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August 18, 2006

Flugtag Takes Off

Posted by [degan](#) in [Sports & Play](#)



It's a bird! It's a plane! Who cares what it is as long as it flies! One of the best parts about my walk to work in the morning (along False Creek North) is that I get to keep up with civic events going on. Being one of the last big parking lots in the city, people are constantly biking, skating, learning to drive, or testing out those [pocketbikes](#), whatever. The latest excitement is [Red Bull's Flugtag](#), a flying contest open to anyone willing to brave the waters of False Creek.

"Flugtag may mean "flying day" in German, but don't expect to see anything resembling a plane on the flight deck - instead the skies above Vancouver will be filled with a Zamboni, ghetto blaster, lobster, reincarnated Winnipeg Jet, and a customized DeLorian (think Back to the Future)" their press release reads, so hilarity will be the order of the day, more than showy piloting. Thirty [teams](#) (my money's on "[Sushi Gone Wild](#)" - c'mon, it's flying fish!) have built some sort of aircraft that will fly or fall depending on the level of engineering genius involved. But for those who sink like a stone there is still hope - entries will be judged on creativity and showmanship, as well as distance.



The [rules](#) are pretty simple:

1. the aircraft has to be human powered (you can have a team of up to 4 pushers) and needs a pilot
2. it has to be less than 9 metres wide
3. it has to weigh less than 200 kg.

Check out some of the past submissions in the [gallery](#).

Departure time is 2 PM this Saturday, August 19th at the Concord Pacific Place parking lot. Gates open at noon if you have a hankering to be there early and admission is free.



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