

# Mason Competitive Cyber

## AY2017-2018 Summary

[competitivecyber.club](http://competitivecyber.club) | [masoncc@gmu.edu](mailto:masoncc@gmu.edu)

# Note from The President

Michael Bailey

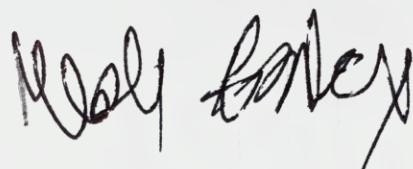
When Mason Competitive Cyber was registered in May of 2016, we had an approximate meeting attendance of three. I was reassured by partner organizations this was common for competition based clubs due to their high barrier of entry and attrition. Since then, we have an approximate meeting attendance of thirty, an active executive board, and joint events with organizations like Theta Tau and Mason SRCT.

Mason Competitive Cyber is a massive supplement to both the campus community and the excellent corporate landscape in the area. Corporations love us because clubs like us can trivially identify passionate, knowledgeable candidates for their workforce in an industry that struggles with finding qualified candidates. We're beneficial to George Mason University as the administration tries to establish our school as a cybersecurity organization by showing an organically grown, passionate student community engaging in places that aren't threatening to fail them if they don't perform. The student community is largely receptive to us because this club provides an outlet for students to network with like-minded individuals, challenge their abilities and communicate with industry sponsors and partners they otherwise wouldn't get the chance to get their foot in the door with.

Unlike past campus cybersecurity organizations, this club gives students a method by which they can challenge themselves and network with people already in industry. No gatekeeping, meticulously planned functions, and multiple avenues by which they can better themselves professionally.

Thank you to our faculty advisor Jim Jones for providing major assistance, including signing necessary paperwork and driving a team to VMI. We'd also like to thank our sponsors this year, Battelle and The Cryspsis Group for providing critical financial support.

Thank you, Michael Bailey  
Mason Competitive Cyber President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Bailey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Michael" on top and "Bailey" below it, though the two names are connected.

# Placed Events



VT Summit  
At Virginia Tech  
1<sup>st</sup> Place



aws



Cyberdawg CTF  
At UMBC  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place



RIT RC3 CTF  
Online  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Cyber Fusion 2018  
At VMI  
1<sup>st</sup> Place

Booz Allen

AWS Security Coding Challenge  
At AWS Herndon  
1<sup>st</sup> Place (Tie)

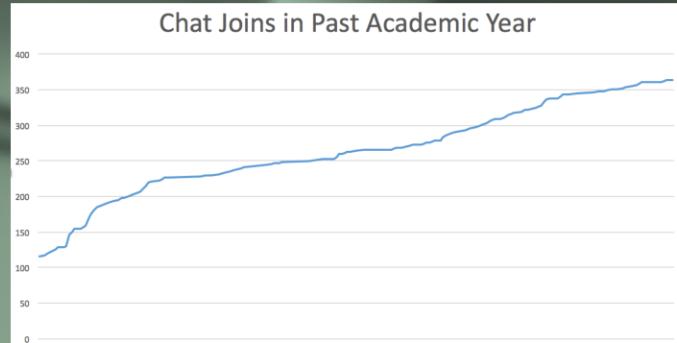
GMU Booz Allen CTF  
At MIX@Fenwick  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
(Individual)

UMD CTF  
At UMD  
5<sup>th</sup> Place (Ranked)

GMU Capital One Wargame  
At Capital One  
1<sup>st</sup> Place

Capital One

# Meetings



- +200 members in chat
- Over 1000 hits on meeting and competition page
- About 30 members per meeting

Guest speakers from groups including...

- Homeland Security
- Kudu Dynamics
- GRIMM
- The Crypsis Group
- PwC (twice)
- Fedora
- Battelle

Established active agreements with

- AWS
- GMU Networking
- GMU ITSO

To host different challenges for meetings

Approximately 46 meeting topics

# Recognition



**M** Volgenau School of Engineering

## Mason Competitive Cyber students compete, collaborate, and create a winning experience for all

October 17, 2017 / by Martha Bushong

**SEE ALL NEWS**

**Learn About Cybersecurity Programs**

**Latest News**

For students interested in sharpening their cybersecurity skills, Mason Competitive Cyber offers more than a chance to participate in war games and capture the flag. The organization meets regularly and provides any Mason student who wants hands on cyber experience a chance to learn with fellow students.

"We are trying to cater to beginners as much as we can," says Michael Bailey, president of MasonCC. The group offers both beginners and advanced sections, and students can self-select which section to join. "I encourage beginners not to get overwhelmed," says Bailey. Sometimes if you just hang in there and keep working a problem, it starts to click."

When it's time to compete, Bailey says they generally stack teams of four or five people based on how well they know each other. "It's like a relay race where you have to pass the baton to the next person in line," he says. "It's a team effort, and it's a lot of fun."



**M** Volgenau School of Engineering

## The Mason Competitive Cyber club captures Commonwealth Cyber Cup at state competition

February 26, 2018 / by Nanci Hellmich

**SEE ALL NEWS**

**Latest News**

RSS

As it continues to grow, Mason Engineering strives to keep a sense of community

April 24, 2018

Mason co-hosts second Global Knowledge Networking Symposium

2018

Some of the challenges seem like the kind of stuff you'd see in movies, but they have real-world applications.

Mason Competitive Cyber president Michael Bailey



**Mark Warner**  @MarkWarner

Congrats @GeorgeMasonU @MasonCompCyber, winner of the #VaCyber18 Award! @VMI\_CLE



**Mason CC** @masoncompcyber  
When you're trying not to drop the cup...  
Thank you to @VaCyberRange, @VMI\_CLE, and all organizers and sponsors. Good work to the other top 3 and it was great talking: @vtcybsec @radfordu

9:57 AM - 3 Mar 2018



**George Mason University**  @GeorgeMasonU

Ashlyn and I went to the @masoncompcyber meeting today and had a great time! Anyone interested in learning more about cyber security and involvement with CTFs should check them out on Wednesdays at 5 pm in JC room B competitivecyber.club -Kristin

6:11 PM - 21 Feb 2018

# Industry Connections

Sponsorships by...

The Crypsis Group  
*Digital Forensics &  
Incident Response*

Battelle  
*Reverse Engineering  
& More*

Proud Members of  
GRIMM HAX

The logo consists of the word "HAX" in large, bold, white letters. The letter "H" is partially obscured by a blue circular overlay containing binary code. The background of the logo is a dark blue hexagonal pattern.

HAX

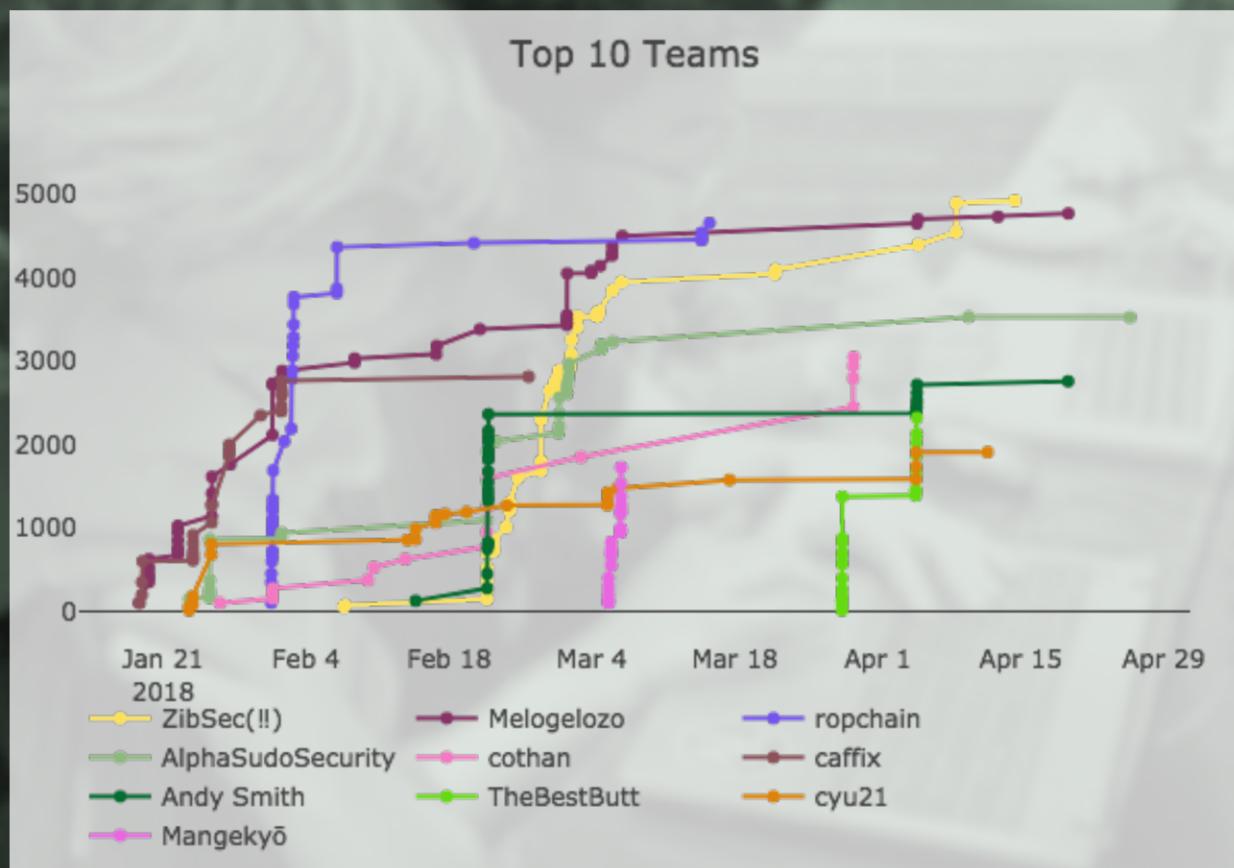
Members working at...

- *Battelle*
- *Kyrus Tech*
- *The Crypsis Group*
- *Leidos*
- *PFP Cybersecurity*
- *Booz Allen Hamilton*

# TCTF (Training CTF)

## What is TCTF?

TCTF is a training platform run by Mason Competitive Cyber to simulate a competition atmosphere with (mostly) original challenges that mimic the real world and supplemental materials used at almost every meeting. Most active members attendees use it.



## STATISTICS:

- 612 right and 1576 wrong submissions
- 78 registrants
- 62 challenges

# Continuity

A lack of continuity kills. Multiple (now former) technical organizations on campus have had major executive members graduate and as a result have not had the replacements with the adequate time and knowledge to keep organizations alive. Mason CC is taking multiple steps to address continuity as early as possible as the founding executive board reaches their final year.

## “How to Run the Club”

Starting in April 2018, the executive board at Mason Competitive Cyber has prepared a document that details every administrative task, including schedules to illustrate how the club is presently run and how one could schedule tasking out in such a way that running the club doesn’t impact other real life obligations.

### Less Senior Members

The present winner of TCTF, Zaine Wilson, is a freshman. Zaine also had a rivalry with another freshman in TCTF. In addition, UMDCTF, the competition in which we had the most in-person attendance this year, featured freshmen and sophomores as seen on the right.

CC's UMDCTF Participant Classes

