# NCL Fall 2023 Team Game Scouting Report

Dear Luke Leveque (Team "University of Louisville ACM"),

Thank you for participating in the National Cyber League (NCL) 2023 Fall Season! Our goal is to prepare the next generation of cybersecurity professionals, and your participation is helping achieve that goal.

The NCL was founded in May 2011 to provide an ongoing virtual training ground for collegiate students to develop, practice, and validate their cybersecurity skills in preparation for further learning, industry certifications, and career readiness. The NCL scenario-based challenges were designed around performance-based exam objectives of CompTIA certifications and are aligned to the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) Cybersecurity Workforce Framework published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

As you look to a future career in cybersecurity, we hope you find this report to be valuable in both validating skills and identifying areas for improvement across the nine NCL skills categories. You can use this NCL Scouting Report to:

- Validate your skills to employers in any job application or professional portfolio;
- Show case your achievements and strengths by including the Score Card view of your performance as part of your résumé or simply sharing the validation link so that others may view the detailed version of this report.

The NCL 2023 Fall Season had 9,770 students/players and 591 faculty/coaches from more than 510 two- and four-year schools & 270 high schools across all 50 U.S. states registered to play. The Individual Game Capture the Flag (CTF) event took place from October 20 through October 22. The Team Game CTF event took place from November 3 through November 5. The games were conducted in real-time for students across the country.

NCL is powered by Cyber Skyline's cloud-based skills evaluation platform. Cyber Skyline hosted the scenario-driven cybersecurity challenges for players to compete and track their progress in real-time.



To validate this report, please access: cyberskyline.com/report/FHAM10HNEUXA

Congratulations for your participation in the NCL 2023 Fall Team Game! We hope you will continue to develop your knowledge and skills and make meaningful contributions as part of the Information Security workforce!

Dr. David Zeichick NCL Commissioner



#### NATIONAL CYBER LEAGUE SCORE CARD

NCL 2023 FALL TEAM GAME

NATIONAL RANK
11 TH PLACE
OUT OF 4672
PERCENTILE
100TH

YOUR TOP CATEGORIES

LOG ANALYSIS

100TH PERCENTILE

NETWORK TRAFFIC ANALYSIS 100TH PERCENTILE

ENUMERATION & EXPLOITATION 100TH PERCENTILE

85.7% ACCURACY

Average: 50.1%

cyberskyline.com/report
ID: FHAM10HNEUXA



#### NCL Fall 2023 Team Game

The NCL Team Game is designed for student players nationwide to compete in realtime in the categories listed below. The Team Game promotes camaraderie and evaluates the collective technical cybersecurity skills of the team members.

11 TH PLACE OUT OF 4672 NATIONAL RANK 2410 POINT OUT O 3000





100<sup>th</sup> National Percentile

Average: 683.9 Points

Average: 50.1%

Average: 31.7%

Cryptography	295 POINTS OUT OF 335	83.3% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	90.9%
Identify techniques used to encrypt or obfuscate mess extract the plaintext.	ages and leverage tools to	ACCURACT		
Enumeration & Exploitation	200 POINTS OUT OF 300	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	83.3%
Identify actionable exploits and vulnerabilities and use security measures in code and compiled binaries.	them to bypass the			
Forensics	270 POINTS OUT OF 300	78.6% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	91.7%
Utilize the proper tools and techniques to analyze, procinvestigate digital evidence in a computer-related incident				
Log Analysis	300 POINTS OUT OF 300	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Utilize the proper tools and techniques to establish a bar operation and identify malicious activities using log file				
Network Traffic Analysis	360 POINTS OUT OF 360	83.3% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Identify malicious and benign network traffic to demon potential security breaches.				
Open Source Intelligence	345 POINTS OUT OF 345	84.6% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Utilize publicly available information such as search en social media, and more to gain in-depth knowledge on	•			
Password Cracking	320 POINTS OUT OF 360	93.8% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	88.2%
Identify types of password hashes and apply various to determine plaintext passwords.	chniques to efficiently			
Scanning & Reconnaissance	190 POINTS OUT OF 300	65.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	76.5%
Identify and use the proper tools to gain intelligence ab services and potential vulnerabilities.	out a target including its			
Web Application Exploitation	30 POINTS OUT OF 300	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	40.0%

Note: Survey module (100 points) was excluded from this report.



Identify actionable exploits and vulnerabilities and use them to bypass the

security measures in online services.



# Cryptography Module

Decipher the plaintext for a message encrypted with a Sudoku cipher

Identify techniques used to encrypt or obfuscate messages and leverage tools to extract the plaintext.

15 TH PLACE OUT OF 4672 NATIONAL RANK 295 POINTS OUT OF 335 PERFORMANCE SCORE

83.3% ACCURACY



#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Security Control Assessor Secure Software Assessor Exploitation Analyst Cyber Operator Security Architect

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nal ntile

Average: 115.0 Points

Average: 59.3%

Salad (Easy)	30 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Analyze and obtain the plaintext for a message encrypted	with a rotation cipher	7,00010.101			
Beep Beep (Easy)	30 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Analyze and obtain the plaintext for a message encoded with Morse code					
Someone Cooked (Medium)	10 POINTS OUT OF	33.3% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	50.0%	
Analyze and obtain the plaintext for a message with multiple layers of encoding					
Roots (Medium)	50 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Interpret the Logo programming language to extract hidden information					
Pretty Good Signature (Hard)	75 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Identify fraudulent emails through the use of PGP signature verification					
Boomers (Hard)	100 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	



### **Enumeration & Exploitation Module**

Identify actionable exploits and vulnerabilities and use them to bypass the security measures in code and compiled binaries.

6 TH PLACE OUT OF 4672 NATIONAL RANK 200 POINTS OUT OF 300 PERFORMANCE SCORE

100.0% ACCURACY 83.3% COMPLETION Average: 33.2%

#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Operator Target Developer Exploitation Analyst Software Developer Systems Security Analyst

NATIONAL RANK

100<sup>th</sup> National

Average: 58.8 Points

Average: 54.4%

Espionage (Easy)

100 POINTS OUT OF

100.0% ACCURACY

COMPLETION:

100.0%

Be able to read and decipher OCaml Code and recognize bitwise operations

Bytecode (Medium)

100 POINTS OUT OF

100.0% ACCURACY

COMPLETION: 100.0%

Decompile and analyze the bytecode for Ruby to reverse engineer the authentication scheme

Journal (Hard)

O POINT

0.0% ACCURACY COMPLETION: 0.0%

Reverse engineer a compiled binary and exploit a TOCTOU (Time-of-Check Time-of-Use) vulnerability to escalate user privileges

### Forensics Module

Utilize the proper tools and techniques to analyze, process, recover, and/or investigate digital evidence in a computer-related incident.

26 TH PLACE OUT OF 4672 NATIONAL RANK

100<sup>th</sup> National

270 POINTS OUT OF 300

Average: 63.0 Points

78.6% ACCURACY

Average: 46.0%

91.7% COMPLETION

Average: 26.8%

TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Defense Forensics Analyst

Cyber Crime Investigator Cyber Defense Incident Responder

Cyber Defense Analyst

Seek (Easy)

100 POINTS OUT OF

75.0%

COMPLETION:

100.0%

Identify tampered files on an NTFS file system through forensic analysis of the Master File Table

Art (Medium)

100 POINTS

100.0% ACCURACY COMPLETION: 100.0%

Reconstruct a file from a binary data stream by following the specification for a custom file format

The Book (Hard)

70 POINTS OUT OF 100

71.4% ACCURACY

COMPLETION: 83.3%

Analyze and search through a live Windows memory dump to extract the SQL database from memory  $\,$ 



### Log Analysis Module

Utilize the proper tools and techniques to establish a baseline for normal operation and identify malicious activities using log files from various services.

**ST** PLACE OUT OF 4672 PERFORMANCE SCORE

100.0% ACCURACY

Average: 42.2%



#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Defense Analyst Systems Security Analyst All-Source Analyst Cyber Defense Forensics Analyst Data Analyst

NATIONAL RANK 100<sup>th</sup> National

Average: 111.8 Points

100.0% ACCURACY

COMPLETION:

100.0%

Parse a wardriving log to identify WiFi and Bluetooth network beacons

Mobile (Medium)

Wardriving (Easy)

100.0% **ACCURACY** 

COMPLETION: 100.0%

Dissect an Android log to identify historic user activity on the device

Za (Hard)

100.0%

COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze a Windows Sysmon log to identify the file that was covertly exfiltrated via DNS query packets

## Network Traffic Analysis Module

Identify malicious and benign network traffic to demonstrate an understanding of potential security breaches.

**TH PLACE** OUT OF 4672 NATIONAL RANK

PERFORMANCE SCORE

83.3% ACCURACY

Average: 37.5%



TOP NICE WORKROLES Cyber Defense Analyst

All-Source Analyst Cyber Defense Incident Responder Target Network Analyst

100<sup>th</sup> National Percentile

Average: 143.9 Points

Cyber Operator

Next Gen (Easy)

90 POINTS OUT OF

71.4% ACCURACY COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze and identify the layout of an IPv6 network

The Webz (Medium)

100.0% **ACCURACY** 

COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) traffic to identify automatic route discovery mechanisms

Router (Medium)

100.0% **ACCURACY** 

COMPLETION: 100.0%

Decrypt a WiFi packet capture and extract the contents of the network traffic

Looking Glass (Hard)

60.0% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze and extract raw H.264 video from a wireless Android screen recording





## Open Source Intelligence Module

Utilize publicly available information such as search engines, public repositories, social media, and more to gain in-depth knowledge on a topic or target.

9 TH PLACE OUT OF 4672

PERFORMANCE SCORE

84.6% ACCURACY

Average: 53.2%



#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Systems Security Analyst Target Developer System Administrator Research & Development Specialist Cyber Intel Planner

NATIONAL RANK

100<sup>th</sup> National Percentile

Average: 189.1 Points

Analyze a series of locations to identify the commonality between them and

extrapolate another likely target location

Rules of Conduct (Easy)	25 POINTS OUT OF 25	83.3% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Introductory challenge on acceptable conduct during NC	CL			
Park (Easy)	45 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Extract EXIF metadata from a JPEG file to determine ged	olocation			
X Marks the Spot (Easy)	60 POINTS OUT OF	70.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Identify characteristics of the 2020 Twitter hack from go	overnment reports			
Reputation (Medium)	40 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Reverse lookup IP addresses to identify the name of the	VPN service providers			
Airport (Medium)	75 POINTS OUT OF 75	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Identify the geolocation of an image without the EXIF me	etadata			
Gotta Go Fast (Hard)	100 POINTS OUT OF 100	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%





# Password Cracking Module

Identify types of password hashes and apply various techniques to efficiently determine plaintext passwords.

6 TH PLACE OUT OF 4672 NATIONAL RANK 320 POINTS OUT OF 360 PERFORMANCE SCORE

93.8% ACCURACY



100<sup>th</sup> National Percentile

Average: 44.4 Points

Average: 82.2%

Average: 18.2%

Hashing (Easy)	20 POINTS OUT OF 20	66.7%	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Generate password hashes for MD5, SHA1, SHA256, and	I SHA512	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			
International (Easy)	30 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Build a wordlist or pattern rule to crack password hashes	of a known pattern				
WPA (Medium)	50 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Research and crack WiFi passwords saved in a wpa_supplicant.conf file					
Monsters (Medium)	100 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Build a wordlist to crack passwords not found in common password wordlists					
Speakeasy (Medium)	60 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%	
Build a wordlist or pattern rule to crack passwords with leet speak character replacements					
Say My Name (Hard)	60 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	60.0%	

Build a wordlist to crack passwords not found in common wordlists and augment with rules for special characters



## Scanning & Reconnaissance Module

Identify and use the proper tools to gain intelligence about a target including its services and potential vulnerabilities.

**TH PLACE** OUT OF 4672 PERFORMANCE SCORE





TOP NICE WORKROLES

Vulnerability Assessment Analyst Target Network Analyst Cyber Operations Planner Target Developer Security Control Assessor

NATIONAL RANK

99th National

Knock (Easy)

Average: 70.3 Points

Average: 44.8%

40.0% ACCURACY COMPLETION:

66.7%

Run a TCP and UDP scan to identify running services and utilize port knocking to access a hidden service

SSH Server (Medium)

100.0% ACCURACY

COMPLETION:

33.3%

Utilize Public Key Infrastructure to generate valid SSH authentication certificates from a Certificate Authority

Academic Papers (Hard)

88.9% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze the history and metadata of a Docker image to identify information stored in the container

### Web Application Exploitation Module

Identify actionable exploits and vulnerabilities and use them to bypass the security measures in online services.

RD PLACE OUT OF 4672

NATIONAL RANK

PERFORMANCE SCORE

100.0% ACCURACY



COMPLETION:

TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Operator Software Developer **Exploitation Analyst** Systems Security Analyst **Database Administrator** 

50.0%

98<sup>th</sup> National

takeover attack

Average: 32.6 Points

Average: 39.8%

Secure Banking (Easy) Identify the vulnerability that leaks an API token and utilize it in an account

LowLine (Medium)

20 POINTS OUT OF

100.0% ACCURACY

100.0% **ACCURACY** 

> COMPLETION: 50.0%

Exploit a known vulnerability in the JavaScript Lodash library (CVE-2021-23337) to extract sensitive server side data

Toms Fan Club v2 (Hard)

0.0% ACCURACY COMPLETION: 0.0%

Analyze and conduct an assessment on a web application that uses a custom HTTP upgrade procedure