

Paper Airplane Contest Rules

The Senior Design event will be scored as an aggregate of scores from two equally weighted categories: long distance and accuracy. Different planes may be used for each category.

Your airplanes

- Paper planes must only be constructed out of one piece of paper: Standard letter size (8.5" x 11"). The sheet must be modified by folding only! No ripping, gluing, cutting, stapling or ballasting is allowed!
- Paper planes have to be built on site on event day with the provided official Kwantlen Science Challenge paper. Time limit for building: 10 minutes. (Minor adjustments may be made later "on the fly".)
- Ten sheets of paper will be provided to each team and as many as ten airplanes may be built. However, as the rules below imply, a maximum of four planes may be flown in competition.

Long Distance Category

- The aircraft must be launched by one person throwing the aircraft unaided from behind a straight launch line marked on the floor. Passing over the launch line leads to an invalid attempt. Touching the launch line or any point beyond during the launch, leads to an invalid attempt. One team member may move beyond the launch line, after the paper plane has come to rest.
- Two trials per team are allowed. Different planes can be used, the better attempt counts.
- The distance is measured from the starting line to the furthestmost part of the plane after it has come to rest. Planes may strike inanimate objects (wall, ceiling, fixtures, floor, ...) along the way. We measure the North-South component of the horizontal displacement (e.g. if a plane gets hung up on the ceiling or flies into a corner, we will not measure a diagonal distance).
- The event will be held in the KPU-Richmond Main Atrium, ground floor. Paper planes will be launched toward the north. The far wall is approximately 40.0 metres away. Flights reaching all the way to the far wall and striking it will be scored as 40.0 m (or whatever the precise distance is, measured on the event day).

Accuracy Category

- The event will be held in the KPU-Richmond Main. Paper planes will be launched from the floor 2 lounge at a target marked on floor 1 (roughly 4.2 m vertical distance and 8.0 m horizontal distance). The score is based on the distance from the target to the position where the paper plane comes to rest.
- The aircraft must be launched by one person throwing the aircraft unaided from a reasonably static position. The participant needs to have both feet firm on the ground during the attempt. For safety reasons, all team members including the person throwing the plane must stay behind a line on the floor 1.0 m from the railing.

- A run-up or fast walk as part of the launch is not permitted, nor the use of ramps or like devices.
- Two trials per team are allowed. Different planes can be used, the better attempt counts.

Coming soon: floorplan, photos and video(s) of the competition area.

The text of these rules are heavily borrowed from the Red Bull Paper Wings competition.