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**CYBER SKYLINE**

The National Cyber League  
A Community Where Cybersecurity Is a Passion

Eli Johnson

## NCL Spring 2025 Team Game Scouting Report

Dear Eli Johnson (Team "EZ-Pass Toll Reminder"),

Thank you for participating in the National Cyber League (NCL) Spring 2025 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 Spring 2025 Season had 9,216 students/players and 596 faculty/coaches from 510 two- and four-year schools & 288 high schools across all 50 U.S. states registered to play. The Individual Game Capture the Flag (CTF) event took place from April 11 through April 13. The Team Game CTF event took place from April 25 through April 27. 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/5WHRAY65RXFQ](https://cyberskyline.com/report/5WHRAY65RXFQ)

Congratulations for your participation in the NCL Spring 2025 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

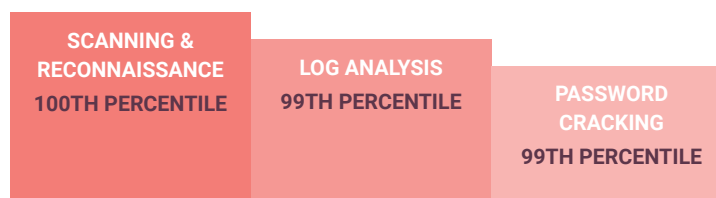


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**CYBER SKYLINE**

### NATIONAL CYBER LEAGUE SCORE CARD

NCL SPRING 2025 TEAM GAME

#### YOUR TOP CATEGORIES

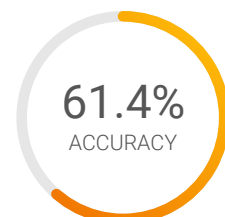


#### NATIONAL RANK

**51<sup>ST</sup> PLACE  
OUT OF 4779**

#### PERCENTILE

**99<sup>TH</sup>**



Average: 55.4%

[cyberskyline.com/report/5WHRAY65RXFQ](https://cyberskyline.com/report/5WHRAY65RXFQ)  
ID: 5WHRAY65RXFQ

Learn more at [nationalcyberleague.org](https://nationalcyberleague.org)

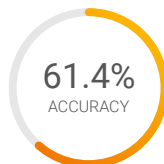


## NCL Spring 2025 Team Game

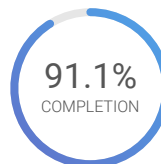
The NCL Team Game is designed for student players nationwide to compete in realtime in the categories listed below. The Team Game promotes camaraderie and evaluates the collective technical cybersecurity skills of the team members.

**51** ST PLACE  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

**2535** POINTS  
OUT OF 3000  
PERFORMANCE SCORE



Average: 55.4%



Average: 42.7%

**99<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

Average: 989.7 Points

### Cryptography

**190** POINTS  
OUT OF 325

**41.9%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **76.5%**

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

### Enumeration & Exploitation

**260** POINTS  
OUT OF 380

**87.5%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **87.5%**

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

### Forensics

**200** POINTS  
OUT OF 300

**50.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **80.0%**

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

### Log Analysis

**315** POINTS  
OUT OF 315

**58.3%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

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

### Network Traffic Analysis

**300** POINTS  
OUT OF 300

**54.5%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

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

### Open Source Intelligence

**350** POINTS  
OUT OF 350

**54.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

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

### Password Cracking

**320** POINTS  
OUT OF 320

**94.4%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

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

### Scanning & Reconnaissance

**300** POINTS  
OUT OF 300

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

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

### Web Application Exploitation

**200** POINTS  
OUT OF 310

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **55.6%**

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

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





## Cryptography Module

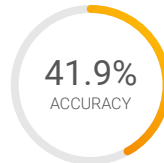
Identify techniques used to encrypt or obfuscate messages and leverage tools to extract the plaintext.

**176** TH PLACE  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

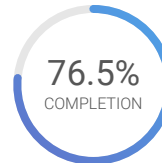
**190** POINTS  
OUT OF 325  
PERFORMANCE SCORE

**97<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

Average: 110.6 Points



Average: 58.9%



Average: 46.0%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

### So Basic (Easy)

**45** POINTS  
OUT OF 45

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Decode the plaintext of messages encoded with common number bases

### For Fun (Easy)

**45** POINTS  
OUT OF 45

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Decrypt messages that are encrypted using different shift ciphers

### Crypto Therapy (Medium)

**50** POINTS  
OUT OF 50

**50.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Exploit a poor implementation of RSA to decrypt sensitive data

### Skip To My Lou (Medium)

**10** POINTS  
OUT OF 60

**20.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **50.0%**

Decrypt a message that was encrypted using the Skipjack cipher

### Infinite Cosmic Power (Hard)

**40** POINTS  
OUT OF 125

**23.5%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **57.1%**

Perform a differential power attack on a power trace to obtain an AES encryption key





## Enumeration & Exploitation Module

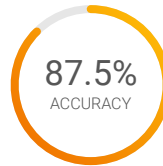
Identify actionable exploits and vulnerabilities and use them to bypass the security measures in code and compiled binaries.

**71** ST PLACE  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

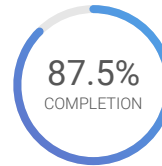
**99<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

**260** POINTS  
OUT OF 380  
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 132.2 Points



Average: 57.3%



Average: 50.1%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Operator  
Target Developer  
Exploitation Analyst  
Software Developer  
Systems Security Analyst

### Ransomed (Easy)

Analyze source code to bypass an XOR-based authentication mechanism

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**66.7%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### Crawling (Medium)

Perform a privilege escalation attack by coercing a binary with elevated permissions into running untrusted software

**150** POINTS  
OUT OF 150

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### ExploitExhibit (Hard)

Exploit a C++ program by undermining the heap memory or leaking vtable pointers

**10** POINTS  
OUT OF 130

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **50.0%**

## Forensics Module

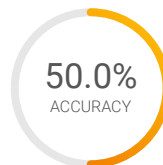
Utilize the proper tools and techniques to analyze, process, recover, and/or investigate digital evidence in a computer-related incident.

**165** TH PLACE  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

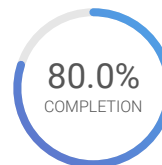
**97<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

**200** POINTS  
OUT OF 300  
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 136.7 Points



Average: 56.8%



Average: 48.1%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Defense Forensics  
Analyst  
Cyber Crime Investigator  
Cyber Defense Incident  
Responder  
Cyber Defense Analyst

### Origin Story (Easy)

Investigate a Git repository to find leaked secrets

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**75.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### Ransom Residue (Medium)

Perform a forensic investigation of a computer that was compromised by ransomware by analyzing a disk image file

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### Archive (Hard)

Automate the extraction of files by matching file signatures in a raw byte stream

**0** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**0.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **0.0%**





## Log Analysis Module

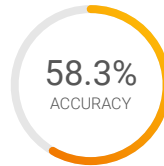
Utilize the proper tools and techniques to establish a baseline for normal operation and identify malicious activities using log files from various services.

**57<sup>TH</sup> PLACE**  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

**99<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

**315** POINTS  
OUT OF 315  
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 161.6 Points



Average: 52.2%



Average: 53.9%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

### What Remains (Easy)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Analyze event logs from a Windows 7 workstation that was compromised by EternalBlue

### Compromising (Medium)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**50.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Analyze a NetFlow log to identify compromised devices and malicious behavior

### Coords (Hard)

**115** POINTS  
OUT OF 115

**50.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Parse a custom binary file format and perform geospatial analysis of drone flight paths

## Network Traffic Analysis Module

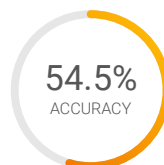
Identify malicious and benign network traffic to demonstrate an understanding of potential security breaches.

**127<sup>TH</sup> PLACE**  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

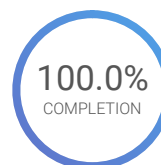
**98<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

**300** POINTS  
OUT OF 300  
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 147.2 Points



Average: 60.6%



Average: 65.1%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Defense Analyst  
All-Source Analyst  
Cyber Defense Incident  
Responder  
Target Network Analyst  
Cyber Operator

### HTTP Forever (Easy)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**41.7%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Analyze a packet capture with HTTP traffic to identify web browsing behavior

### SQL Storage Secrets (Medium)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**66.7%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Analyze PostgreSQL traffic to discover information about a database and the binary content inside it

### Ping of Domin8tion (Hard)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Analyze a packet capture to extract an image that was exfiltrated by encoding data in ICMP packet headers



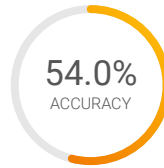


## Open Source Intelligence Module

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

**72** ND PLACE  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

**350** POINTS  
OUT OF 350  
PERFORMANCE SCORE



Average: 53.9%



Average: 64.6%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

**99<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

Average: 181.0 Points

### Rules of Conduct (Easy)

**30** POINTS  
OUT OF 30

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Introductory challenge on acceptable conduct during NCL

### Swap (Easy)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**69.2%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Utilize blockchain tools to perform an analysis of cryptocurrency transactions

### Granny (Medium)

**60** POINTS  
OUT OF 60

**66.7%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Use open source tools to find information about the subject of an image

### Sla.cking (Medium)

**60** POINTS  
OUT OF 60

**16.7%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Perform introspection on deep web forums using the Internet Archive

### Gramma Brasiliensis (Hard)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**71.4%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Conduct an open source investigation on an individual to create a timeline of their actions and cryptocurrency transactions



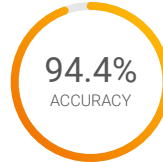


## Password Cracking Module

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

**64<sup>TH</sup> PLACE**  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

**320** POINTS  
OUT OF 320  
PERFORMANCE SCORE



Average: 80.8%



Average: 53.7%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Operator  
Exploitation Analyst  
Systems Security Analyst  
Cyber Defense Incident  
Responder  
Cyber Crime Investigator

**99<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

Average: 151.0 Points

### Loaded Hash Browns (Easy)

**30** POINTS  
OUT OF 30

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Generate password hashes using MD5, SHA1, and SHA256

### You're So Basic (Easy)

**45** POINTS  
OUT OF 45

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Crack MD5 password hashes for commonly used passwords

### 786b63642e636f6d2f393336 (Medium)

**45** POINTS  
OUT OF 45

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Crack Windows NTLM password hashes that may not be found in common rainbow tables

### Zip (Medium)

**50** POINTS  
OUT OF 50

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Crack the insecure password for a protected zip file

### Crunch Time (Medium)

**50** POINTS  
OUT OF 50

**50.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Create a custom wordlist to crack passwords based on known password rules

### Router (Hard)

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Build a custom wordlist to crack passwords by augmenting permutation rules using known password complexity requirements





## Scanning & Reconnaissance Module

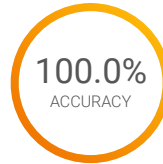
Identify and use the proper tools to gain intelligence about a target including its services and potential vulnerabilities.

**14<sup>TH</sup> PLACE**  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

**100<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

**300** POINTS  
OUT OF 300  
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 106.3 Points



Average: 46.8%



Average: 35.7%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

### LuckyCat (Easy)

Classify malware from benign samples by creating custom Yara rules

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### Schrödinger's Port (Medium)

Disable a local firewall and perform a port scan on an internal network

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### Ephemeral (Hard)

Scan a device and perform a port knocking sequence to access a hidden service

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

## Web Application Exploitation Module

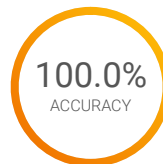
Identify actionable exploits and vulnerabilities and use them to bypass the security measures in online services.

**123<sup>RD</sup> PLACE**  
OUT OF 4779  
NATIONAL RANK

**98<sup>th</sup>** National  
Percentile

**200** POINTS  
OUT OF 310  
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 96.3 Points



Average: 69.9%



Average: 35.9%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Operator  
Software Developer  
Exploitation Analyst  
Systems Security Analyst  
Database Administrator

### Doohickey Divulgence (Easy)

Perform analysis on minified source code to decode and extract sensitive information

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### Pierre's Store (Medium)

Perform a SQL injection attack to leak sensitive information from a web application

**100** POINTS  
OUT OF 100

**100.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **100.0%**

### Cash Rules Everything Around Me (Hard)

Perform a series of cache deception attacks against a web application

**0** POINTS  
OUT OF 110

**0.0%**  
ACCURACY

COMPLETION: **0.0%**

