

NECCDC 2026 Season Info Session 2 Q&A

Friday January 2, 2026 at 6-7pm ET

Q: Kubernetes has been heavily used and isn't in Qualifiers topology. Will it be in Regionals?

A: Currently not in the plan, but if it is, will be in the Regionals packet. Learn it, but don't expect it in Quals.

Q: We are an MSP this year, with AD, will there be 8-10 AD environments with multiple clients or will it be like previous years with a single AD for MSP.

A: Prepare for both.

Q: Is the NECCDL Discord the same as the existing League Discord used in prior years

A: Yes, coaches who have previously competed will already be in the server, but students will have to join again. Once people are authenticated via registration, they will be put into competition space.

Q: Is the competition designed this year such that Falco/Grafana is supposed to be our "siem" (instead of Wazuh/Graylog)?

A: Teams will have to review packet or find out during the beta.

Q: Can more information be given as to what services are on the Windows and Linux machines named "Server"?

A: Might see more in future packet revisions, but see current packet for information.

Q: Can more information be given as to what services are on the Windows and Linux machines named "Server"?

A: Nothing to major should be expected beyond what is listed in the packet.

Q: If our coach is tentatively not going to be available for regionals, how should we proceed?

Should we try to find a different coach or is there a system in place for substituting an unavailable coach?

A: You can have a co-coach or assistant coach substitute. You do need to have an institutional representative. Please let us know in case you can't find someone.

Q: Is there somewhere we should register a substitute coach if/when we find one?

A: Email contact@neccdl.org

Q: Will the slides be posted on neccdl.org?

A: Yes, will be posted on neccdl.org website and github.

Q: In discussions about gamifying of the system, how will it be judged? If you see tools that delete every account, how is that covered?

A: We appreciate if teams want to create products which would be able to be done in production / legitimate security practices, but things that aren't realistic in a business environment, e.g., disabling all user accounts or services that aren't scored. Black Team will look at repositories as well and will include checks for gamification of the system via automated scripts.

Q: Under the impression that only the school's repository needed to be submitted.

A:(correct) Any public github that has been existing for more than 3 months does not need to be submitted. Please submit any GitHub repos created by your team. ([Nationals 5.f](#))

Q: Is "Dual Stack" in the technologies list referencing IPv4/v6 ?

A: Yes

Q: Pfsense is listed as router for quals, would it be the same for Regionals. Last year there was a change.

A: As long as [it deploys](#), it will not change for Qualifiers. Not likely to change for Regionals, but no promises.

Q: Falco is labeled as technology using. Are there any other Kubernetes-like plugins we need to worry about.

A:No need to worry about Kubernetes for Qualifiers. Environments do incorporate other CNCF and OSS technologies.

Q: AWS is a sponsor. Will we be using EC2?

A: Yes, but teams will not interact with aws.

Q: Any hints on "Database" ?

A: Nothing specific. *Think relational*

Q: It looks like you have RHEL - is that Red Hat? Any known sites to get resources for free?

A: Red Hat Family - refer to the packet. Could be open-shift regular servers? Rocky Linux/Alma, Cent Stream is a decent alternative. Your University / College may also be able to help with getting images.

Q: For a university that is new to this competition, how many participants are required on the team roster, and what are the requirements regarding the separation of teams?

A: Refer to Nationals Rules: <https://www.nationalccdc.org/rules.html> - reach out to contact@neccdl.org with any questions. No new changes to minimum number of participants, but maximum is 8 competitors with up to four alternates.

NECCDC 2026 Season Info Session 1 Q&A

Friday October 10, 2025 at 6-7pm ET

Q: Nationals rules

A: <https://nccdc.org/rules.html>

Q: Join the league - register for the NECCDC region

A: <https://neccdl.org/join/>

Q: Host school for regionals?

A: Currently we do not have a dedicated host for regionals yet.

Q: What version of Windows will be used?

A: What is located in the slides is what will be released as yet. The Info Session #2 will detail more information on the infrastructure.

Q: Do we know the potential dates for when Regional will occur?

A: We look at the calendars of the qualifying teams, and then will determine based on the best date as well as any major conflicting events.

Q: When will the information packet be released?

A: The target date for the information packet is December before the holidays.