



# Gilbert High School

## Indian Baseball



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Head Coach: Ashley H. Burnett

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TO: Prospective Baseball Players & Parents

FROM: Coach Burnett

RE: Varsity, Junior Varsity, & B-Team Tryouts

DATES: February 3-5 (Varsity 3:45-5:00, JV/B 5:30-6:30) Weather Permitting

(There may be two cuts made during this time period and another after all winter sports are completed)

**\*Those individuals playing winter sports will be able to tryout when their sport is completed. \***

I am sending this letter to inform you of the baseball tryout process at Gilbert High School, and what to expect from these tryouts. Before students can tryout for the baseball team, he must be eligible under the provisions of the South Carolina High School League. These guidelines state that a student must be in good standing academically to be eligible to participate in athletics during the spring sports season. Each participant must also have a current physical and athletic contract on file. If an individual does not fulfill these requirements, he cannot tryout for the team.

During this tryout procedure, the athletes will be evaluated in a number of areas. The players will be evaluated in terms of attitude, arm strength and accuracy, hitting, fielding, and speed. Making cuts is by far the worst part of a coach's job. To tell a young man who wants to play baseball, and who has probably played for several seasons in the Little Leagues, that he cannot play for Gilbert High School is a very difficult and unpleasant task for a coach. Not only are athletic skills and potential objectively calculated during the tryout process, but also **the needs of the entire program** are considered in the difficult task to cut someone. Just because someone made the team last year does not mean that he has a spot on this year's team. There is no "rite of passage". Everyone must earn a spot on the team every year. By the same token, just because someone was cut the year before, it does not mean that he will not make the team this year. Again, making cuts is an anguishing task that must be done.

I take great pride in the game of baseball, and I will work very hard to ensure the success of our program. In turn, I expect each athlete who makes the team be willing to work just as hard. He will be asked to make sacrifices of time and energy. During the season, he and his family will be asked to budget his time for studies, practice and games, and for leisure activities. My philosophy is that during the season, the player's priorities should be: **Religion, Family, School**, and **Baseball**. Every thing else comes after these. Playing baseball takes a true commitment by each player and his parents.

Hopefully, this letter has provided essential information about the tryout process at Gilbert High School. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 821-1900. Please sign the attached release form and return. Good luck during the tryouts!

Sincerely  
Ashley H. Burnett

My son, \_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to try out for the 2018 Gilbert High School baseball team. I understand that before my son can be eligible to participate, he must have a complete physical on file with the Gilbert High School training staff and be in good standing in accordance with the South Carolina High School League.

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Parent or Guardian

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Date

