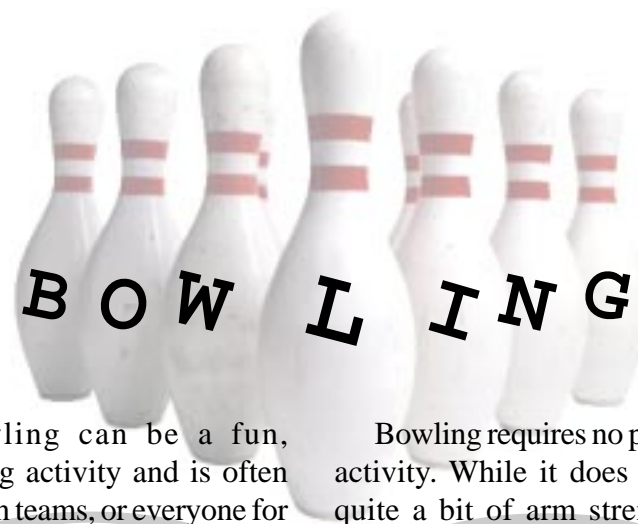


Poms

Pom Pons is a very time consuming and physically demanding activity. It goes almost all year long. The girls practice during the week and perform at every home football and basketball half time show. Those who think dancers are not athletes have obviously never had to dance for two and a half hours daily, preparing for an intense three-minute performance.

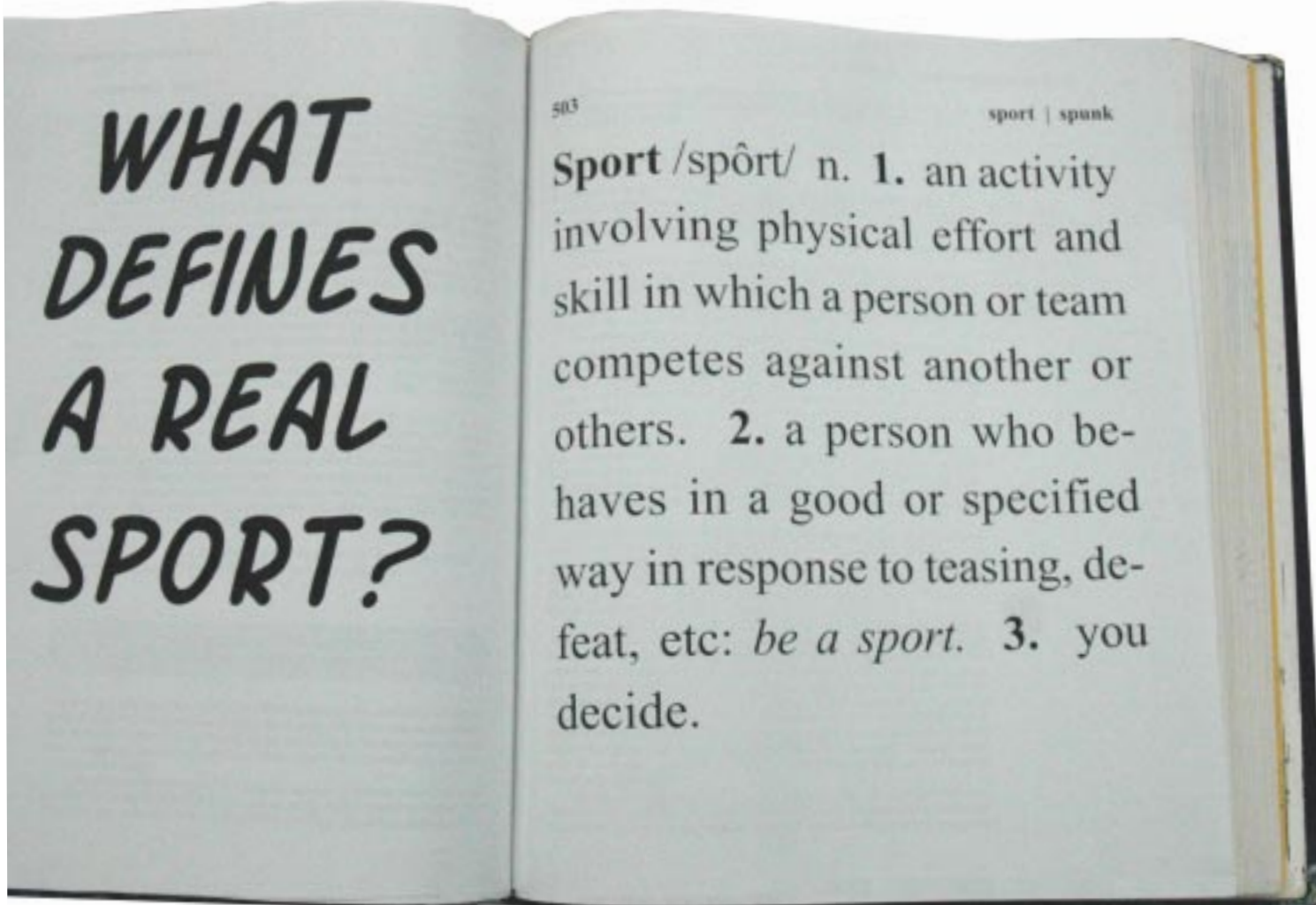
The Pom squad is not recognized as an IHSA sport or activity like all other official sports at H-F. Therefore, it should be considered a club. Yes, the poms work up a decent sweat, and yes, they compete, but that is not their main purpose. Pom Pons are entertainers. They dance for the fans that patiently wait the return of the sports team they came to see.



BOWLING

Bowling can be a fun, engaging activity and is often played in teams, or everyone for themselves. It is unique and can be played through an intramural league. It is very competitive, if the players are into it and really know how to play. Competition is a key factor when evaluating elements of a sport.

Bowling requires no physical activity. While it does require quite a bit of arm strength to handle the ball, there is no physical training or preparation. It is not widely known for being a sport. Unlike athletes of many others sports, bowlers are not especially known for their rippling biceps.



Pool

The game does not focus on burning calories nearly as much as precision, accuracy, and concentration. Although it is not as popular as most sports, it is still highly competitive. It can sometimes be seen as an easy-going leisure sport like tennis and golf to non-competitors, but real pool takes skill and practice.

Although it is competitive, billiards is no workout. It is neither tiring, nor strenuous. A sport should be physically demanding, and that is where billiards falls short. It does require plenty of skill, but so do many hobbies. Pool is enjoyable, but that does not qualify it as a sport.

Poker

A Sports should include activities that lack physical strength, but are abundant in thinking skills. Poker players do not have to be in shape, but their minds must always be ready. Poker requires something that takes sports to a new level. It is more valuable to have a smart mental game, which can make up for lack of physical skills.

K Yes, a poker player may seem to sweat just as much as a football player, and maybe after a while, lifting the chips may require more effort than it looks. It does require skill, and has serious competitors, but it lacks the physical activity part of a sport. Nothing should be considered a sport if its players sit in chairs the whole time.

Cheerleading

Cheerleading is a full-time commitment. Their weeks are filled with practices followed by Friday night football and basketball games either home or away. Hours of time and energy are spent preparing for their intense competitions. There are very few people who can hold a person high in the air by one foot, let alone several hours. Cheerleading is not a sport for the average person.

Cheerleaders are just that: cheerers. They attend games to pump up the team and entertain the crowd. They yell, jump, dance, and toss people in the air, but can that really be considered a sport? Cheerleaders do not interact with another team, and at the end of a game, the only winner is on the court.



Sports on the inside



Girls' Basketball See p. 16



Boys' Swimming See p. 17



Super Bowl See p. 18