

2024 SOMERSET BONSAI SOCIETY - AUCTION RULES

This is a reminder of the Club Auction on Wednesday, 14 February 2024

1. It would help us immensely in planning and running the auction if you could let us know in advance the items you wish to put in the auction, preferably by sending in photos and a few details.
2. You can submit your photos and details to Nigel by email nigel@nysys.co.uk
3. Some members have already responded with pledges of donations or commission based 'lots' for the evening. We need as many pledges as possible to make a good evening so please give some thought in advance and submit photos if possible. Any 3 bonsai related items can be brought along.
4. We will be opening up for 6.45pm to set out the layout for the auction so volunteers to set tables out will be greatly appreciated.
5. Could members wishing to participate in the auction try to aim for 7.00pm for booking in?
6. Also note that while selling is for members only you may join/re-join on the evening if you have not yet done so.

How the auction will operate

1. The devised format worked well for the last 7 years so it will run on the same lines as before.
2. The auction is restricted to Somerset Bonsai Society members only to sell, but non-club members are welcome to attend and bid on lots if interested.
3. Up to five lots per member, three of which will be sold on 10% commission for which you may state a reserve price, and a further two lots for you to donate towards the Society funds. (You may donate all 5 lots to Society funds if you wish.) These donated lots make a great difference to the health of our finances and are little to give in return for the pleasure and satisfaction our group gives most members; so see if you can look out something that even though you may not have a use for it now some other member might.
4. If time permits and you have more 'goodies' in your car you wish to auction, these can be brought into the hall at the end of the session as donation items.
5. Small pots can be grouped together if required as one 'lot' as opposed to individual 'lots'.
6. All items to be auctioned must be bonsai related. They can be bonsai as young starter material or even specimen bonsai, pots, books, tools etc.

7. Please make sure there are no weeds and clean pots will make the item more attractive to the buyer!
8. All items being bid upon and won by the highest bidder must be paid for on the night.
9. We will collect money from bidders first then pay out to the sellers afterwards to make it easier for administration.
10. All payments will be **CASH ONLY** so please bring plenty of cash
11. Any private sales won, will result in the bidder paying by 2 payments of cash at the rate of 90% to the seller and 10% to the club.
12. As you bring your trees in a draw ticket will be given to each 'lot', so please be patient as we do the administration.
13. When the auction starts a ticket will be drawn out and that 'lot' will be auctioned. This will randomise the order of lots which is a fair way to run the evening so no one member gets all their items bid upon in a row or all at the start or end of the auction.
14. Let's make this a great fun evening for everyone, donators, sellers and buyers. The previous years have raised additional club funds running these events. I am determined to continue to make this idea a success, but it needs all the members to contribute to put it into reality.
15. So put your spare cash into your pockets for the evening, some great trees, books, pots etc. went at bargain prices in previous years from as low as 25p and some very good high prices as well!
16. Just a final reminder – please submit your photos and details to Nigel by email nigel@nysys.co.uk

John Trott
Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer