with performance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trust interest can be used for working capital. Minimal/zero risk capital.</li> <li>Sponsor gets \$11.50 strike warrants at Deal Closing so they make money when investors make a return (no Class B shares/no dilution at Closing) – 15% investment hurdle would be among the highest across VC/PE/ETF/MF/HF asset class (accounts for many trillion\$).</li> </ul>
Banker Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2% on IPO capital that can be fully redeemed</li> <li>Easier to raise IPO on yield terms with nearly guaranteed redemption</li> <li>Backend fees are unclear due to Section 11 worries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smaller IPO makes upfront fee less important</li> <li>Banker gets paid 5% on cash consideration and 1-2% on equity consideration at Closing</li> </ul>
Liability	<p>Variable behavior across Sponsors on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board independence</li> <li>Fairness opinions</li> <li>Diligence process</li> <li>Forward looking statements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build quality standards into the structure so that it builds comfort with the SPAC structure instead of relying on caveat emptor</li> <li>Post-Closing governance rights (approve Annual Budget and material spending, approve executive appointments and compensation, etc.)</li> </ul>

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