

# SPRING 2023

It is projected three or four players who are on the high school roster in Spring 2022 will be returning to play at the sophomore level of high school in Spring 2023. This will create opportunities in the program for 2023 9th/10th grade players.

## PROJECTED H.S. SOPHOMORE LEVEL POSITION OPENINGS

### PITCHER (3)

- ✓ **Strike Thrower:** Be able to locate at least two pitches for strikes at minimum 50% of throws.
- ✓ **Velocity:** Preferably at minimum 72+ m.p.h. 9<sup>th</sup> grade or 75+ 10<sup>th</sup> grade in March of 2023.
- ✓ **Movement:** Fastball with some movement or sharp breaking pitch.

### CATCHER (1 maybe 2)

- ✓ **Receiver:** Need to be able to receive and stick strikes on both corners of plate as well as up and down.
- ✓ **Blocking:** Cannot be afraid of or late to the ball and must have blocking instincts.
- ✓ **Throwing:** A pop-time of 2.4 or less is preferred or velocity of 72+ m.p.h. may work?
- ✓ **Leadership:** One of the most looked-up to guys on the field by his teammates. "Me-First" guys are not preferred.
- ✓ **Hitting:** Hitting is just a bonus. Looking for the fore-mentioned abilities as a priority.

### MIDDLE INFIELDER (2 maybe 3)

- ✓ **Speed:** Above average runner with a 60 yd dash time of 7.6 or less preferred for 2B / 7.2 or less for Shortstop.
- ✓ **Throwing:** A velocity of a minimum 72 m.p.h. 9<sup>th</sup> grade or 75+ 10<sup>th</sup> grade preferred for 2B / 75+ m.p.h. for Shortstop.
- ✓ **Fielding:** An "athlete" who can field the ball cleanly in all directions while in a near sprint.
- ✓ **Quickness:** A 4.8 second or less 5 yard – 10 yard – 5 yard shuttle run preferred.
- ✓ **Hitting:** A consistent hitter who can hit sophomore level pitching and have a high on base percentage preferred.

### THIRD BASEMAN (1)

- ✓ **Speed:** Above average runner with a 60 yd dash time of 7.4 or better preferred.
- ✓ **Throwing:** A velocity of a minimum 75 m.p.h. preferred.
- ✓ **Fielding:** An "athlete" who can field the ball cleanly in all directions while in a near sprint.
- ✓ **Quickness:** A 5.0 second or less 5 yard – 10 yard – 5 yard shuttle run preferred.
- ✓ **Hitting:** A preferred "big bat" in the line-up if the player is a little less mobile as a fielder.

### CORNER OUTFIELD (1 maybe 2)

- ✓ **Speed:** Above average 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grade runner with a 60 yd dash time of 7.4 or better preferred.
- ✓ **Throwing:** A velocity of a minimum of 72+ m.p.h. preferred 9<sup>th</sup> grade or 75+ for 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
- ✓ **Fielding:** An athlete who can get good jumps and secure the ball while running in all directions.
- ✓ **Hitting:** A consistent hitter who can hit sophomore level pitching preferred.

### CENTER FIELDER

- ✓ **Speed:** A well above average runner. A minimum 60 yd dash time of 7.2 preferred.
- ✓ **Throwing:** A velocity of a minimum 75 m.p.h. preferred, but not necessarily a must.
- ✓ **Fielding:** A player who gets great jumps and secures the ball while running full speed in any direction.
- ✓ **Hitting:** A consistent hitter with a good on base percentage against sophomore level pitching preferred.

Read the "preferred qualifications" carefully so you clearly understand what you may need to work on. There are always exceptions to the rule, but it gets risky the further away you get from the preferred qualifications.

See you in May for the Summer Team Tryout/Showcase. Visit [Murraybaseball.org](http://Murraybaseball.org) for tryout/showcase date and time.

-Coach Wilson