# **Security and Privacy Policy**

# 1. Authentication and User Account Security

#### **Local Authentication Mechanism**

Users are required to create an account with a valid email, a secure password, and a nickname. Passwords are securely hashed and stored.

### **Input Validation for Email**

Email addresses are validated for proper format during the account creation process.

#### **Verification of Email**

An email verification process is implemented to ensure the validity of user-provided email addresses.

#### **Account Disablement**

If an account is flagged as disabled, users will be notified to contact the site administrator for assistance, and login access will be restricted.

# 2. Limited Functionality for Unauthenticated Users

### **Start Page**

The start page displays the application name, a brief description of the site's offerings, and provides a login mechanism.

# **Search Functionality**

Unauthenticated users can search for superheroes based on various criteria, with soft matching for search terms. Search results display hero names and publishers.

#### **Public Hero Lists**

Lists of public hero lists are accessible, showcasing their names, creators' nicknames, the number of heroes in each list, and average ratings. Additional details are expandable.

# 3. Additional Functionality for Authenticated Users

#### Named Lists of Heroes

Authenticated users can create and manage up to 20 named lists of heroes, each with a unique name, description, a collection of heroes, and a visibility flag (public or private).

### **List Management**

Authenticated users have the ability to view, edit, and delete their created hero lists. Last edit times are recorded for tracking changes.

### **Review System**

Authenticated users can contribute to the community by adding reviews with ratings and optional comments to any public hero list.

# **Privacy Considerations**

#### **Data Protection**

All user data, including email addresses and passwords, is stored securely and is not shared with third parties.

## **Review Monitoring**

Review comments are monitored for inappropriate content, and users violating community guidelines may face account suspension.

#### **Terms of Service**

User data is subject to the privacy policy outlined in the terms of service, emphasizing data protection and confidentiality.