

WEBSTER'S SPORTS DICTIONARY

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DICTIONARY**

PREFACE

Webster's Sports Dictionary, like all other Merriam-Webster dictionaries, is based on actual usage as recorded in a mass of examples from numerous printed sources. ~~This dictionary defines terms normally used by the participants in various sports and by broadcasters and sports-writers as well as terms used in the playing rules of sports.~~ ^{difficult} The ~~work~~ ^{book} is not aimed specifically at players, coaches, and sportswriters, ~~for they are the people who daily use the terms this dictionary explains.~~ ^{aaa} The book is intended instead to serve as a handbook for the casual fan who wants a ready source of definitions of commonly used sports words and phrases, of concise summaries of how particular games are played, or of explanations of unusual game situations, types of plays, or special techniques. For the knowledgeable fan, the book can also serve as a handy reference for explanations of peculiarities in the playing rules and for specifications of playing areas and game equipment.

^{825x666} (As a dictionary, this book gives definitions of terms but does not attempt to provide historical information or statistics, which is more properly the job of an encyclopedia.) The book limits itself to terms actually peculiar to sports. Common terms of a general nature that are found in general dictionaries, ^{For example} though often used in describing sports action, have been omitted. Hunting and fishing terms are included, but the names of species of game animals and fish have been omitted. Their application is more widespread than just in the context of sports. Compound words and phrases which mean no more than the sum of the meanings of their component words have been omitted. Normally when a compound or a phrase is not entered in this dictionary, the important word in the compound or phrase will be entered.

^{Most} The words in this dictionary are, ~~for the most part~~, in widespread current use. Only a few terms that are no longer commonly used have been kept for their historical interest. The vocabulary is not limited to American sports or American usage. The principal sports of other English-speaking countries are also included as are words and idioms of Australian, British, and Canadian usage. Since this book is based on citational evidence, some unusual local usages or esoteric terms may not be

included here. Their absence from the book testifies to the lack of current evidence of their use in the extensive vocabulary files of G. & C. Merriam Company.

The term *sport* is difficult to circumscribe. The entries in this book cover the range of competitive games and activities (such as baseball, football, tennis, rodeo, boxing, and wrestling; races by animals and by humans on foot and in vehicles; games requiring physical skill in maneuvering a ball for a score such as golf, bowling, and billiards; and outdoor recreational activities like hunting and fishing, hiking, skiing, and sailing.) In general, sport, for the purpose of determining the scope of this dictionary, has been taken to include all activities one might reasonably expect to find treated in a sports publication or on the sports pages of a newspaper. Not included are terms from hobby activities, card and board games, and traditional children's games.

Where usage restricts a term or one sense of a term to a single sport, an italic subject label is given immediately before the definition in order to help the reader locate quickly the specific sense he is seeking. Terms specific to two or more sports are oriented within the definition. When the subject label appears before the sense numbers or subsense indicators, all the following senses or subsenses pertain to the sport indicated by the label. (The senses are normally arranged alphabetically by subject label except where a sense is a direct borrowing from earlier use in another sport. In this case, the earlier use is listed before the borrowing. Unlabeled senses applicable to several sports are routinely listed before labeled senses, and simple cross-references usually follow labeled senses.

pass 1 A transfer of the ball or puck in a goal game

2 A passing shot (as in tennis).

3 *baseball*

4 *court tennis*

5 or *passé fencing*

6 *track and field*

7 *waterskiing*

8 see PASE

Alternate definitions at specific senses are separated by a semicolon. The alternate definition may be another word or phrase that is used interchangeably with the preceding definition or may be a more specific application implicit in the preceding definition.

leg 1 A portion of a course or a series; the portion of a course or the total distance of a relay race that each member of a relay team must cover.

Where variants fall alphabetically in proximity to an entry, they are included in boldface along with the entry. Bold-faced variants applying only to a single sense are placed at the appropriate sense (as at **pass 5** above). Where variants come at another alphabetical place in the dictionary, they are given in italics at the end of the definition.

hip circle or hip pullover or hip swing
gymnastics A movement . . .
(also called *belly grind, merry-go-round*)

Separate homographs marked by preceding raised numerals are given for noun, verb, and adjective/adverb definitions. The specific part of speech is distinguished by the wording of the definition. Homographs are generally arranged so that the one having the fuller treatment comes first. No distinction has been made in the definitions between transitive and intransitive uses of verbs, and none has been made for terms that may be used at one time as an adjective and at another time as an adverb.

Cross-references appear in small capitals and serve three principal functions. The "see" references direct the reader to a more common variant where the definition is given or to another entry where he will find additional information or a fuller treatment; "see also" references are used for parallel or related terms. The "compare" references direct the reader to contrasting terms.

Verbal illustrations have been used throughout the book to show the entry word in typical context. In many cases, these illustrations are actual quotations from general-interest and sports publications, sports-writers, and prominent sports figures.

An important part of Webster's Sports Dictionary is the inclusion of specifications for playing areas and game equipment. These are placed throughout the book either in the definitions themselves or in special charts. English measurements are used where they appear in the rules of a particular sport. Where the rules have metric measurements, these are given along with the approximate English equivalents.

Because of their frequent occurrence in sportswriting, a few trademarks are entered in this dictionary. Their treatment is based on a formula approved by the United States Trademark Association for use in Webster's Third New International Dictionary. Their inclusion in this dictionary is solely for the purpose of pointing out their status to the reader and should not be regarded as in any way affecting the validity of the trademark.

In addition to the basic A-Z vocabulary, this work includes a list of abbreviations commonly used in sportswriting, a section of referee's signals for football, basketball, and ice hockey, and a section of instructions on how to keep score in baseball and bowling.)

Webster's Sports Dictionary has been written and edited with the assistance of James E. Shea, Assistant Editor, and E. W. Gilman, Senior Editor. Original artwork has been produced by J. A. Collier, Assistant Editor, and by Al Fiorentino and Harvey Kidder of Kirchoff/Wohlberg, Inc. Typing and clerical work has been handled principally by Frances W. Muldrew and Mildred C. Paquette of the Merriam staff under the direction of Evelyn G. Summers.

Robert Copeland
EDITOR

A Dictionary of Sports Terms

A

abaft Toward or at the stern of a boat; aft.

abeam At right angles to the fore-and-aft line of a boat; straight out from the sides of a boat.

aboard 1 *baseball* On base. (struck out with 2 men aboard)

2 *boating* On, onto, or within a boat.

abseil see RAPPEL

absence of blade *fencing* The absence of contact between blades during a fencing phrase. Fencing with absence of blade may be a tactic to protect oneself from various attacks on the blade. — compare ENGAGEMENT

absolute pressure *scuba diving* The combined pressure of a given depth of water plus that of the air at the surface. — compare GAUGE PRESSURE

abstain *of a fencing judge* To refrain from voting on whether or not a hit has been made because of uncertainty as to whether a touch was made.

abstemmen *skiing* The preliminary positioning of the body preparatory to making a stern turn which consists of pulling back the uphill shoulder and slightly stemming and weighting the downhill ski.

academic assault *fencing* A demonstration bout in which hits are usually not counted.

academic seat see CLASSICAL SEAT

acceptor *British horse racing* A horse that remains entered in a race after the handicaps have been published and whose owner has in effect accepted the assigned weight.

accipiter A short-winged hawk (as the goshawk or European sparrow hawk) used in falconry.

acclimatization *mountain climbing* The proc-

ess of becoming accustomed to high altitudes where the air is less dense than at sea level. This usually becomes necessary around 10,000 feet and usually involves climbing several lesser peaks and gradually working up to higher altitudes and longer excursions. Attempting to climb a high mountain without a period of acclimatization often results in mountain sickness.

accumulator see PARLAY

ace 1 A point scored in a racket game (as badminton or racquets).

2 A serve in tennis or handball which is not touched by the receiver and which scores for the server.

3a An outstanding player; star. b The best pitcher on a baseball team.

4 *golf* see HOLE IN ONE

ace 1 To score an ace against an opponent in a racket game; to score on a serve that is not returned.

2 *golf* To make a hole in one on a specific hole.

acey deuce *horse racing* Having the right stirrup shorter than the left so that the jockey can more easily equalize his weight on the turns.

Acorn A 1-mile stakes race for 3-year-old thoroughbred fillies that is one of the races in the filly Triple Crown. — compare COACHING CLUB, AMERICAN OAKS, MOTHER GOOSE

across the board *pari-mutuel betting* For win, place, and show.

action 1 The amount of resiliency and flexibility in a fishing rod in relation to its length and diameter.

2 The process of betting including offering and accepting bets and the determining of a winner.

action on the blade

3 Spin on a hit or stroked ball. (almost chip the ball, putting as little *action* on it as possible so it lands softly — Jack Nicklaus)

4 The mechanism by which a firearm is loaded, fired, and unloaded. The action typically consists of the trigger, the firing pin, and the bolt which carries the firing pin, locks the cartridge in the chamber, and ejects the empty case after the weapon has been fired. Rifles are generally made with one of 4 types of action. The bolt action consists of a manually operated bolt which when slid to the rear ejects the empty case and exposes the chamber while at the same time cocking the firing pin, and when slid forward strips a new cartridge from the magazine and carries it into the chamber. The lever action works on a similar principle. When the lever is pulled down and forward it forces the bolt back, clearing the chamber and cocking the hammer. When the lever is returned to its original position, the bolt moves forward and carries a new cartridge into the chamber. Pump action or slide action guns are operated by a slide located directly under the barrel which when moved to the rear ejects the spent cartridge and cocks the firing pin and when moved forward loads a new cartridge. The automatic weapon utilizes a portion of the gases which propel the bullet or shot to drive the bolt to the rear, clearing the chamber and positioning a new round for the next shot. Shotguns employ the pump and automatic actions (the autoloading shotgun is in reality a semiautomatic) as well as a breakdown action which opens up at the rear of the chamber for loading and unloading by hand. The act of breaking the shotgun down cocks the firing pin. Most hand guns and some rifles use a spring-action hammer instead of a bolt.

action on the blade *fencing* Any movement by which a fencer makes contact with his opponent's blade and moves it so as to cause an opening for attack or to prevent a hit by the opponent.

activate To place or return a player who has been inactive (as because of injury, suspension, or absence from the active roster) to status as an active player eligible to participate in a contest.

active rope *mountain climbing* The rope used for belay between 2 climbers. — see ROPE

ad Short for *advantage (tennis)*.

ad court Short for *advantage court*.

added money *horse racing* **1** Money that is added by a track or state racing association to the fees (as entrance, nomination, and starting fees)

that usually make up the purse for a race.

2 or **added** An added money race.

1 address **1** *archery* To stand ready to shoot with the body turned at right angles to the target.

2 *golf* To take one's stance over the ball and grip the club preparatory to hitting the ball.

2 address The act of addressing; the position assumed in addressing.

Adolph *gymnastics* A trampoline stunt consisting of a forward somersault with 3½ twists.

adrift Not secured to a mooring; drifting.

1 advance **1** To move a ball or puck toward a goal.

2 To progress to the next round in a tournament.

3 *baseball* To move to the next base.

4 *fencing* To move forward toward the opponent by stepping first with the front foot and then bringing the other foot up the same distance.

2 advance The act of advancing; a method of advancing.

advancing *field hockey* A foul that results when a player advances the ball with any part of the body instead of with the stick and that is penalized by awarding a free hit to the opposing team.

advantage **1** *tennis* The point scored immediately after deuce. Should the same player score the next point he wins the game. If his opponent scores the next point, the score reverts to deuce. (also called *vantage*) — see also DEUCE; IN, OUT
2 *wrestling* Control over one's opponent in which a wrestler is usually on top of and behind his opponent. A wrestler is awarded one point for accumulating a margin of one minute or more of advantage time over his opponent during a match.

advantage court or **ad court** *tennis* The left-hand service court. The ball is served into the left service court whenever one side or the other has the advantage.

advantage rule A provision in the rules of some games (as rugby or soccer) whereby play is not stopped for some infractions if the offending team has not gained an advantage on the play or if stopping play would impose a disadvantage on the offended team.

aerial **1** *football* A forward pass.

2 or **aerial cartwheel** *gymnastics* A flip that resembles a cartwheel but is done without the hands touching the floor or the balance beam.

3 *freestyle skiing* A category of competition in which competitors ski down a slope one at a time and perform various flips, twists, and turns as they jump over bumps on the course. — see also DAFFY, HELICOPTER, MOEBIUS FLIP; compare BALLET, MOGUL

aerial ball 1 *speedaway* A thrown or kicked ball that has not touched the ground or has bounced only once and may be played with the hands.
2 *speedball* A thrown or kicked ball that has not touched the ground since being kicked and may be played with the hands so long as it does not hit the ground. (also called *fly ball*) — compare GROUND BALL

aerial cartwheel see AERIAL (*gymnastics*)

aerofoil British term for *airfoil*.

aerostat A sports balloon.

afield 1 To or into the field; to a place for hunting.

2 Away from the concentrated center of action; toward the outer limits of a playing area.

afloat 1 Floating on the water. (devices to keep you afloat)

2 Aboard a boat. (safety measures to be employed while afloat)

aft Toward or at the stern of a boat.

after Located in the stern of a boat. (the after cabin)

age 1 The classification of a racehorse that approximates the chronological age of the animal. The universal birthday for racehorses is January 1st. A horse foaled in April will be classified as a yearling on the following January. Likewise, a horse foaled in December will be one year old a month later.

2 The classification of a racing greyhound that is identical to his chronological age.

age-group competition Competition (as in swimming or track and field) in which youths compete in categories according to their ages. Age-group competition usually serves as a training ground for athletes who eventually move into open competition.

agent Someone appointed to transact business for another. A racehorse owner may appoint his trainer to be his agent in buying, selling, and claiming horses. Professional athletes have agents to bargain with club owners on the terms of a contract, and jockeys have agents to secure mounts for them.

aground On or onto the shore or the bottom of a body of water.

ahead 1 In the lead. (ahead by a score of 10-3) (coming to the wire he is ahead by 3 lengths)

2 *baseball* Having the count in one's favor. When the pitcher has thrown more strikes than balls, he is ahead of the batter.

aid *equitation* A pull on the rein, shift of balance, or pressure with a leg which communicates an intended movement to a horse.

aikido A Japanese art of self-defense developed

in the 20th century which emphasizes dodging and leading an attacker in the direction his momentum takes him to subdue him without causing injury. As a competitive sport, aikido involves mock fighting between 2 people on a mat approximately 9 meters (29½ feet) square for one or two 1-minute rounds. In one form of competition, one person is given a rubber knife and becomes the attacker for the first round; in the second round, the attacker and defender exchange roles. The object for the attacker is to attempt to score a point for a successful attack on the defender by striking him in the chest with the point of the knife. The defender seeks to parry the attack or to disarm or throw the attacker and thereby score a point for himself. There are other forms of competition in which the combatants fight for a single round without the knife. The competitor with the most points at the end of the bout is the winner. During the competition, the competitors wear a costume like the judo gi. The bout is supervised by a referee and scored by 2 judges. At the beginning of the match and at the end, the competitors bow to each other.

aikidoist Someone who engages in aikido.

aim To point a weapon at an object or target.

aim 1 The pointing of a weapon at an object or a target.

2 The ability to hit the target. (his aim was deadly)

air 1 *football* An offense or the part of an offense utilizing the forward pass. (were stopped on the ground and were forced to take to the air)

2 *scuba diving* Compressed air. (find a place to buy air)

— in the air 1 *baseball* For a fly ball. — usually used in the phrase *hit the ball in the air*

2 *football* As a forward pass. — usually used in the phrase *put the ball in the air*

air ball *basketball* A shot that completely misses the rim and the backboard. — compare GLASS BALL

air dribble *basketball* The act or an instance of tossing the ball in the air and touching it again before it touches the floor or before it is touched by another player. The rules formerly permitted a player to use one air dribble in conjunction with a regular bouncing dribble, with any number of steps permitted before the ball was touched again.

air embolism *scuba diving* A condition in which air bubbles forced into the bloodstream through ruptured capillaries in the lungs obstruct the cir-

airfoil

ulation. Air embolism is a common danger of failing to exhale compressed air while ascending.

airfoil A body (as an airplane wing) designed to provide a desired reaction force when in motion relative to the surrounding air. On airplanes, the wings are designed to provide lift. Airfoils for racing cars, either winglike devices mounted on the rear or deflectors usually mounted at the front, are designed to exert downthrust to increase traction and improve the cars' stability.

airplane racing see AIR RACING

airplane towing see TOWING

airplane turn *skiing* A change of direction made while in the midst of a jump (as over a mogul).

air racing or airplane racing The sport of racing airplanes usually over a closed course marked by pylons. A race consists of a specific number of laps with the winning plane being first to cross the finish line after covering the required number of laps. Planes compete within classes. — see also FORMULA ONE

air start *air racing* A starting procedure in which all competitors for a particular race are in the air and take up assigned positions behind a pace airplane to move to the starting line. This start is analogous to the flying start in auto racing.

air tank *scuba diving* A steel cylinder that holds compressed air for a diver. A typical tank holds approximately 71 pounds of compressed air. — see illustration at SCUBA DIVING

Alaskan canoe see KAYAK

Albion round *archery* A target round in women's competition in which each competitor shoots 36 arrows at a distance of 80 yards, 36 at 60 yards, and 36 at 50 yards. — compare ST. GEORGE ROUND

alee To leeward. <put the helm *alee*>

Algonquin A modified bearpaw-type snowshoe with a wide front tapering to a rounded back.

all For each side; each. <score is tied 15 *all*>

all-American A school or college athlete who is selected as one of the outstanding competitors in his sport in the United States.

alley **1** An area between the service court and the sideline on a doubles court (as for tennis or badminton) which is out of bounds in singles play.

2 A undefined relatively narrow unobstructed area on a playing field or court: **a** *football* An opening between linemen through which a defensive player may rush. **b** *baseball* The area between two outfielders when they are in their normal positions. <youngsters who go to the *alleys* so well they've almost made triples extinct — Peter Gammons, *Boston Globe*>

3 boccie A strip of ground 75 feet long and 8 feet wide that is bounded by boards at the sides and ends and that serves as the playing area for the game; court.

4 bowling **a** A lane. **b** A building containing many lanes.

5 field hockey The area between the sideline and a line 5 yards (7 yards in men's play) inside and parallel to the sideline. All players are excluded from the alley during a push-in or roll-in from the sideline.

6 squash racquets An undefined area along the side walls close to the floor from which it is difficult to return a shot.

alley-oop shot *basketball* A shot made by a player who leaps high in the air near the basket to catch a lob pass and immediately drops or throws the ball in the basket before landing.

alley shot *squash racquets* A hard low drive that hits the front wall just above the telltale and rebounds very close to the side wall, bouncing twice before reaching the back wall.

all out With full vigor, determination, or resources. <going *all out* to win> <an *all-out* effort>

all out *of a cricket team* Retired because each batsman has been dismissed.

allowance *horse racing* A reduction in the amount of weight a horse must carry in an allowance or claiming race usually based on the horse's past performance, age, or sex. A horse that has not won a specified number or specified types of races or a specific amount of money during a designated period of time will be allowed to run with less weight. Weight allowances are usually given to 3-year-olds running against older horses and to fillies when they are entered against colts. An allowance called an apprentice allowance is also given to a horse being ridden by an apprentice jockey. — see, also APPRENTICE ALLOWANCE

allowance race *horse racing* A race in which weight assignments are set by a formula tied to each horse's past performance or earnings. Horses running in allowance races are usually of better quality than those that normally run in claiming races but of lesser quality than handicap or stakes horses. — compare CLAIMING RACE, HANDICAP, STAKES RACE

all-play-all British term for *round robin*.

all-pro *football* A professional player selected to an all-star squad.

all-square British term for *tied*.

all-star A player named to a team composed

American Road Race of Champions

wholly of outstanding players. Selection to an all-star team is an honor accorded to outstanding performers usually by sportswriters, coaches, and fellow players, or sometimes by balloting among the fans.

all the way football For a touchdown. (went all the way on a perfectly executed sweep)

all-time The best or hypothetically the best in a particular area in recorded sports history. (the only active players . . . on the all-time list — Ted Williams)

alpenstock *mountain climbing* A long staff usually with a pointed metal tip that was formerly used as an aid to climbing but has today been generally replaced by the ice axe.

Alpine 1 Of or relating to downhill skiing or downhill competition.

2 Relating to a region of high mountains or mountain systems. (*Alpine wilderness*)

Alpine Combined *skiing* A competition in which Alpine skiers are rated on the basis of scores made in the slalom and downhill events. The skier with the highest total wins the Combined regardless of the placing in the individual events. — compare NORDIC COMBINED

Alpinism Mountain climbing in high mountain ranges such as the Alps.

Alpinist A skier who competes in Alpine events; a skier who engages in skiing downhill rather than cross-country.

also eligible *horse racing* A horse entered in a race but not drawn as one of the limited number of starters. Such a horse may have a chance to start if another horse withdraws.

also-ran 1 A competitor (as a racehorse) that finishes out of the money.

2 A competitor who does not finish a contest or who is not expected to finish among the top prize or point winners; a competitor who is only moderately successful.

altered *drag racing* 1 A vehicle that is based on a standard automobile body but is modified practically without restriction.

2 A drag racing classification for these vehicles.

alternate Someone selected to take the place of a member of a team, squad, or group who is unable to participate.

alternate captain *ice hockey* A designated player who performs the duties of team captain when the captain is not on the ice.

alternate toe touch A calisthenic exercise that is started from an erect position with the feet apart and the arms extended to the sides and that consists of bending over to touch the toes with

each hand alternately touching the toes of the opposite foot.

altimeter An instrument for measuring altitudes. The altimeter is basically a barometer that measures the air pressure at a given altitude and indicates this on a dial or gauge calibrated in feet or thousands of feet.

amateur 1 Someone who is not classified as a professional and who is eligible to participate in amateur competition as defined by the various governing and sanctioning organizations. The interpretation of amateur status is controversial and varies widely in different sports. The distinction between amateurism and professionalism in many situations is not clear. Some organizations bar all athletes who have ever received payment for participation in sports, even to the point of barring sports stars who capitalize on their fame for the promotion or advertising of sports equipment, yet permit or condone various forms of subsidies. These include training and traveling expenses and college scholarships which are based on a student's playing for a school and which end once the student's participation or eligibility ends. In some European nations where sports are under the control of the state, amateur subsidies resemble salaries and may include such bonuses as free use of apartments and automobiles. Though professionals are rarely allowed to compete in amateur competition, sports such as tennis and golf have open tournaments in which amateurs may compete with professionals and still retain their amateur status so long as they do not accept prize money.

2 Someone whose performance or ability is considerably below that exhibited by or expected of a professional.

3 *ice hockey* A player in an amateur league who receives payment and is usually supplied with room and board.

amateurism The status of an amateur; the fact of being an amateur.

ambient water *skin diving* The water that surrounds a diver at a given depth.

amble *equitation* An easy 4-beat gait that resembles a pace.

amble *of a horse* To move at an amble.

American Legion Baseball A summer baseball league sponsored by the American Legion for youths aged 15-17. — compare BABE RUTH LEAGUE, LITTLE LEAGUE

American Road Race of Champions A program of races sponsored by the Sports Car Club of America for the winners of local club races from

American round

around the United States that is held at the end of the racing season to determine a champion in each automobile class.

American round arch A target round in which each competitor shoots 30 arrows at a distance of 60 yards, 30 at 50 yards, and 30 at 40 yards.

American ski technique see SKIING

American style see HOP-STEP

American twist tennis A serve in which the ball is struck with topspin at a point almost straight over the head so that it bounces unusually high and to the receiver's left when it hits the ground.

America's Cup A trophy awarded to the winner of a series of international races for 12-meter yachts. The trophy, originally called the Hundred Guineas Cup, was offered by the Royal Yacht Squadron of Great Britain in 1851 to the winner of a race around the Isle of Wight. This race was won by a seagoing schooner from America named "America," which beat 14 British yachts. The cup was eventually donated to the New York Yacht Club, its present owner, as a permanent trophy for perpetual international challenge races. Originally, challenging yachts had to sail on their own hulls to the site of the races, but

in 1956 that requirement was dropped and international 12-meter yachts were made standard.

amidships 1 To or in the part of a boat midway between the bow and the stern.

2 In the middle of a vehicle (as an automobile).

(a 12-cylinder engine mounted *amidships*)

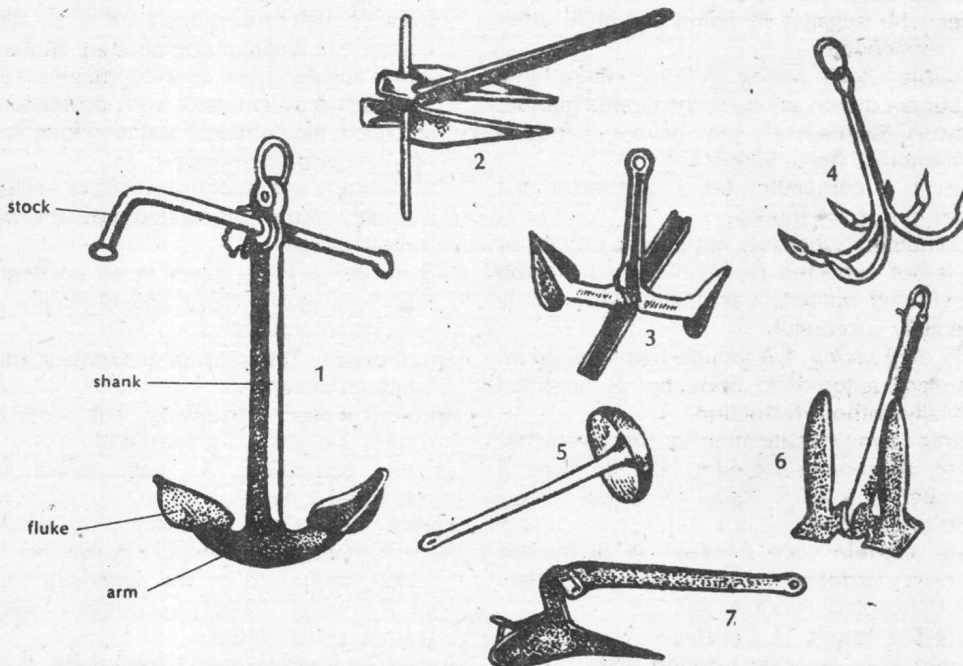
anabolic steroid Any of a group of usually synthetic hormones that increase constructive metabolism and that are sometimes taken by athletes in training in order to increase the size of their muscles temporarily.

anchor 1 or anchorman A member of a team who is last to compete in a relay race (as in track or swimming).

2 or anchor point archery A point on an archer's face (as the cheek or chin) to which he brings the string hand each time the bow is drawn in order to ensure consistency in aiming and shooting.

3 billiards Any of the eight 7-inch-square areas on a balkline table at the intersections of the balklines and the cushions. The anchor is bisected by the balkline and serves to extend the restrictions of balk.

4 boating A heavy usually metal device in any of various shapes that is attached to the boat by



anchor: 1 yachtman's; 2 Danforth; 3 Northill;
4 grapnel; 5 mushroom; 6 Navy stockless; 7 CQR

a cable or chain and that is cast overboard to keep the boat from drifting.

5 mountain climbing A point on a slope or rock face at which a belay is secured.

²anchor **1** To serve as an anchorman on a relay team.

2 archery To bring the string hand to the anchor point.

3 boating To secure a boat in place in the water by means of an anchor.

4 mountain climbing To establish a belay at an anchor.

anchor bend see FISHERMAN'S BEND

anchor leg The last leg of a relay. The anchor leg is the responsibility of the anchorman who is usually the fastest or strongest member of the team.

anchorman see ANCHOR

anchor point see ANCHOR (archery)

anchor rode *boating* A light rope attached to a boat's anchor.

¹angle **1 football** A position to the side of an opponent from which a player may block the opponent more effectively.

2 mountain climbing A light piton with a U-shaped blade. — see illustration at PITON

²angle **1** To propel a ball in a diagonal direction.

2 To move at an angle.

3 To engage in fishing; fish.

angle block *football* A block made from the side and intended to drive the defender sideways; a block made at an angle on an opponent who is not lined up directly opposite the blocker.

angled *of the cueball in snooker* Blocked from the on ball by the corner of a cushion at the opening to a pocket.

angler A fisherman.

angling The sport of fishing.

angulation *skiing* A position used in traversing in which the skis are edged into the hill; the knees bent toward the slope, and the upper body held over the downhill ski.

animal round *archery* A round in field archery competition in which each competitor shoots at 28 life-size animal targets placed at distances from 10 yards to 60 yards around a field roving course. Three shots are allowed at each target, but the archer shoots only until one hit is made. Often the round requires shooting from varying positions (as kneeling, sitting, or standing), and scores are based on whether the scoring arrow was the archer's first, second, or third and on whether it hit a high or low scoring area.

ankle boot see BOOT (*harness racing*)

anorak A lightweight hooded, usually pullover-style parka.

anoxia *skin diving* Oxygen starvation which often results when a diver consciously represses the urge to breathe so as to extend the length of the dive and which often leads to shallow-water blackout.

antenna Short for *net antenna*.

ante-post *British horse racing* Relating to odds or betting prior to the day of the race. (the *ante-post* favorite)

antiparachute ropes *ballooning* Lines that hold down the lower portion of a hot-air balloon envelope and prevent the lower half of a partially deflated balloon from rising into the upper half creating a parachute.

antisway bar see SWAY BAR

aperture sight A peep sight. — see SIGHT

apex *motor racing* The point in a turn at which the vehicle is nearest the inside edge of the roadway.

apparatus *gymnastics* The equipment (as parallel and horizontal bars, horses, rings, and beam boards) used in the performance of gymnastic and tumbling feats.

apparent wind *sailing* The wind as felt aboard a moving sailboat. It is a combination of the direction and magnitude of the true wind and the movement of the boat. Air resistance on a moving body creates a feeling of wind in the direction opposite the movement. A boat moving through the water at a speed of 4 knots experiences air resistance which seems like a wind of 4 knots. If the true wind is blowing from a similar direction, these 2 forces combine creating an apparent wind greater than the true wind and from a direction somewhat between that of the true wind and that of the air resistance. A flag or streamer fixed to the mast will blow in the direction opposite the apparent wind instead of opposite the true wind. When the direction of the true wind changes, the direction and magnitude of the apparent wind likewise changes. It is the apparent wind that is the total resultant force driving the boat and the wind to which the sails must constantly be trimmed.

appeal play *baseball* A situation in which a base runner commits a base-running infraction (as failing to touch a base in passing) but can be called out only if a member of the defensive team tags the player or touches the appropriate base while holding the ball and then appeals to the umpire before the next pitch. If no appeal is made, the infraction is ignored.

appearance money

appearance money or appearance fee Money paid to a star performer (as a race car driver) or to a team for competing in a specific meet or competition. Appearance money may be a guarantee against winnings or may be paid in addition to winnings.

appel *fencing* A call to stop the bout made by a fencer by stamping his foot twice. The bout will be stopped immediately provided an attack is not underway.

apple A baseball. (tried everything on the old apple but salt and pepper and chocolate sauce topping — Gaylord Perry)

apprentice allowance *horse racing* A reduction in the amount of weight a horse ridden by an apprentice jockey must carry in a race. Though the allowances are set by the individual state racing commissions, the following are those of the New York Jockey Club and are representative. Until the apprentice has ridden 5 winners, he is permitted to claim 10 pounds; he may claim an allowance of 7 pounds until he has ridden an additional 30 winners. If his first 35 winners come within his first year of riding, he is allowed to claim an allowance of 5 pounds for the remainder of the year. A 3-pound allowance is granted for an additional year provided he remains in the employ of his original employer. The apprentice allowance is indicated in the racing program by one or more stars or asterisks (popularly called *bugs*). The number of asterisks indicates the amount of the weight allowance.

apprentice jockey *horse racing* A novice jockey who is under contract to a trainer or owner for a period of from 3 to 5 years, who has been working for the trainer or owner for at least one year, and who is eligible to claim an apprentice allowance. — see also APPRENTICE ALLOWANCE

approach 1 *bowling* a A 16-foot-long section of the lane leading to the foul line, on which the bowler makes his approach in delivering the ball. b The steps taken and the motion made by a bowler in delivering the ball. Though 5-step and 3-step approaches are sometimes used, the 4-step approach is the most common.

2 *diving* The manner of moving to the starting position for a dive. For forward dives, the approach is normally a short run with a hurdle step to gain momentum and is usually judged on form.

3 *golf* An approach shot.

4 *gymnastics* The manner in which a performer moves to the apparatus to start a routine.

5 *track and field* The run by a competitor to the takeoff point (in vaulting or jumping) or up to the foul line (in throwing events) in order to gain momentum.

approach shot *golf* A shot made from the fairway to the putting green.

après-ski Social activity (as at a ski lodge) after a day's skiing.

apron 1 *auto racing* The inner edge of an oval racing track usually used by cars coming up to racing speeds on returning to the track from the pit area.

2 *boxing* The section of the ring floor extending beyond the ropes.

3 *golf* The area of closely-cut grass that surrounds the putting green. The apron is usually cut shorter than the fairway but not quite so short as the putting green.

1 *aquaplane* A flat board 5 to 6 feet long on which a rider stands to plane over the water when towed by a speedboat.

2 *aquaplane* of a car To hydroplane.

aquaplaning The act or sport of riding an aquaplane.

aquatics Water sports including swimming, diving, surfing, skin diving, boating, and sailing.

arabesque A body position (as in gymnastics or skating) in which the performer balances on one leg, leans forward at the waist keeping the back arched, and holds the free leg horizontal. — see also SPIRAL, SCALE

Arabian or Arabian jump or Arabian handspring *gymnastics* A handspring started by jumping instead of falling into a handstand position.

arbiter A baseball umpire.

arch *gymnastics* A body position in which the body is bent backward so that the back is arched.

archer Someone skilled in the use of a bow and arrow or who engages in archery.

archer's paralysis *archery* A psychological state in which an archer is unable to aim directly at the center of a target or unable to loose the arrow when it is aimed at the center of the target. (also called *gold-shyness*)

archery The art, skill, or sport of shooting with a bow and arrow. Competitive archery encompasses target archery, in which all competitors take turns shooting groups of arrows at round targets at known distances, field archery, in which the competitors move in groups around a course laid out over the countryside or in a woods shooting a specified number of arrows at targets at unknown distances, and flight shoot-

ing, in which competitors seek to shoot their arrows as far as possible. In target archery, shooters are generally divided into groups of 4 archers for each target with one of the group serving as the target captain who orders the beginning and end of the shooting, designates the scoring value of each arrow in the target, and decides minor questions of interpretations of rules. Each archer usually shoots 3 arrows in turn and then yields his place to another member of the group. The end is scored after each shooter has shot 2 groups of 3 arrows each. This procedure is continued until the required number of arrows has been shot and scored from each distance according to the particular round being used. The principal rounds used in tournament competition are these: York, Hereford, St. George, Albion, Men's Western, Men's National, Western, National, Windsor, Columbia, and American rounds, and the FITA rounds for men and women. Archers are classified according to skill and age, and there are variations of many of these rounds for competitors in different age groups. — see also FIELD ARCHERY; CLOUT SHOOTING, FLIGHT SHOOTING, WAND SHOOTING

archery golf An adaptation of golf using a bow and arrow in which archers compete against each other on a specially prepared course or against golfers on a golf course following the basic rules of golf. The archer is limited to using one bow but he may use any number of arrows. The archer typically uses flight arrows for distance (driving) and field or target arrows for close range accuracy (the approach and putting). The archer counts one stroke for each arrow shot and he holes out by hitting a special target. The arrows used in the approach and in putting are specially prepared to prevent skidding; a lost arrow incurs the same penalty as a lost ball.

area blocking *football* Blocking any opponent in a particular area or zone instead of a designated player. (also called *zone blocking*)

area drive *hunting* A method of hunting in which some hunters wait along game trails while other hunters beat the woods to drive the game towards them.

arena 1 A building in which indoor sports (as basketball, ice hockey, and boxing) are held and which provides spectator accommodations and facilities (as dressing and shower rooms) for the participants.

2 *table tennis* see COURT

arête *mountain climbing* A sharp crested ridge of a mountain.

Arlberg strap or **Arlberg safety strap** *skiing* A strap attached to the ski binding and wrapped around the skier's ankle to prevent loss of the ski in the event the binding is suddenly released (as in a fall). (also called *safety strap*)

Arlberg system see SKIING

arm 1 Ability to throw or pitch. (has one of the finest *arms* in the league)

2 The part of some anchors that extends out to either side from the shank.

3 Short for *firearm*.

arm bar see BAR ARM

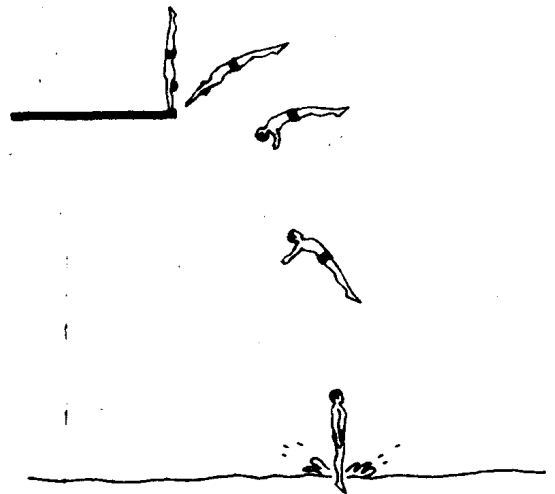
arm guard *archery* A plastic or leather covering for the inner forearm of the bow arm to protect it from the bow string—see illustration at BOW.

armlock 1 *judo* A hold in which the opponent's arm is stretched out and held in that position with pressure applied to the back of the elbow.

2 *wrestling* Any hold in which the arm is held so that it cannot be moved.

arm pull *swimming* The pull of the arm through the water for propulsion.

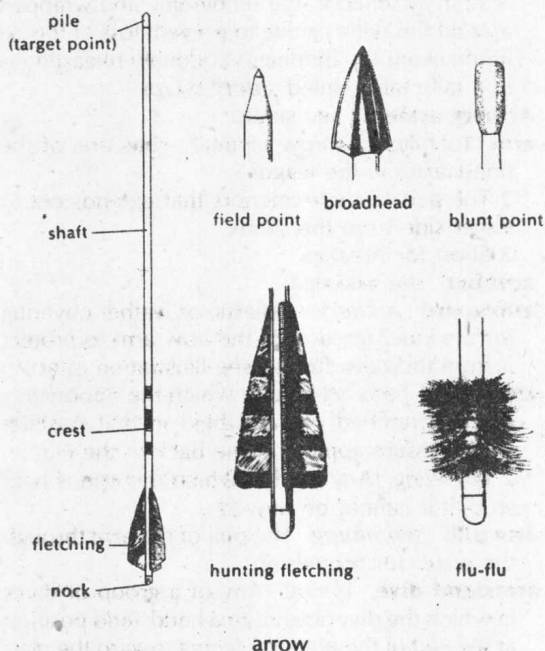
armstand dive *diving* Any of a group of dives in which the diver begins in a handstand position at the end of the platform facing toward the platform and falls away toward the water. — compare BACKWARD DIVE, FORWARD DIVE, INWARD DIVE, REVERSE DIVE, TWIST DIVE



armstand dive in layout position

arm twist *wrestling* A counter in which a wrestler whose arm is grasped by an opponent straightens his arm then bends his elbow against his opponent's forearm and jerks free.

arm wrestling



arm wrestling An activity in which 2 opponents sit face to face and grip each other's hand (usually the right hand) with the corresponding elbow set on a flat surface such as a table and attempt to force each other's arm down. (also called *Indian wrestling*) — compare WRIST WRESTLING

arrest *mountain climbing* The act or method of stopping a fall or slide by a climber. In belaying a fellow climber, a person usually allows the rope to pass around the body with each hand on it. The safest means of arresting a fall is to gradually tighten the grip on the rope, allowing it to run through the hands a little before pulling tight. This is known as the *sliding friction arrest*; with it much of the shock of the fall is absorbed by the movement of the rope through the belayer's hands instead of solely by the rope and the body of the fallen climber. The usual method of stopping a slide is the *self arrest* in which the sliding climber turns over on his stomach, digs his toes into the slope, and presses his ice axe or a staff into the dirt or snow. — see also BELAY

arrimada *jai alai* A shot returned to the front wall in such a way as to rebound close along the side wall where it is hard for the opponent to return.

arrow 1 *archery* A slender shaft of wood, metal, or fiberglass that is shot from a bow. The arrow is approximately $\frac{5}{16}$ inch in diameter and from 22 to 28 or sometimes 30 inches long. The length of the arrow used is determined usually by the length of the archer's arm or by the size of the bow. The arrow is composed essentially of four parts: pile, shaft, fletching, and nock. The pile may vary from the simple bullet-shaped point used in target shooting to the sharp broadhead used in hunting. The shaft is generally of equal diameter throughout its length and may be self (made of only one type of material) or footed (made with stronger material added at stress points). The fletching is the arrangement of feathers or the feathers themselves near the end of the arrow which give it stability in flight. The nock is a narrow groove in the end opposite the pile into which the bowstring fits.

2 An iceboat of a one-design class used chiefly for day sailing. It is 16 feet long, carries 80 square feet of sail, and weighs about 200 pounds.

3 *bowling* Any of the usually narrow triangular spots on the lane near the foul line.

arrowhead The pile of an arrow. — see ARROW

arrow plate *archery* A small inlaid or padded section on one side of the bow just above the arrow rest across which the arrow passes when shot. On target bows the plate is ornamental while a padded plate on hunting bows serves to deaden the sound of the shot.

arrow rest or arrow shelf *archery* A narrow ledge on the side of the bow which supports the arrow.

artificial climbing *mountain climbing* Climbing over rock or ice by means of artificial aids (such as pitons, chockstones, and étriers).

artificial fly see FLY

artificial respiration The restoration of breathing by manual or mechanical means. This consists essentially of forcing air into and out of the lungs rhythmically.

artificial route *mountain climbing* A route that can be abandoned conveniently by a traverse onto an easier route; a route that lies close to or parallel to an easier route which may be reached by relatively easy climbing.

ascender *mountain climbing* A mechanical device that can be slid along a rope in only one direction and that is used to connect loads to ropes so that they can be advanced up the rope without their sliding back down.

Ashes *cricket* A mythical trophy won by the winner of the England-Australia Test Matches.

Asian Games A program of amateur sports competition identical to the Olympic Games that is held every 4 years in the interval between Olympics among nations of Asia.

assault A fencing bout.

assist 1 An action by a player who assists a teammate in making a putout or in scoring a goal: **a baseball** A throw made to a teammate to enable him to make a putout. An assist can be awarded even though an error by the teammate prevents the putout. Example: the shortstop fields a batted ball and throws to the second baseman who steps on second base for a forceout and then throws to first base to complete the double play. Whether or not the double play is ultimately successful, the shortstop will get credit for an assist; the second baseman will be credited with a putout and, if the throw to first base was good and in time to retire the runner, an assist, even though the first baseman may have dropped the ball.

b basketball A pass to a teammate who immediately scores a basket. An assist may be credited to a player even though the teammate may have to dribble the ball or dodge an opponent before shooting so long as the player continues his movement toward the basket after receiving the pass. No assist is given if the player receiving the pass holds the ball, dribbles it to get into position to shoot, or interrupts his movement. **c ice hockey** An instance of handling the puck immediately prior to a teammate's scoring. An assist is usually given to the 2 players who handled the puck just before the player who took the shot. In unusual circumstances, such as on a breakaway, it is possible for a goalkeeper to receive an assist. If the puck is deflected into the goal by an offensive player after a shot by a teammate, that player gets credit for the goal and the shooter receives an assist. **d lacrosse** A pass to a teammate who scores immediately without having to dodge a defensive player.

2 Credit given a player in statistical records for making an assist.

association croquet A version of croquet played in Great Britain between 2 sides of one or 2 players on a 28-by-35-yard court that has 6 wickets and a stake (peg), with the object for each side to drive its 2 balls in turn through each of the 6 wickets, first in one direction and then in the other, and finally hit the peg in the middle of the court. One point is scored for each wicket made and for hitting the peg; the first team to get 26 points (13 for each player) is the winner.

association football British term for soccer.

astern 1 Toward or at the stern of a boat; behind a boat.

2 In reverse; backward. (reversed the engines to move the boat *astern*)

Astroturf A trademark used for a synthetic surface that is used in place of grass especially on football and baseball fields.

asymmetrical bars British term for *uneven parallel bars*.

at bat *baseball* An official turn as a batter charged to a player except when he gets a base on balls or a sacrifice hit, is hit by a pitched ball, or is interfered with by the catcher. The number of times at bat is used in computing a player's batting average. (3 hits in 5 *at bats*)

athlete Someone who is trained to compete in exercises, sports, or games requiring physical strength, agility, or stamina. — used in Great Britain to refer to someone who competes in track and field sports

athlete's foot Ringworm of the feet that is characterized by softening and cracking of the skin between the toes accompanied by painful itching and that is spread especially through unsanitary conditions in a gymnasium.

athletics British term for *track and field* sports.

athletic supporter A usually elastic supporter for the genitals worn by men participating in sports.

athwart or athwartships Across or at right angles to the centerline of a boat.

atmosphere A unit of pressure equal to the pressure of the atmosphere at sea level; 14.7 pounds per square inch. (in seawater, the pressure increases one *atmosphere* for every 33 feet of depth)

1 attack 1 An offensive or scoring action. (these players carried the *attack* deep into the opponent's territory)

2 The offensive players on a team (as in lacrosse or Australian Rules football). — compare DEFENSE

3 *cricket* The action of a team in attempting to put out opposing batsmen and especially a team's bowling action. (turned his arm for 30.3 overs, capturing five wickets. . . . Last Saturday, he spearheaded Stafford's *attack* for 28 overs — *Wolverhampton (England) Express & Star*)

4 *fencing* A movement or series of movements aimed at scoring a hit against an opponent. In foil and saber competition, a fencer must first parry an opponent's attack before he is permitted to initiate a counterattack.

2 attack To mount an attack; to seek to score against an opponent.