

### UNDERSTANDING 2020 DH RULE 3-1-4b

3-1-4b can be complicated. However, it will be much easier to understand if the following concepts are remembered. Coaches will now have 3 options at game time: No DH, the Federation DH, or the new option. The use of options 2 or 3 must be declared at the start of the game or the umpires will assume that no DH is being use.

P/DH stands for position player/DH, not necessarily P/DH.

- 1) If a team chooses to use the P/DH it, it must be used on the lineup card prior to the start of the game.
- 2) The starting P/DH and any substitution for the P/DH are locked into the same place in the lineup.
- 3) The DH is terminated if there is a pinch-hitter or pinch-runner for the DH.
- 4) The DH is terminated if a substitute or former substitute for a defensive player subsequently participated in an offensive role. (Same as the current DH Rule).
- 5) The starting P/DH has re-entry rights.

Knowing the above should give coaches, players and umpires a basic understanding of 3-1-4b. In reality, it is expected that in the overwhelming majority of the time, this rule will simply be used as intended, to allow a starting pitcher to be replaced as pitcher and continue as the DH.

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