

# Simplifying the College DH Rule

If you keep the following principles in mind the DH rule for College Baseball will be easy to remember.

1. **Once the batting order has been submitted it cannot be messed with. A player cannot be moved in the batting order to another spot.**
2. **If a Team is using a 10-man Line-up or a 9-man line-up with P/DH, treat the batting order and defense as two separate elements. Thus:**
  - a. Once a DH or P/DH is taken out of the offensive line-up, that player cannot return to bat, but can still Pitch. Like wise when...
  - b. A P/DH or Pitcher being DH'd for is taken out of the defensive line-up he cannot return to play defensive, but he could still DH. This must be made know at time of substitution.
3. **DH is lost for remainder of the game when:**
  - a. Pitcher plays another defensive position.
  - b. DH plays a defensive position other than pitcher.
  - c. A defensive player becomes a pitcher.
4. **If a coach submits a 9-man line-up, the Pitcher is automatically the P/DH. Even if he doesn't list it that way.**

Example: Coaches submits line-up card as:

1.	Adam	4	
2.	Baker	7	
3.	Charlie	8	
4.	Devin	3	
5.	Evan	9	
6.	Frank	5	
7.	George	2	
8.	Hank	6	
9.	Ivan	P	<i>change this to P/DH</i>

Ivan, the pitcher is automatically P/DH

**5. 10-man Line-up: While at bat, the Pitcher and DH are LOCKED into the same batting slot. Thus:**

- a. The current pitcher can pinch hit or pinch run ONLY in the DH's spot in the batting order.
- b. If the pitcher hits or runs for the DH, the pitcher now becomes a P/DH with a 9-man line-up.
- c. The DH is not lost. The team may return to a 10-man line-up.

Example: Coaches submits line-up card as:

1.	Adam	4	
2.	Baker	7	
3.	Charlie	8	
4.	Devin	3	
5.	Evan	9	
6.	Frank	5	
7.	George	2	
8.	Hank	6	
9.	Ivan		DH
	James		P

NOT LEGAL: In the sixth inning while at bat, Charlie is scheduled to bat. Coach wants James to pinch-hit for Charlie. DO NOT allow it. James can only bat or run for Ivan.

LEGAL: In the seventh inning while at bat, Ivan is schedule to bat. Coach wants James to pinch-hit for Ivan. ALLOW IT. James will become the P/DH and is locked into that batting slot for the rest of the game.

LEGAL: Now the team goes out and plays defense, the coach says, Kelly is the new pitcher and James will remain the DH.

This is how your line-up card will now look:

1.	Adam	4	
2.	Baker	7	
3.	Charlie	8	
4.	Devin	3	
5.	Evan	9	
6.	Frank	5	
7.	George	2	
8.	Hank	6	
9.	<del>Ivan</del>	<del>DH</del>	James P/DH
	<del>James</del>	<del>P</del>	
	Kelly		P

*Note: James nor any replacement for James CAN NOT be moved to a defensive position.*

**6. 10-man Line-up: While in the field, the Pitcher and DH are NOT locked into the same batting slot. Thus:**

- a. The pitcher can be moved to a defensive position. If this is the only change:
  - i. The old-pitcher will bat in the spot of the defensive player he replaced.
  - ii. The new-pitcher will bat in the DH's spot.
  - iii. DH is lost for rest of the game.

Example: While on defense with line-up as listed below, the coach comes out to replace James as pitcher with Larry. He wants to move James to the second base position for Adam.

1.	Adam	4	
2.	Baker	7	
3.	Charlie	8	
4.	Devin	3	
5.	Evan	9	
6.	Frank	5	
7.	George	2	
8.	Hank	6	
9.	Ivan	DH	
	James	P	

James, the old-pitcher, MUST bat for Adam.  
Larry, the new pitcher, MUST bat for Ivan.

So your line-up card will look like this:

1.	<del>Adam</del>	4	James	4
2.	Baker	7		
3.	Charlie	8		
4.	Devin	3		
5.	Evan	9		
6.	Frank	5		
7.	George	2		
8.	Hank	6		
9.	<del>Ivan</del>	DH	Larry	P
	<del>James</del>	P	(DH is lost)	

- b. The pitcher can be moved to a defensive position. If there are **multiple changes**:
  - i. The old-pitcher can bat for any replaced defensive player.
  - ii. The new-pitcher can bat for any replaced defensive player.
  - iii. Take this process player-by-player with the coach in regards to who is replacing whom in the batting order. Where they play on defense does not matter.
  - iv. DH is lost for rest of the game.

Example: While on defense with line-up as listed below, the coach comes out to replace James as pitcher with Larry. He wants to move James to second base, but bat for Evan. He wants to bring in Mike in for Evan but bat for Ivan. And the new pitcher, Larry, he wants to bat for Adam. So walk the coach through this to get the batting order right.

1.	Adam	4	
2.	Baker	7	
3.	Charlie	8	
4.	Devin	3	
5.	Evan	9	
6.	Frank	5	
7.	George	2	
8.	Hank	6	
9.	Ivan	DH	
	James	P	

Step #1: Take the old pitcher and slot him:

5. ~~Evan~~ — 9      James    4

Step #2: Bring Mike in and slot him:

9. ~~Ivan~~ — DH      Mike      9

Step #3: Bring in the new Pitcher, Larry:

1. ~~Adam~~ — 4      Larry    P

So now your line-up card will look like this:

1.	<del>Adam</del>	4	Larry	P
2.	Baker	7		
3.	Charlie	8		
4.	Devin	3		
5.	<del>Evan</del>	9	James	4
6.	Frank	5		
7.	George	2		
8.	Hank	6		
9.	<del>Ivan</del>	DH	Mike	9
	<del>James</del>	P		

**7. 9 or 10-man Line-up: Defensive player becomes pitcher. Thus:**

- a. DH is lost for the rest of the game.
- b. DH or P/DH, if eligible, may go in and play defense, but will continue to bat in the same spot.
- c. Who ever replaces the defensive player must bat in the DH spot.
- d. If there are multiple changes, step through the process like in #6 b above.

Example: While on defense with line-up as listed below, the coach comes out and moves Charlie to the pitchers spot.

1.	Adam	4
2.	Baker	7
3.	Charlie	8
4.	Devin	3
5.	Evan	9
6.	Frank	5
7.	George	2
8.	Hank	6
9.	Ivan	DH
	James	P

Options:

#1. Ivan can remain in the game and move to centerfield.

3.	Charlie	& P
9.	Ivan	DH 8
	James	P
	DH is lost	

#2. James can move from pitcher to centerfield.

3.	Charlie	& P
9.	Ivan	DH James 8
	James	P
	DH is lost	

#3. Larry can come off the bench and play centerfield.

3.	Charlie	& P
9.	Ivan	DH Larry 8
	James	P
	DH is lost	

*If there are multiple substitutions, take each substitution separately and slot in the batting order. Do not worry about the defensive position.*