

### **Use of FLEX/DP:**

This individual can be listed in any of the nine spots in the batting order. The player listed number 10 in the lineup (plays defense for the DP), but can play offense for the DP also, will be called the FLEX.

- A. A designated player (DP) may be used for any defensive player provided it is made known prior to the start of the game. The DP must be indicated on the line-up as one of the nine hitters in the batting order.
- B. The name of the player for whom the DP is batting (FLEX) will be placed in the 10<sup>th</sup> position in the line-up.
- C. The DP and any substitutes for the DP must remain in the same position in the batting order for the entire game. The FLEX, and any substitutes for the FLEX, must enter the game in the 10<sup>th</sup> position in the line-up.
- D. The DP may be substituted for at any time either by a pinch hitter or pinch runner. This player becomes the DP and has all the options of the DP position. The starting DP and a substitute for the DP can never be in the game at the same time.
- E. The FLEX may be substituted for at any time. This player becomes the FLEX and has all the options of the FLEX position. The starting FLEX and a substitute for the FLEX can never be in the game at the same time.
- F. The starting DP, or her substitute, may be replaced by the FLEX as a hitter or as a runner. This reduces the number of players in the game from ten to nine. The DP and the FLEX can never be on offense at the same time.
- G. The FLEX may be replaced on defense by the DP. This reduces the number of players from ten to nine. The DP and the FLEX can be on defense at the same time.
- H. The starting DP may re-enter the game one time and must return to the original DP position in the batting order. If the DP re-enters and the FLEX was batting in the DP position, the FLEX shall:
  - 1. Return to the number 10 position in the line-up, play defense only and is not considered to have left the game, or
  - 2. Leave the game.

- I. The starting FLEX may re-enter the game one time and shall:
  - 1. Return to the original FLEX position, or
  - 2. Take the place of the starting DP in the lineup. If the FLEX re-enters and the DP was playing defense in the FLEX position, the DP shall continue to bat in the DP position of the batting order, play offense only or play defense for another player and is not considered to have left the game.
  
- J. The DP may play defense for any player at any position. Should the DP play defense for a player other than the one for whom the DP is batting (FLEX), that player (the position player) will continue to bat, but not play defense and is not considered to have left the game.
  
- K. The role of the DP/FLEX is never terminated. A team may go from ten to nine players and back to ten players any number of times during the game. The game may end with either ten or nine players.
  
- L. If the DP replaces the FLEX, or the FLEX replaces the DP, this change must be reported to the umpire. If not reported, it is treated the same as an unreported substitute.