



## *It's Time to Prepare for the 2025 Tea Leaf Club Catalog Auction*

It's time once again to prepare for the TLCI Catalog Auction. With the auction just several months away, and the consignment due date of July 1st quickly approaching, it's time for TLCI members to start identifying those items they would care to consign or donate.

**Consignors.** Your help is needed to ensure the success of the auction. All TLCI members in good standing are encouraged to consign items to the auction; a member may consign up to 30 lots. The best of all consigned lots will be chosen based upon interest, appeal, and quality. Members need not attend the convention to consign as long as arrangements are made with someone who is registered for the convention to deliver and check in the consignments. TLCI members may also donate items to the auction.

**2025 Tea Leaf Club Auction Consignment Agreement.** Identify your consignments on the form included with this issue of Readings. Fill out the form completely and accurately and submit it no later than **July 1, 2025**.

**Photos.** Photos play an important role in correctly identifying your consignments and are an effective way to advertise them. *You are responsible for providing a photo of each item to be included in the auction catalog. If no photo is provided, only the description will be included in the catalog.* Digital photos are preferred. Use a digital camera, cell phone, or download a picture from the TLCI Online Guide. If you are unable to send a digital photo, a good quality standard photo will be accepted. Please use a **black** background.

**Consignment Agreement and Photo Submission.** Digital photos and either an electronic copy or a scanned copy of the consignment agreement may be sent via e-mail to [jvtqueen@gmail.com](mailto:jvtqueen@gmail.com). A hard-copy form and hardcopy photos are to be sent via U.S. mail to Debora Van Tuyle, 1549 NE 550 Ave., Roodhouse, IL 62082. Remember: the due date for the form and photos is **July 1, 2025**.

**Consignments.** Approximately 75 consignments (at the discretion of the auction committee) will be accepted for the auction. Items must be ironstone decorated with copper or gold lustre. Items may also be decorated with Tea Leaf, Moss Rose, or other variants. The item must be on a recognized ironstone

Tea Leaf body style or one that might be included in a future Handbook update as well as a recognized Tea Leaf potter or one that might be included in a future Handbook update.

Members are encouraged to consign lots consisting of one or more items having a total estimated value of \$75 or more, with the emphasis being on the interest appeal and quality of the item(s) in the lot. Common plates, platters, and saucers are discouraged. Common sets of cups and saucers, nappies, and butter pats should be in groups of four or more, preferably all of the same size and maker. Exceptions may be made for rare and desirable single items in these categories.

**Description.** It is very important to describe the item(s) as accurately as possible. It is to the consignor's and the buyer's advantage to have detailed descriptions, including all damage, identified in the catalog. Any discrepancies may negatively affect the selling price.

Complete ALL columns on the consignment form. Use the Damage Description Guide on the next page to describe any damage on the item(s). Use the TLCI Online Guide or printed Handbook to identify the maker and body style. *If you are unsure of the maker or the body style, enter "Don't Know" in the associated column and be sure to provide a photo for identification.*

**Lot Acceptance.** Not all lots will be accepted. Common items with extensive damage will not be accepted while rare items with extensive damage may be considered.

TLCI reserves the right to reject consignments, particularly duplicates or damaged items. In the case of duplicate consignments, accepting, declining, or combining lots is solely at the discretion of the Auction Coordinators. In the event that the auction committee disagrees with the description of the item vs. the photo, the committee's description will be used.

**Commissions.** *TLCI's commission will be a \$5 fee for lots selling for less than \$50, and 10% on all lots selling for \$50 or more.* Consignors will receive their proceeds within four weeks from the date of the auction.

**Auction Catalog:** The catalog will be posted on TLCI's website [www.TeaLeafClub.com](http://www.TeaLeafClub.com) by September 1, 2025.

# Tea Leaf Damage Description Guide

## Damage Characteristics

Damage is an incident which affected the china body or its glaze or lustre after manufacture and which cannot be attributed to the manufacturing process. Consignors are to use the following damage guidelines to identify on the Auction Consignment Agreement the condition of the items consigned. Consignors are to be as detailed as possible when describing damage.

- ❖ Chips and flakes which are not under the glaze – the number and location, i.e., outside rim, inside rim, base rim, handles, finials, foot ring, etc.
  - Rim roughness: rough surface but no actual chips as large as flakes
  - Flakes: less than ½” long and 1/16” deep
  - Small chips: less than ¼” long and 1/8” deep
  - Medium chips: less than ½” long and ¼” deep
  - Large chips: anything larger than those listed above
- ❖ Glaze rub or wear occurring after manufacture
- ❖ Hairlines, spiders, and cracks which may or may not penetrate a glazed body – the number and location such as handle terminals, top rim, base rim, upper body, etc.
  - Glaze hairline: less than 1”; does not penetrate body
  - Small hairline: indistinct; up to 1”, penetrates body
  - Medium hairline: indistinct; between 1” and 2”, penetrates body
  - Long hairline: indistinct; longer than 2”, penetrates body
  - Crack: prominent, any size, a definite separation, penetrates body
- ❖ Utensil marks or other wear which affect the gleam of the glaze
- ❖ Bull’s-eyes – number, size, and location
- ❖ Discoloration – any change in color, identify the size and the location
- ❖ Restoration and Repairs – identify location and type of restoration, i.e., finial re-glued, chip repaired at lip of bowl
- ❖ Lids and bases which are not the same body style or which are not appropriately sized

## Non-Damage Characteristics

The following characteristics are not to be noted on the Auction Consignment Agreement:

- ❖ Stilt marks, unless surrounded by discoloration or a bull’s-eye
- ❖ Ash or kiln dust embedded in the glaze
- ❖ Underglaze chips regardless of size
- ❖ Crazeing not accompanied by discoloration
- ❖ Glaze slips or generally overall poor glaze application
- ❖ Open glaze bubbles
- ❖ Glaze roughness which occurred during the manufacturing process
- ❖ Clay separation, stretch marks, or skips

## For Additional Information Contact:

Debora Van Tuyle

217-899-6841 or [dmvt57@gmail.com](mailto:dmvt57@gmail.com)

