**DP/FLEX**

**The DP/FLEX rule has nothing to do with muscles, but it does relate to a team’s strengths. It allows a team to use its nine best fielders and hitters regardless of whether they are the same nine or not. It can be confusing at first, but upon further review you are only dealing with 10 players and nine positions.**

## KEY TERMS

* The FLEX and DP can never play offense at the same time.
* The FLEX and DP can play defense at the same time.
* Once the game is started with the DP/FLEX positions in the lineup, those positions are available for the entire game. Even if the starting DP or starting FLEX has left the game a second time, the position is still available, and an eligible substitute can enter the game as the FLEX or DP.

### VERSATILITY

A team may reduce its lineup from 10 to nine players and can increase it to 10 any number of times during the game.

# 1 TIME

The starting DP and starting FLEX each have one re-entry just like all other starters.

## WHAT IS A (DP)

## DESIGNATED PLAYER?

* It is a good hitter and must be listed in one of the nine batting positions.
* A starting DP can re-enter the game once, like any other starter, in her original position in the order.
* The DP can never play defense only but can play defense for the FLEX and bat. The DP also can play defense for any other player.

**WHAT IS A**

**FLEX PLAYER?**

* The FLEX, a good defensive player, must be placed in the 10th position in the lineup. The FLEX can bat for the DP, but then the DP must leave the game.
* A team cannot place the FLEX player into the lineup of the first nine players for someone other than the DP.

***THE DP/FLEX NEEDS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE STARTING LINEUP FOR A TEAM TO UTILIZE IT.***