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Sports Talk: A Dictionary of Sports Metaphors


REF

Sports Talk differs from most sports dictionaries (e.g., Tim Considine’s The Language of Sport, LJ 4/15/85) by defining the use of terms and phrases in everyday applications, as well as in their original context. The coverage goes beyond sports by including idioms from various games (e.g., cribbage, dominoes) and recreational activities (e.g., hiking). Although most of the 1700 alphabetically arranged entries are from baseball, boxing, sailing, and horse racing, over 100 categories are listed in a separate classified breakdown (Considine covers nine major sports). Most of the short entries (c.30 words) provide probable sources, definitions of both sport and popular usage, references to appearances in 22 sports and general language works, and cross-references. Because of its focus on general usage of metaphors originating in sports and other specialized activities, this work is for examiners of the English language more than for sports fans.—Robert Aken, Univ. of Kentucky Libs., Lexington