



## Travis County Youth Show Youth Auction Frequently Asked Questions

Congrats! You or your exhibitor has made the auction, now what!?! Here is a list of frequently asked questions to help you navigate your next steps!

**STOP: Before you click ahead, please ensure you've read the current years' rule book, as many of these questions have more detailed information as well as deadlines, dates, and times.**

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## Frequently Asked Questions & Answers:

### Do I need to declare my item/animals to the TCYS office for sale?

- Yes, **but only** if you have 3 or more youth fair grand champions, OR 2 or more of the same livestock breed place for the sale, OR 3 or more total livestock species entries that make the sale.

### What if I don't want to sell my youth fair item?

- By entering an item in Youth Fair, you are agreeing to sell your item if it makes auction. If you do not bring your item, you will be automatically disqualified from participating in the following Youth Fair.

### What if I don't want to sell my livestock auction slot?

- By entering the contest, you are agreeing to participate in the auction, if you make sale. If you do not wish you participate you must let the TCYS office know **before** the final sale order is posted. If you do not do so, you may be automatically disqualified from participating in the following Livestock show.

### How is the sale order and auction slots determined?

- Youth Fair: All items receiving a grand champion ribbon are eligible for auction. Exhibitors may only sell up to 2 youth fair items. If 3 or more are eligible, the exhibitor must declare according to the Rule Book.
- Livestock: Please see the rule book for a full description. Sale slots are distributed evenly within large and small species/breeds, based on a percentage of the number of projects that arrived and qualified for competition in that classification. With small species receiving 50 slots, and large animals receiving 150.

### When are auction slots announced?

- The sale preliminary sale list is posted online at [www.traviscountyyouthshow.org](http://www.traviscountyyouthshow.org) by noon on Monday, following the show. An email is sent to 4-H and FFA advisors when it's posted.

### What if I made auction on one or more animals/youth fair items?

- You only need to declare for the sale if you have 3 or more youth fair grand champions, OR 2 or more of the same livestock breed place for the sale, OR 3 or more total livestock placings that make the sale.

### What time do the auction doors open?

- 9am, please check [www.traviscountyyouthshow.org](http://www.traviscountyyouthshow.org) for the most up to date days/times.

### What time does the auction start?

- 10am, please check [www.traviscountyyouthshow.org](http://www.traviscountyyouthshow.org) for the most up to date days/times.

### What time and door do I bring my Youth Fair items to?

- All projects must be turned in to the auction between 9:00-9:30am at the banquet hall. Please also see section "What do I bring to Auction" for what to bring to check in.

### Do I have to pay for parking?

- No. Park in the front of the banquet hall.

### **Do I or my exhibitor have to pay to attend the auction?**

- This event is exclusive to buyers only and has a minimum age requirement of 21 or older. A buyer is a donor who spends \$500 or more at the auction in a minimum of \$100 per bid on bid sheets. Add-on supporters may be made online through the auction.

### **Will I be able to see my exhibitor at the auction?**

- We livestream the auction on our official Facebook page for anyone to see. There may be a small, standing room only, area for you to watch that lot number cross the stage.

### **What if I made the sale, but I can't attend the auction?**

- Exhibitors may use a substitution form in the event they have a UIL sanctioned event, sickness, or in the case of an emergency. Please contact your advisor and [tcys@live.com](mailto:tcys@live.com) if you need a substitution.

### **What doors are open during the auction? Can I come in and out?**

- The front doors will be available for buyers to go in and out of. All other doors will be restricted for specific use during the event or used for exit only.

### **What do I bring to Auction? Do I have to bring a basket for my buyers?**

- Youth fair: your grand champion item (exclusion for the Preserved & Baked Divisions, which should bring a basket in place if your item), your ribbon, and if you'd like a donation to scholarship or a small buyer appreciation gift.
- Livestock: exhibitors should bring a buyers appreciation gift basked or a donation to the scholarship fund, in addition to their ribbon. Grand and Reserve should NOT bring their animals.
- Livestock Baskets should remain in your cars until your turn to get in line for auction, as space is limited.
- Baskets can be anything you'd like and can include snacks, but no alcohol or perishable items. Some buyers appreciate a picture of your project with your basket.

### **How can I get pictures of my exhibitor on the stage?**

- There will be standing room only for you to watch your exhibitor cross the stage and take pictures.

### **When should the exhibitor be in line?**

- When your sale lot is within 20 sale lots, you should head to the staging area behind the auction stage. Please pay close attention to lot numbers as they go across the stage, as if you miss your lot number any funds are a donation to the Travis County Youth Show.
- You can follow our Facebook Live Stream for up to date lot numbers and talk with your AST/CEA advisors.

### **Who is allowed in the auction?**

- Only registered buyers are allowed at the auction.

### **What does my exhibitor wear?**

- Show ring/Sunday best attire should be worn on stage.

### **How many people are allowed on stage with me to help?**

- No more than 2 people, including the exhibitor can be on stage, but help is limited to the TCYS Jr. Superintendents and Queens Court or someone who is already behind the stage within 20 lots of your number.

### **Who can walk on stage with me?**

- If you require help, TCYS has volunteers from our Jr. Superintendents and Queens Court who would be happy to help you across the stage. Otherwise, you may bring someone who is already behind the stage within 20 lots of your number.

### **Can I give a notecard to the auctioneer?**

- This is reserved for HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS only, note cards should be 50 words or less.

### **What time do I get in line? Does anyone call me?**

- You should be in line behind the stage at least 20 lots before your designated Sale Lot. Nobody will call you, so you should be paying close attention to the sale lot numbers from our Facebook Live Feed.

### **What do I do after I walk off the auction stage?**

- You will be escorted off the stage by the pink ladies. You should follow them to your buyer where you will give your basket or thank them. After that, exhibitors will leave the banquet hall.

### **Who finds buyers for my auction slot?**

- Each exhibitor is responsible for securing their own buyers. TCYS tries to recruit new buyers every year, but buyers come in because of the pre-existing relationships they have with the exhibitors. Work with your AST/CEA advisors to help pre-secure buyers for your sale lots.

### **How do I get an invitation for my buyer?**

- You (the exhibitor) should write, call, and invite buyers who you are close too and tell them about TCYS, what you've learned, and why you participate. TCYS does not write these letters for you or contact potential buyers on your behalf.

### **What is an Add-on?**

- An add-on is donation to your auction slot that could come from someone close to you personally. Your parents, grandparents, cousins, neighbors, feed store, church group, etc.

### **How can I become a buyer?**

- TCYS is happy to have new buyers. Please register at the front entry as a new buyer when you arrive. Otherwise, pre-registration for new and returning buyers will be available in early January at the Information Booth by the Show barn Office. Pre-registration is available through the Tuesday evening before the Auction.

### **What is the difference between buyers, buyers groups, and add-on supporters?**

- Buyers: Individuals, Families, or Companies.
- Buyers Groups: Booster Clubs and Regional groups who fundraise throughout the year for this auction.
- Add-on Supporters: Anyone who is interested in giving a donation to an exhibitor.

### **How does my (family, neighbors, feed store, church group, etc) add money to my auction slot?**

- You should reach out to these people before the show. It is preferred that they donate online, otherwise, please bring their contact info **AND** payment to the auction. (see "How do add-on only buyers pay")

### **How do add-on only buyers pay?**

- All Add-on only buyers should pay at the time of add-on's by using our online form. In special occasions TCYS will accept checks, cash, and money orders, at the auction. TCYS will not bill or invoice add-ons.

### **Why do I have to register every year as a buyer?**

- We have to ensure buyer information is up to date. By requiring a yearly registration we've been able to ensure easy collection of over 95% of our buyer donations, just by making this requirement.

### **I've pre-registered as a buyer...how does check in work?**

- Pre-registered buyers will have a packet with your wristbands and buyer number. The first person in your group to check in will be given those bands and any other tickets for the entire group.

### **How many seats does each buyer get?**

- Buyers groups will have up to 4 seats total and individual buyers will have up to 2 seats.

### **How can I sit next to my friends at the auction?**

- Reserved Seating will be selected and picked on a first come first serve basis during pre-registration period. Buyers who didn't pre-register may find any open seats.

### **When should buyers pay their auction bills?**

- TCYS prefers that all buyers pay their bill at the close of auction. Invoices for buyers may be sent post auction. Please see the rule book for specific buyer rules.
- BUYER RESPONSIBILITY: If the buyer does not pay his/her bill, the person filling out the buyer registration form will then become responsible for the entire bill. If a bill is outstanding as of April 1st, the exhibitor will not receive any un-paid portion of the total purchase price from their auction sale lot. If received, a second check will be issued within the calendar year. Buyers will have approximately 30 days from the day of auction to dispute their invoice. After 30 days from Auction, all sales will be final.

### **How do I get addresses to send thank you notes?**

- Buyer addresses will be sent to the 4-H office/FFA Advisors by mid-February. Thank you notes are required to be postmarked, stamped, and turned into TCYS for sign off by April 1st.

### **Are my add-on buyers included in my thank you note list?**

- Yes, each exhibitor will receive a list in alphabetical order without donation amount. TCYS does not share buyer donation totals to anyone other than the official buyer via invoice.

### **How can I find out how much money each buyer put on my auction slot?**

- TCYS does not share buyer donation totals to anyone other than the official buyer via invoice.

**Is there anything I need to do to get my auction check?**

- Thank you notes must be completed and signed off on by the TCYS office and all buyers invoices must be paid in order for us to cut exhibitor checks.

**When will I get my auction check?**

- The goal every year is for exhibitor checks to be available by the May TCYS Membership Meeting.