

DP/FLEX RULE

- Designated Player (DP)/FLEX Rule replaces DH Rule.
- DP/FLEX Rule allows for more participation and flexibility in the game.
- Gives coaches more options:
 - not to use the DP/FLEX at all,
 - use it to the same extent as the DH was used, or
 - use the DP/FLEX option to its fullest extent.

DP/FLEX RULE

- A DP does not have to be used.
- If used it must be noted on the starting lineup.
- A team using the DP starts the game with 10, but could end with nine or 10.
- Practical application and sample exercises to follow.

LINE-UP CARD / FLEX RULE OPTIONS

No.	Player	Pos.
19	1 Harris, Heidi	6
	Sub	
17	2 Able, Ann	4
	Sub	
20	3 Thomas, Tonya	8 8
	Sub	
24	4 Jones, Jane	DP 8 9
6	Sub Smith, Sarah	DP
15	5 Alexander, Angie	3
	Sub	
22	6 Moore, Melissa	2
	Sub	
25	7 Cooper, Cathy	7
	Sub	
7	8 Morris, Mary	5
	Sub	
3	9 Rodgers, Rachel	1
	Sub	
18	10 Green, Ginger (FLEX)	9
	Sub	

Substitutes:

10 Howell, Heather

4 Baker, Barb

~~6 Smith, Sarah~~

55 Brown, Brenda

➤ DP and FLEX must be listed on line-up prior to start of the game.

➤ DP and FLEX are linked to same spot in batting order.

➤ If FLEX bats for DP, sub for DP, in DP's Spot in Batting Order (in #4 spot on line-up for this game)... use arrows to indicate this change.

➤ Note: Arrow up and Arrow down show FLEX option and also shows that FLEX has not been out of the game.

➤ When FLEX is replaced on defense by DP, that is when the Plate Umpire will draw the line through the number, name and position of the FLEX player. (All starters have one re-entry [2 lives], while substitutes have one life).

➤ FLEX player is always listed in the #10 spot.

➤ DP and FLEX can play defense at the same time, but DP and FLEX can never both bat at the same time.

➤ A team can go from 10 to 9 to 10 an unlimited number of times throughout the game.

Universal System of Marking Changes in Line-ups:

- Make sure that any starting player, her number & her position is marked out when replaced by a substitute.

~~24~~ ~~Jane Jones~~ ~~DP~~

- Make sure that a player who re-enters, re-enters in the same spot in the batting order. Player's name is circled to indicate that she has used her re-entry.

24 ~~24~~ Jane Jones ~~DP~~ ~~8~~ ~~DP~~ 9

- Make sure that the number, player and position is crossed out, or the position only if DP plays defense and bats, while another starter/ player in another spot in batting order bats only.

Tonya Thomas ~~8~~ 8

- Be sure to place an "X" through a player if she has used her re-entry and is no longer eligible to play for the rest of the game.

~~24~~ ~~24~~ ~~Jane Jones~~ ~~DP~~ ~~8~~ ~~DP~~ 9

THE LINEUP CARD

- The DP is the offensive player and must remain in same batting position for entire game.
- The name of player for whom the DP is batting (FLEX) will be placed in the No.10 position in lineup.

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		7
	SUB.			
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		DP
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		9
	SUB.			
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
	SUB.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES		POS.	
10	HOWELL			
4	BAKER			
6	SMITH			
55	GREEN			

THE LINEUP CARD

- If replaced by a substitute, the DP position remains in the lineup.
- A starting or substitute DP may re-enter one time, as long as the DP returns to the original position in the batting order.

SUBSTITUTING FOR THE DP

- The DP may be replaced by:
 - Pinch-runner
 - Pinch-hitter
 - FLEX
- In all cases, the DP has left the game, with one re-entry permitted.

SUBSTITUTING FOR THE DP

- Baker pinch-runs for Cooper
- Cooper has left the game and has a re-entry remaining
- Baker is now the DP

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		7
	SUB.			
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		DP
4	SUB.	BAKER		DP
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		9
	SUB.			
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
	SUB.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES		POS.	
10	HOWELL			
4	BAKER			
6	SMITH			
55	GREEN			

THE FLEX MAY PLAY OFFENSE

- If the FLEX bats or runs for the DP, the DP leaves the game
- The FLEX (Brown) is now batting in the No. 7 position
- Lineup down to nine

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		7
	SUB.			
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		DP
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		9
	SUB.			
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
	SUB.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES			POS.
10	HOWELL			
4	BAKER			
6	SMITH			
55	GREEN			

THE DP RE-ENTERS

- The DP (Cooper) re-enters to bat or run
- The FLEX (Brown):
 - Returns to the No. 10 position
 - Plays defense only
 - Has never left the game

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		7
	SUB.			
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		DP
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		9
	SUB.			
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
	SUB.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES		POS.	
10	HOWELL			
4	BAKER			
6	SMITH			
55	GREEN			

THE DP MAY PLAY DEFENSE FOR THE FLEX

- Cooper goes in to pitch
- Brown has left the game
- Lineup down to nine
- Brown may re-enter

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		7
	SUB.			
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		DR 1
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		9
	SUB.			
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
	SUB.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES			POS.
10	HOWELL			
4	BAKER			
6	SMITH			
55	GREEN			

THE DP MAY PLAY DEFENSE

- The DP may also play defense at any position.
- If the DP plays defense for a player other than the FLEX, that player still bats and has not left the game.

THE DP MAY PLAY DEFENSE

- Cooper plays second base and still bats No. 7
- Able no longer plays defense but still bats No. 2
- Able has not left the game

NO.		PLAYER	RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		X
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		7
	SUB.			
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		DR 4
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		9
	SUB.			
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
	SUB.			
NO.		SUBSTITUTES		POS.
10		HOWELL		
4		BAKER		
6		SMITH		
55		GREEN		

ILLEGAL SUBSTITUTION

- The FLEX **may not** go into one of the first nine positions for someone other than the DP.
- An illegal substitution results.

KEY POINTS

- The role of the DP/FLEX is never terminated.
- A team may go from 10 to nine players and back to 10 any number of times during the game.
- The game may end with 10 or nine players.

EASY REMINDERS

- The DP **can never** be on defense only.
- The FLEX **can never** be on offense only.
- The DP and the FLEX **can never** be on offense at the same time.
- The DP and the FLEX **can** play defense at the same time.

DP/FLEX RULE

*SAMPLE
EXERCISES*

SAMPLE LINEUP CARD

All samples will use this lineup card and progress through a series of substitutions.

NO.		PLAYER	RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
		SUB.		
17	2	ABLE		4
		SUB.		
20	3	THOMAS		8
		SUB.		
24	4	JONES		DP
		SUB.		
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
		SUB.		
22	6	MOORE		2
		SUB.		
25	7	COOPER		7
		SUB.		
7	8	MORRIS		5
		SUB.		
3	9	RODGERS		1
		SUB.		
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)		9
		SUB.		
NO.		SUBSTITUTES		POS.
10		HOWELL		
4		BAKER		
6		SMITH		
55		BROWN		

SAMPLE EXERCISE #1

- “Jones” (DP) bats and gets on base safely.
- The offensive coach asks for time for a change.
- “Green will run for Jones.”

SAMPLE EXERCISE #1

Green (FLEX)
running for
Jones (DP)

NO.		PLAYER	RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		DP
	SUB.			
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		7
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		1
	SUB.			
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)		9
	SUB.			
NO.		SUBSTITUTES		POS.
10		HOWELL		
4		BAKER		
6		SMITH		
55		BROWN		

SAMPLE EXERCISE #1

Note –

- Jones has left the game.

SAMPLE EXERCISE #2

- Two innings later, Green singles to left.
- The offensive coach asks for time to make a change.
- "Smith running for Green and Green will still be playing right field."

SAMPLE EXERCISE #2

Smith (sub)
running for
Green (FLEX)

Green remains
in game
playing right
field only

NO.		PLAYER	RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		DP
6	SUB.	SMITH		DP
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		7
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		1
	SUB.			
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)		9
	SUB.			
NO.		SUBSTITUTES		POS.
10		HOWELL		
4		BAKER		
6		SMITH		
55		BROWN		

SAMPLE EXERCISE #2

Note –

- Smith enters the game for the first time and is the new DP.
- Green (FLEX) has NOT left the game – back to defense only.

SAMPLE EXERCISE #3

- In the 4th inning, the offensive coach asks for time to make another change.
- “Jones to re-enter and bat for Smith.”

SAMPLE EXERCISE #3

Jones (DP)
re-enters for
Smith

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		DP
6	SUB. SMITH			DP
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		7
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		1
	SUB.			
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)		9
	SUB.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES			POS.
10	HOWELL			
4	BAKER			
6	SMITH			
55	BROWN			

SAMPLE EXERCISE #3

Note –

- Jones has used her re-entry.
- Smith has left the game and is done – used up her one life.

SAMPLE EXERCISE #4

- In the next half inning, the defensive coach asks for time to make another change.
- “Jones (DP) will play defense in center field for Thomas.”

SAMPLE EXERCISE #4

Jones (DP)
to play
defense in
center field
for Thomas

NO.		PLAYER	RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
24	4	JONES		DR 8
6	SUB.	SMITH		DP
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
	SUB.			
22	6	MOORE		2
	SUB.			
25	7	COOPER		7
	SUB.			
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		1
	SUB.			
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)		9
	SUB.			
NO.		SUBSTITUTES		POS.
10		HOWELL		
4		BAKER		
6		SMITH		
55		BROWN		

SAMPLE EXERCISE #4

Note –

- Jones the DP is now playing offense and defense.
- Thomas still bats in the 3rd position in the lineup and is playing offense only.

SAMPLE EXERCISE #5

- An inning later, the defensive coach asks for time to make another change.
- “Jones will move to right field and play defense for Green; Thomas will go back to center field.”

SAMPLE EXERCISE #5

Jones (DP) to
play defense in
right field for
Green (FLEX)

Thomas goes
back to center
field

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
SUB.				
17	2	ABLE		4
SUB.				
20	3	THOMAS		8 &
SUB.				
24	4	JONES		DP & 9
6	SMITH			DP
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
SUB.				
22	6	MOORE		2
SUB.				
25	7	COOPER		7
SUB.				
7	8	MORRIS		5
SUB.				
3	9	RODGERS		1
SUB.				
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)		9
SUB.				
NO.	SUBSTITUTES			POS.
10	HOWELL			
4	BAKER			
6	SMITH			
55	BROWN			

SAMPLE EXERCISE #5

Note –

- Jones (DP) is still playing offense and defense.
- Green (FLEX) has left the game since she is not playing defense (still has a re-entry remaining).