



31st Annual BCLNA Auction

Not sure what to expect at the fundraising auction?

LIVE Auction

The BCLNA fundraising auction is a process of selling items that have been donated by offering them up for bid, taking bids, then selling them to the highest bidder. Typically, the items in an auction are sold over the course of a few hours.

The auction has a preview period which begins at 4:00 pm. This gives everyone a chance to look around at what's for sale, check an item's condition and make notes on what to bid on.

When buyers arrive at the auction they will register at the front desk and pay for a bidding card (a blue card with a number on it) which is \$10 each. Newcomers will need to supply their address, phone number and credit card number. Once the auction starts, the bidders sit or stand in view of the auctioneer as items are brought up one by one to be sold.

Placing Bids on Items

For any particular item, the announcer will briefly describe the item that is being sold and the auctioneer will start the bidding at a price he or she thinks is a reasonable opening bid. For example, *"Who'll give me fifty dollars for the tree? Do I hear fifty dollars?"* If there are no takers right away, the auctioneer will try a lower opening bid: *"Who'll give me twenty-five dollars for the tree? Ten dollars? Who will give me **five dollars** for the tree?"*

When bidding, there are a couple of important things to keep in mind:

1. The auctioneer's call is final. That means if you were not paying attention and try to place your bid after the auctioneer says "SOLD", or in rare cases where the auctioneer & ringers don't catch your bid - Sorry, you are out of luck! This situation is easily avoided by making sure to pay close attention when your item comes up and holding your bidder card up clearly so the auctioneer can see it. Make a loud noise if you don't think the auctioneer has your bid!
2. If you win the bid, you become the legal owner of the item and ownership transfers to you immediately. An invoice is generated and you will need to pay for any items you've won before leaving for the night. The auction items you have won will be placed in a secure area at the back of the facility where you'll need to show your paid receipt to pick up.

SILENT Auction

During a traditional silent auction, items are displayed in a section of the room on tables and supporters make donations by writing bids on sheets of paper placed next to each item.

The Auctioneer will announce when the silent auction tables are closing so you can quickly get your last bid in. The person in charge of the silent auction will highlight the winning bid and provide the information to the cashier at the registration table. If you are the successful bidder, an invoice will be printed for you and the item will be provided to you upon receipt of payment.