

MBUA meeting

Sunday, April 11, 2021

DH Rule

- There are three (3) distinct ways to implement the DH
 1. Start with a 9-player lineup (no DH), must remain a 9-player lineup (no DH) for the entire game;
 2. Start with a 10-player lineup, remain a 10-player lineup for the entire game OR revert to 9-player lineup (terminate the DH);
 3. Start with a 9-player lineup with P/DH, change to a 10-player lineup (separate DH and defensive player) for the remainder of the game, OR change to 9-player lineup (terminate DH).

No DH

- Simple – 9 player line-up
- Re-entry of starters
- Courtesy runners for pitcher and catcher

Ten player line-up DH

- Both DH and defensive player being hit for listed in line-up
- Re-entry of starters including DH
- Courtesy runners for pitcher and catcher
- DH is terminated:
 - The defensive player being hit for bats or pinch-runs for DH
 - The DH goes into defense

Nine player line-up DH

- Starting defensive player has two roles:
 - Defensive player
 - Designated hitter
- Courtesy runners for pitcher and catcher UNLESS that player is DH
- DH is terminated:
 - The defensive player (substitute) being hit for bats or pinch-runs for DH
 - The DH goes back into defense (RE-ENTRY)

Nine player line-up DH – Case Book Play

3.1.4 SITUATION I: In the fourth inning, Montalbo replaces Colgate as the starting P/DH as pitcher. In the fifth inning, Colgate sprains his ankle as he slides into second base on a double. Colgate cannot continue and requires a pinch-runner. **RULING:** If an eligible substitute enters the game to pinch-run for Colgate, the role of the DH is terminated and Colgate is removed from the game. The coach may substitute another player, but this will end Montalbo as the pitcher since the substitute enters the game in the batting order spot already occupied by Montalbo. However, if the coach has Montalbo pinch-run for Colgate, Montalbo may continue to pitch and hit for himself.

Nine player line-up DH – Case Book Play

3.1.4 SITUATION J: In the fourth inning, Federico, who is listed fourth in the batting order as P/DH and hitting fourth, sprains his ankle running the bases and is taken out of the game replaced and by McGinnis, who later has an at bat. Later in the six inning, Federico re-enters to (a) pinch hit for McGinnis or (b) play defense for Russell at first base with McGinnis still pitching. **RULING:** Legal in (a); illegal in (b). Federico and McGinnis are locked into the same lineup spot and cannot be in the game on defense at the same time.

STRAIGHT NINE [NO DH]

Can a DH be added after the lineup cards have been exchanged, verified and accepted by the UIC? **(No)**

"TRADITIONAL" DH [10 STARTERS]

JONES IS THE DH FOR DAVIS (1B) IN THE NO. 4 SPOT

Can Davis have a substitute? **(Yes)**

Can Jones separately have a substitute? **(Yes)**

Is the DH terminated if Davis bats? **(Yes)**

Can Jones and Davis be in defensively at the same time? **(No)**

Is the DH terminated if Jones (or one of his subs) takes a defensive position? **(Yes)**

Is the DH terminated if Davis (or one of his subs) bats? **(Yes)**

If Davis bats, can Jones (as a starter) substitute back in for Davis? **(Yes)**

Can a courtesy runner (where adopted) run for the DH? **(No)**

Can Davis enter a batting position anywhere other than the No. 4 spot? **(No)**

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PLAYER/DH [NINE STARTERS, ONE IN A DUAL ROLE]

DAVIS IS THE 1B/DH IN THE NO. 4 SPOT

Can Davis have a substitute for just the DH role? **(No)**

Can Davis have a substitute for the defensive role? **(Yes)**

Is the DH terminated if a defensive-role substitute bats in the No. 4 spot? **(Yes)**

If any substitute pinch-hits or pinch-runs in the No. 4 spot, is the DH terminated? **(Yes)**

Can someone who was a substitute in the defensive role bat anywhere else in the lineup besides the No. 4 spot? **(No)**

If someone substitutes for the defensive role, can Davis return to the defensive role? **(Yes)**

Can Davis return defensively more than once? **(No)**

Does it count as a re-entry if Davis has a substitute in the defensive role and then returns to that defensive role? **(Yes)**

Can a courtesy runner (where adopted) run for Davis? **(No)**

Can Davis and his substitute be in the game defensively at the same time? **(No)**

If Davis starts as the pitcher and has a defensive sub in the second inning, can he come back as a pitcher? **(Yes)**

"TRADITIONAL" DH

- A team using the "traditional" DH starts the game with 10 players. All 10 are considered starters with one-time re-entry rights.
- Both the DH and the player for whom he is batting may have substitutes.
- Both the DH and the player for whom he is batting (and any substitutes for either position) are locked into that spot in the batting order.
- The DH is terminated when the defensive player for whom the DH is batting pinch-hits or pinch-runs for the DH, or when the DH assumes a defensive position.
- The termination of the DH position does not impact re-entry rights of those starters; the player who started as

the DH could return to that spot in the batting order, but as a straight substitution in both a defensive position and offensively in that spot of the order.

- The DH and the player for whom he is batting can never be in the game on offense at the same time, nor can they be in the game defensively at the same time.
- With starter re-entry rights, it is possible for the starting DH to bat again after the DH has been terminated – but it's a regular substitution in that spot in the batting order.

A DH does not have to be used – a team can play with a "straight-nine" lineup.

If a DH is used, it must be noted on the starting lineup.

A DH ("traditional" or player/DH) cannot be added after lineups have been accepted.

HIGH SCHOOL DH RULES SIMPLIFIED

PLAYER/DH

- A team using the player/DH has nine starters, one of whom initially occupies both a defensive role and the DH spot.
- Eligible substitutes may enter the defensive role, at which point the player/DH occupies only the DH role.
- Only the starting player/DH can occupy the DH role. Any offensive substitution for the player/DH terminates the DH role for the remainder of the game.

- If a substitute enters the defensive role, the starting player/DH can re-enter the defensive role one time. This counts as a starter's re-entry.
- If a player/DH has not used his defensive-role re-entry, but an offensive substitution terminates the DH role, the starting player/DH retain one-time re-entry as a starter.
- The starting player/DH and any substitutes are locked into that spot in the batting order.
- The DH role is terminated when a substitute (including one already in the defensive role) pinch-hits or pinch-runs for the player/DH.
- Even when the starting player/DH is a pitcher or catcher, he is not eligible to have a courtesy runner.

Line-up Cards – Pre-Game

- Ask who is site coordinator
- Determine what type of DH is being used
- Identify all ineligible pitchers (pitch limitations)
- List all substitutes
 - Count the players in the dug-out
 - Subs (JVs) can be added without penalty
- **ASK “IS ALL EQUIPMENT LEGAL”**
 - Illegal bats – out and coach is restricted to bench
- **Reminder - NO CATCH AND CARRY**
- **Reminder - HIDDEN BALL IS ALWAYS ALLOWED**

Appeals

- Verbal appeals are only allowed when “Time” is out
- Appeals are not plays
 - Errors made during live play don’t prevent a team from making another appeal
 - If the offense creates a play the defense may respond and then appeal
 - Here the ways to terminate the right to appeal
 - Intentional walk
 - Pitch
 - Balk
 - Pick-off (this is not the offense creating a play)
 - Half inning is over (Infielders leave diamond – cross into foul territory)
 - EXCEPTION – END OF GAME – UNTIL UMPIRES HAVE LEFT THE FIELD

Pitching

- Don't allow Hybrid position to be used
 - Consistent enforcement – WATCH WARM-UPS
 - How to control a pitcher during the game
 - Call illegal pitches –
 - Ball with nobody on
 - Balk with runners on
- Pitchers pitching from the set must always stop even with no runners on
- Pitchers are done for the day when
 - Their replacement uses more than 8 warm-up pitches
 - The conference limit rule

Pitching - Balks

- Immediate Dead Ball
- Mechanic
 - Point and say “That’s a balk”
 - Then raise arms to call time out – HP ump SAFETY – other rule codes
- No “free” swings
- No extra bases on overthrow on a pick-off

Pitching 3-1 move

- This move is allowed. Must step towards third.
- Feint to third and then throw to first is allowed.
- You don't have to disengage the rubber with your pivot foot like you used to under OBR. But if you don't, you must throw to 1st.

Courtesy Runners

- Must be eligible legal substitute
 - Not a possible re-entry candidate
- Can only run for the position
- The position is determined based on last half inning defensive alignment
 - **NO PROJECTIONS**
 - Even if new pitcher is required because of pitch-limit
 - In top of first, based on the line-up card

Backswing interference

- This occurs prior to any action
- Call time-out
- No Penalties

Batter interference

- ART. 5 ... Interfere with the catcher's fielding or throwing by:
 - a. leaning over home plate,
 - b. stepping out of the batter's box,
 - c. making any other movement, **including follow-through interference**, which hinders actions at home plate or the catcher's attempt to play on a runner, or
 - d. failing to make a reasonable effort to vacate a congested area when there is a throw to home plate and there is time for the batter to move away.
- Batters are not protected by being in the box, but they also have to move out of the way if there is a play

Complete / Suspend Games

- All games that are regulation games (games played through 4 1/2 or five innings) which are stopped by the umpire in chief, are completed games, **if not tied or if the home team has had an equal amount of at bats**
 - **EMPHASIZE IF HOME TEAM IS TRAILING COMPLETE THE BOTTOM OF INNING**
- If tied or if the home team has had an unequal amount of at bats, the game will be resumed at the point of stoppage. These games must complete a minimum of 6 1/2 or 7 innings until a winner is declared
- All games played that are not regulation games (under 4 1/2 innings) which are stopped by the umpire in chief are suspended games and will be resumed from the point of stoppage
- These are for both regular season and tournament

Dealing with coaches

- Full uniform in order to come onto field
 - Exception – pre-game meeting
 - No uniform – conference held in foul territory
- Strike 1 warning is still in effect
 - You may give a verbal warning before a written (Strike 1) warning
 - Strike 1/Written warning – Coach cannot go onto field
- Keep them in the dugout/dead ball territory
 - NO COVID EXCEPTIONS

COVID 19

- Two umpires at home plate for pre-game meeting
- Masks must be worn – in contact with face
 - Gaiters may be allowed – depends on local jurisdiction
 - MBUA recommended black or navy-blue colored mask
 - Be diligent with players – “get your mask up”
 - Cover nose and mouth
- Get Line-up cards
- No COVID exceptions regarding coaches and their location – no buckets
- Handle baseball per the home team’s decision
 - Bring your ball bag(s)
- Conferences on mound limited to coach, pitcher, catcher.