



# 2010 SOFTBALL



## ***NFHS DP/FLEX RULE***



## *The DP/FLEX RULE*

- DP rule replaces DH rule.
- But.....



## ***THE DP/FLEX RULE***

- With the **DP** rule you can do everything you did with the **DH** rule plus a whole lot more!
- The **DP** position is never terminated



## ***BEGINNING THE GAME***

- 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 can play or end with 9 or 10.



# THE LINEUP CARD

- The DP is an offensive player and must be listed in one of the nine batting positions
- The name of player for whom the DP is batting (FLEX) must be placed in 10<sup>th</sup> 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***

- A starting DP may re-enter one time but must return to the original position in the batting order.
- A starting FLEX may re-enter one time but must return to the 10<sup>th</sup> position on the lineup card.



# ***SUBSTITUTING FOR THE DP***

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



## SUBSTITUTE HITTER OR RUNNER FOR THE DP

- Baker runs for Cooper
- Cooper (DP) 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.			
<del>25</del>	7	<del>COOPER</del>		<del>DP</del>
4	SUB.	BAKER		
7	8	MORRIS		5
	SUB.			
3	9	RODGERS		9
	SUB.			
18	10	BROWN (FLEX)		1
	SUB.			
NO.		SUBSTITUTES		POS.
10		HOWELL		
<del>4</del>		<del>BAKER</del>		
6		SMITH		
55		GREEN		





# THE FLEX MAY PLAY OFFENSE FOR THE DP

- If the FLEX bats or runs for the DP, the DP leaves the game
- The FLEX (Brown) is now batting in the 7<sup>th</sup> position
- Lineup down to 9

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.			
<del>25</del>	<del>7</del>	<del>COOPER</del>		<del>DP</del>
	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 #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***

- The DP may play defense for the FLEX
- The DP may play defense for any player in the top nine positions of the batting order



# *THE DP MAY PLAY DEFENSE FOR THE FLEX*

- Cooper goes in to pitch
- Brown has left the game
- Lineup down to 9
- 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		DRI
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*

- 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* *for another player*

- Cooper plays second base and still bats 7<sup>th</sup>
- Able no longer plays defense but still bats 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 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		DP-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*

- You CANNOT:
- Place the FLEX player into the first nine positions for someone other than the DP...
- Results in an illegal substitution.



## ***KEY POINTS***

- The role of the DP/FLEX is never terminated.
- A team may go from 10 to nine players and back to 10 players 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 player **can never** be on offense only.
- The DP and the FLEX **can never** be on offense at the same time.



## ***EASY REMINDERS***

- The DP and the FLEX **can** play defense at the same time.



# NFHS DP/FLEX RULE



***SAMPLE  
EXERCISES***



# SAMPLE LINEUP CARD

- All samples will use this 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 EXCERCISE #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 EXCERCISE #2***

- Two innings later, Green singles to left
- The offensive coach asks for time to make a change
- "Smith in to run as the DP and Green will still be playing right field" (now playing with 10)





# SAMPLE EXCERCISE #2

- Smith (sub)  
(now the DP)  
running for  
Green (FLEX)
- Green remains  
in game playing  
right field -  
defense only

NO.	PLAYER		RE	POS.
19	1	HARRIS		6
	SUB.			
17	2	ABLE		4
	SUB.			
20	3	THOMAS		8
	SUB.			
<del>24</del>	<del>4</del>	<del>JONES</del>		<del>DP</del>
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			
<del>6</del>	<del>SMITH</del>			
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 EXCERCISE #3***

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



# SAMPLE EXCERCISE #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.			
<del>24</del>	<del>4</del>	<del>JONES</del>		<del>DP</del>
<del>6</del>	SUB.	<del>SMITH</del>		<del>DP</del>
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			
<del>6</del>	<del>SMITH</del>			
55	BROWN			



## ***SAMPLE EXERCISE #3***

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



## ***SAMPLE EXCERCISE #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 EXCERCISE #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		DP-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 3<sup>rd</sup> position in the lineup and is playing offense only





## ***SAMPLE EXCERCISE #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 EXCERCISE #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	8 9
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)		2
	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)



# NFHS DP/FLEX RULE



***QUESTIONS?***