

Oct. 5, 1955

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP A -

Good sportsmanship is the manifestation of virtues which go beyond mere obedience to the written rules of a game. It is <sup>one word</sup> common place to affirm that everyone is expected to abide by the precepts and practices of any given sport. No game could be successfully played without a common set of principles to guide the participants, and obedience to these basic premises is the first assumption of those who would engage in it. Disobedience is unthinkable. For example, one could hardly consider himself a football player if he persisted <sup>in standing</sup> to stand on the side of the ball which is possessed by the opposing team. He is thereby transgressing the off-side rule. Obedience to such primary rules might possibly make a sportsman, <sup>see chapter 3</sup> but could never produce sportsmanship. Sportsmanlike conduct is contained in obedience to the "unwritten" rules of human respect, consideration, and fairness. True sportsmanship is exemplified by that post-game cheer for the victors from the defeated, <sup>or</sup> that patient acceptance of seeming miscalls by the officials in which was manifest <sup>his</sup> total blindness; <sup>see chapter 5</sup> or even a hearty acknowledgement of a beautiful spiral, lofted downfield into the waiting arms of an opponent who dashes over for the winning touch down. These and many other acts of recognition to unrecorded moral rules are the constituents of good sportsmanship. <sup>see chapter 6</sup>

well done. your  
thought development  
shows good unity and  
coherence