



January 29, 2005

# Hot fun in cold city

## **FROSTY FUN** from Page 25

fun is decorating the carts, which can be chopped up and modified, provided they still roll on four rubber wheels.) Racers then dash five miles into Manhattan for cash prizes, stopping at checkpoints so the "dogs" can catch their breath and refuel with fluids (read "beer"). Creative costumes are encouraged, but professional joggers wearing spandex will be disqualified. "It's too cold to take this seriously and run that hard," Flaherty says.

Race begins today at 2 p.m. at Brooklyn's Fulton Ferry Landing Pier, between Old Fulton and Water streets; (718) 855-8910; [precisionaccidents.com](http://precisionaccidents.com). \$5 per person to enter; free to watch.

## **FREEZE TAG**

"New York City is so serious about everything," says freeze-tag organizer Matt Levy. "I want people to remember how much fun we had playing these games growing up." As you probably remember from your playground days, freeze tag's rules are few. There's someone who's "it" and tags fellow players — freezing them. Players who haven't been tagged can "unfreeze" fro-



N.Y. Post: Tamara Beckwith

## **A cool freeze-tag game.**

zen players. The game ends when everyone is frozen. Last year, about 20 people — some dressed in Wall Street-appropriate ties — commandeered the Financial District streets, which are always empty at this time of the week, especially in the winter. For this second annual tag party, Levy encourages people to wear stockbroker attire, but there's no dress code. "Our only requirement is to have fun," he says.

Tomorrow at 12:30 p.m., Meet at the Federal Hall National Memorial (26

Wall St., at Nassau Street). For information, e-mail [officiallymattlevy@hotmail.com](mailto:officiallymattlevy@hotmail.com). Free.

## **POLAR BEAR CLUB**

These perennial cold-weather loons aren't just for New Year's Day anymore. Although the 40 or so members of century-old Coney Island Polar Bear Club are best known for their annual Jan. 1 swim, they actually frolic in the Atlantic's frigid surf every Sunday during the winter. "A Nor'easter is the perfect weather to swim in," says Louie Scarcella, president of the club. "It's euphoric. You know you're alive." The water temperatures at Coney Island barely break freezing, but don't wear a wetsuit. All you need are aquatic boots, a bathing suit — and nerves of steel. "We suffer hypothermia every time we get in the ocean," says Scarcella, who temporarily damaged several nerves in his fingers last year. "But hypothermia's stages run from shivering to death," he says. "We try to stay somewhere in the middle."

Today at 12:30 p.m. Meet in the education hall of the New York Aquarium, Surf Avenue and West Eighth Street; (718) 356-7741; [polarbearclub.org](http://polarbearclub.org). Free.