



DP/FLEX RULE ADOPTED (3-3-6)

- 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 ADOPTED (3-3-6)

- 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.



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		no.	pos.
19	1	HARRIS		6
17	2	ABLE		4
20	3	THOMAS		8
24	4	JONES		7
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
22	6	MOORE		2
25	7	COOPER		DP
7	8	MORRIS		5
3	9	RODGERS		9
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
no.	SUBSTITUTES		pos.	
10		HOWELL		
4		BAKER		
6		SMITH		
33		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		no.	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.				
4	8	BAKER		DP
sub.				
7	9	MORRIS		5
sub.				
3	10	RODGERS		9
sub.				
18	11	BROWN (FLEX)		1
sub.				
no.	SUBSTITUTES		pos.	
10	HOWELL			
sub.				
4	BAKER			
sub.				
6	SMITH			
sub.				
33	GREEN			
sub.				



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	POS.
19	1 HARRIS	6
17	2 ABLE	4
20	3 THOMAS	8
24	4 JONES	7
15	5 ALEXANDER	3
22	6 MOORE	2
12	7 BROWN (FLEX)	1
7	8 MORRIS	5
3	9 RODGERS	9
10	10 HOWELL	
4	11 BAKER	
6	12 SMITH	
33	13 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	POS.
19	1 HARRIS	6
17	2 ABLE	4
20	3 THOMAS	8
24	4 JONES	7
15	5 ALEXANDER	3
22	6 MOORE	2
12	7 COOPER	1
7	8 MORRIS	5
3	9 RODGERS	9
10	10 BROWN (FLEX)	1
10	11 HOWELL	
4	12 BAKER	
6	13 SMITH	
33	14 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	POS.
19	1 HARRIS	6
17	2 ABLE	4
20	3 THOMAS	8
24	4 JONES	7
15	5 ALEXANDER	3
22	6 MOORE	2
12	7 COOPER	1
7	8 MORRIS	5
3	9 RODGERS	9
10	10 BROWN (FLEX)	1
10	11 HOWELL	
4	12 BAKER	
6	13 SMITH	
33	14 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	POS.
19	1 HARRIS	6
17	2 ABLE	4
20	3 THOMAS	8
24	4 JONES	7
15	5 ALEXANDER	3
22	6 MOORE	2
12	7 COOPER	1
7	8 MORRIS	5
3	9 RODGERS	9
10	10 BROWN (FLEX)	1
10	11 HOWELL	
4	12 BAKER	
6	13 SMITH	
33	14 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	HE	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.			
10	10 GREEN (FLEX)		9.
sub.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES	HE	POS.
10	HOWELL		
4	BAKER		
6	SMITH		
23	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	HE	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.			
10	10 GREEN (FLEX)		9.
sub.			
NO.	SUBSTITUTES	HE	POS.
10	HOWELL		
4	BAKER		
6	SMITH		
23	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		INF.	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
17	2	ABLE		4
20	3	THOMAS		8
24	4	JONES		DP
6	5	SMITH		DP
15	5	ALEXANDER		3
22	6	MOORE		2
25	7	COOPER		7
7	8	MORRIS		5
3	9	RODGERS		1
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)		9
				
NO.	SUBSTITUTES			POS.
10	1	HOWELL		
4	2	BAKER		
26	3	SMITH		
33	4	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		POS.
19	1	HARRIS	6
17	2	ABLE	4
20	3	THOMAS	8
24	4	JONES	DP
6	5	SMITH	DP
15	5	ALEXANDER	3
22	6	MOORE	2
25	7	COOPER	7
7	8	MORRIS	5
3	9	RODGERS	1
18	10	GREEN (FLEX)	9
NO.	SUBSTITUTES		POS.
10	HOWELL		
4	BAKER		
26	SMITH		
33	BROWN		



SAMPLE EXERCISE #3

Note –

- Jones has used her re-entry.
- Smith has left the game and has a re-entry remaining.



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	POS.
19	1 HARRIS	6
17	2 ABLE	4
20	3 THOMAS	8 X
24	4 JONES	DP
15	5 ALEXANDER	3
22	6 MOORE	2
25	7 COOPER	7
7	8 MORRIS	5
3	9 RODGERS	1
18	10 GREEN (FLEX)	9
NO.	SUBSTITUTES	POS.
10	HOWELL	
4	BAKER	
6	SMITH	
33	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	POS.
19	1 HARRIS	6
17	2 ABLE	4
20	3 THOMAS	8 X
24	4 JONES	DP
15	5 ALEXANDER	3
22	6 MOORE	2
25	7 COOPER	7
7	8 MORRIS	5
3	9 RODGERS	1
18	10 GREEN (FLEX)	9
NO.	SUBSTITUTES	POS.
10	HOWELL	
4	BAKER	
6	SMITH	
33	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).