**2021 NECA Cichlid Spooktacular Auction ‘Rules of Engagement’**

**Vendor / Bidder Number**

* Assigned Number will cover each person as a vendor and a bidder; there will not be separate numbers for vending and bidding.
* Numbers will be three digit numbers ranging from 101 to N
* Numbers will be assigned and tracked by Michael McKinney
* Michael McKinney can be contacted by Personal Message in Facebook or at [mmckinne@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mmckinne@nycap.rr.com)

**Vending**

* **Bidding for each lot will start at $4. 70/30 split between vendor and NECA. NECA will receive a minimum of $4 per entry. Any lots not receiving an opening bid of $4 will be removed from the auction**
* **Fish and Plants Only; No Dry Goods**
* **All Species Allowed**
* **NECA reserves the right to reject items it deems unfit to auction**
* **There is no maximum number of total lots per vendor**
* **There is a maximum of three lots per species per vendor**
* **Bags need to be labeled with legible Lot Numbers**
* **Bags need to be labeled with legible species name**
* **Pre-registration form is available on NECA website and Facebook page, and can also be requested from Michael McKinney at** [**mmckinne@nycap.rr.com**](mailto:mmckinne@nycap.rr.com)
* **Pre-registration form is to be submitted to Michael McKinney only**
* **Your Lot Numbers will use the following format:** 
  + **<Assigned Vendor/Bidder Number – NN>**
  + **Ex: 101-01, 101-02, ….. 101-NN where NN is the total number of lots registered by vendor**
* **Cash, PayPal, and Credit Card will be accepted as form of payments**

**Order of Lots:**

* At any time a lot can be bumped for $3; this lot will be bumped to the next lot to be auctioned or immediately after any other $3 bumps which may already be ahead of it
* The first hour of the auction, with the exception of $3 bumps, lots will be auctioned at the sole discretion of the NECA Auction Committee. Focus will mainly include vendor donations.
* Following the first hour of the auction, the auction will proceed with lots remaining on ten tables. Each table will be labeled 0 through 9, where that number represents the last digit of each lot number. Lots will be placed on these tables, matching the last digit of the lot number of the item to the table. The order in which these tables are to be auctioned will be determined randomly the day of the auction (determined prior to start of auction). The order in which lots are auctioned from each numbered table is solely at the discretion of the NECA Auction Committee. The only exception will be $3 bumps as they come in.

**Vendor Payment**

We will not be paying vendors the day of the auction. Payment will be mailed to vendors as soon as possible following the close of the convention. The plan will be to send the payments within three weeks of the closing of this year’s convention.

**Checking Out – Leaving the Auction**

Many buyers need to leave the auction while the auction is still going. Everyone is very busy and this is not an issue. That being said, those buyers who have to leave the auction at a certain time, please be aware that we need 30 minutes from your last successful bid/purchase in order to successfully process you out. Why? There is a delay between each lot/bid and when the information (Lot, Buyer, and price) is processed at the auction administration table. Until the information is processed, we cannot accurately cash you out.