Arriving in RJ early this morning, a modest proposal leapt into my mind
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Among the sports awaiting introduction to the Olympic Games, the art of jumping the queue has got to be a hot favourite. Its performance is cheaper than anything connected with horses, live or wooden. Nor does it require an elaborate control system for the measuring of distances to the nearest millimetre.

Everyone who’s had to undergo the accreditation process for the Games at Rio’s Tom Jobin International Airport can bear witness to this modest proposal. Guests from all over the world arrived in their thousands before the crack of dawn. They were met by a handful of extremely friendly and competent helpers.

But they were five and we outnumbered them by much more than a hundredfold. So congestion became inevitable. And as we have learned from the laws of thermodynamics, congestion leads to highly unpredictable movements of particular bodies.
To put it plainly: A massive queue of the incoming many stretched to various points in the arrival hall, took shape and lost it again in practically no recordable time at all.

All this of course took place according to the laws of thermodynamics. BUT ALSO a certain natural skill, talent or gift in Queue Jumping played a part. The airport evidence would suggest that some individuals, some countries, some civilisations, have this skill as part of their genetic heritage. There are among us the “Haves” and the “Have Nots” in Queue Jumping skills. This is a cause of inevitable concern.

These days we’re lucky enough to know just how many conflicts in our world stem from minor mental or physical differences. These can easily be smoothed over when turned into an Olympic discipline with proper technical rules: just think of wrestling, synchronised swimming or shot put.

Needless to say, these are sports in their own right, yet wrestling apart, they don’t really help you solve conflicts if you happen to arrive early, even very early and in too great a number, at a given airport in our orbit.

The coming weeks should provide us with ample opportunity for more suggestions for a new look at the potential of the Games, jumping the queue is just a beginning.

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