

Technical Risk Analysis of Capture The Flag

ID	Technical Risk	Indicators	Impact Rating	Impact	Mitigation	Validation Steps
1	Code injection (PHP)	The eval() function is used in code; malicious code appears to be running on the site.	High	Allows an attacker to execute arbitrary code.	Refactor code so that eval() is unnecessary; if that is not possible, then validate ALL input so that code could not be properly sent to the eval() function.	Try to input malicious code that returns either alerts or other output. If it is possible, try to mitigate.
2	SQL Injection	Large number of logon attempts; SQL queries with strings like: "` OR '1'='1" common in logs; improper logons; the database is improperly altered or dropped.	High	Allows an attacker to gain access to the application; allows for an attacker to manipulate database queries and do things like drop the entire table.	Validate all user input and/or use parameterized prepared statements when communicating with the SQL server as opposed to dynamically creating SQL queries.	Attempt to gain improper access to the application using SQL injections or get the database to return information like usernames and passwords. Verify that this cannot be done.
3	Use of hard-coded password	The account or application has been compromised with the admin or root password.	Med.	Allows an attacker to compromise an account by finding the hard-coded password.	Don't store passwords in the application code; use best practices when storing and utilizing passwords.	Verify that the password cannot be found by viewing source code or source files in the application.

4	Cross-site Scripting (XSS)	There are javascript alerts or console activities running that shouldn't be; parts of the html of the application have changed in a way not intended.	Med.	Allows an attacker to embed malicious content, steal cookies, or find information about a user.	All user input should be validated and sanitized using a method called contextual escaping.	Attempt to inject javascript instead of user input to attack the website.
5	Information exposure through error messages	An error message containing information about environment or users.	Low	Allows an attacker to gain key information about how an application is set up, possibly making it easier to launch other, more serious attacks.	Edit code to ensure that only generic error messages are produced.	View all error messages on the application and confirm that they are not exposing extra information.