# NCL Spring 2023 Individual Game Scouting Report

Dear Quinn Gleadell,

Thank you for participating in the National Cyber League (NCL) 2023 Spring 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 Spring Season had 7,820 students/players and 533 faculty/coaches from more than 450 two- and fouryear schools & 250 high schools across all 50 U.S. states registered to play. The Individual Game Capture the Flag (CTF) event took place from March 31 through April 2. The Team Game CTF event took place from April 14 through April 16. 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/W93JNLQPFLTH



Based on the the performance detailed in this NCL Scouting Report, you have earned 6 hours of CompTIA. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) as approved by CompTIA. You can learn more about the NCL -CompTIA alignment via nationalcyberleague.org/comptia.

Congratulations for your participation in the NCL 2023 Spring Individual 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 SPRING INDIVIDUAL GAME

**NATIONAL RANK** 739TH PLACE **OUT OF 6273 PERCENTILE 89**TH

YOUR TOP CATEGORIES **OPEN SOURCE** INTELLIGENCE

**FORENSICS** 98TH PERCENTILE 98TH PERCENTILE

91ST PERCENTILE



Average: 67.0%

cyberskyline.com/report ID: W93JNLQPFLTH



# NCL Spring 2023 Individual Game

The NCL Individual Game is designed for student players nationwide to compete in realtime in the categories listed below. The Individual Game evaluates the technical cybersecurity skills of the individual, without the assistance of others.

739 TH PLACE OUT OF 6273

1210 POINTS

78.3% ACCURACY



89<sup>th</sup> National Percentile

Average: 816.2 Points

Average: 67.0%

Average: 38.0%

Cryptography	95 POINTS OUT OF 360	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	53.8%
Identify techniques used to encrypt or obfuscate mess extract the plaintext.	ages and leverage tools to			
Enumeration & Exploitation	120 POINTS OUT OF 300	70.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	77.8%
Identify actionable exploits and vulnerabilities and use security measures in code and compiled binaries.	them to bypass the	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
Forensics	200 POINTS OUT OF 300	70.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	77.8%
Utilize the proper tools and techniques to analyze, procinvestigate digital evidence in a computer-related incid-				
Log Analysis	50 POINTS OUT OF 300	80.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	36.4%
Utilize the proper tools and techniques to establish a be operation and identify malicious activities using log file				
Network Traffic Analysis	85 POINTS OUT OF 370	45.5% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	35.7%
Identify malicious and benign network traffic to demon potential security breaches.	strate an understanding of			
Open Source Intelligence	310 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Utilize publicly available information such as search en social media, and more to gain in-depth knowledge on	•	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
Password Cracking	120 POINTS OUT OF 360	90.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	40.9%
Identify types of password hashes and apply various to determine plaintext passwords.	chniques to efficiently			
Scanning & Reconnaissance	100 POINTS OUT OF 300	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	41.7%
Identify and use the proper tools to gain intelligence abservices and potential vulnerabilities.	out a target including its			
Web Application Exploitation	30 POINTS OUT OF 300	20.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	16.7%

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

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

 $1233^{\,\text{RD PLACE}}_{\,\text{OUT OF }6273}$ 

95 OUT OF 360 PERFORMANCE SCORE

100.0% ACCURACY 53.8% COMPLETION

Average: 52.7%

### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

NATIONAL RANK

81 st National Percentile

Average: 115.0 Points

Recover the plaintext of a message that was hidden using LSB steganography

Average: 77.2%

Decoding 1 (Easy)	30 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%			
Obtain plaintext from messages encoded with common r	number bases	AGGINGT					
Decoding 2 (Easy)	30 POINTS OUT OF 30	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%			
Analyze and obtain the plaintext for a message encrypted with a shift cipher							
Decoding 3 (Medium)	25 POINTS OUT OF 25	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%			
Obtain the plaintext of a message using charcode encoding							
Rolling (Medium)	10 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	33.3%			
Analyze the cryptographic weakness of a ECB encrypted image							
PGP (Medium)	O POINTS OUT OF 75	0.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	0.0%			
Decrypt a PGP message and encrypt a PGP message using provided keys							
AES (Hard)	O POINTS OUT OF 75	0.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	0.0%			
Decrypt an AES encrypted message by exploiting an insecure key generation							
Steg (Hard)	O POINTS OUT OF 75	0.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	0.0%			



### **Enumeration & Exploitation Module**

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

39 TH PLACE OUT OF 6273

PERFORMANCE SCORE

70.0% ACCURACY Average: 53.9%

77.8% COMPLETION Average: 58.8%

#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Operator Target Developer **Exploitation Analyst** Software Developer Systems Security Analyst

NATIONAL RANK

90<sup>th</sup> National

Dropper (Easy)

Average: 98.8 Points

75.0%

COMPLETION:

100.0%

Analyze the behavior of a PowerShell malware that schedules system events for

Ground floor (Medium)

50.0% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION:

50.0%

Analyze raw x64 assembly instructions to find a vulnerability in a validation check

Memfrob (Hard)

0.0% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION:

0.0%

Analyze and exploit a compiled C binary by leveraging a buffer overflow and ROP chains

### **Forensics Module**

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

**TH** PLACE OUT OF 6273

NATIONAL RANK

70.0% ACCURACY PERFORMANCE SCORE

77.8% COMPLETION Average: 43.4%

COMPLETION:

TOP NICE WORKROLES

Cyber Defense Forensics Cyber Crime Investigator Cyber Defense Incident Responder

Cyber Defense Analyst

100.0%

98<sup>th</sup> National

Average: 128.7 Points

Average: 57.4%

Lost (Easy) Recover files from the recycling bin of a Windows filesystem

Fruit (Medium)

Recover configuration data from a macOS plist file

Headless (Hard)

100 POINTS OUT OF

0.0% **ACCURACY** 

100.0% ACCURACY

62.5% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION: 100.0%

COMPLETION: 0.0%

Identify the file type of the corrupted file and repair its magic bytes



## 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.

598 TH PLACE OUT OF 6273

PERFORMANCE SCORE





#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

NATIONAL RANK

91 st National

Average: 65.6 Points

Web (Easy) COMPLETION: 80.0% 80.0% **ACCURACY** Analyze a web server log and identify traffic patterns 0.0% COMPLETION: 0.0% Email Compromise (Medium) **ACCURACY** Analyze Office 365 & DNS logs to identify a phishing email compromise COMPLETION: Fraud (Hard) 0.0% 0.0% ACCURACY

Analyze a payment log to identify what account had fraudulent purchases



## Network Traffic Analysis Module

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

**TH PLACE** OUT OF 6273

PERFORMANCE SCORE

45.5% ACCURACY

35.7% COMPLETION Average: 46.9%

#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

NATIONAL RANK

78<sup>th</sup> National

Average: 133.0 Points

Average: 52.4%

COMPLETION: 75.0% 50.0% ACCURACY COMPLETION: 33.3% 100.0% **ACCURACY** 25.0% COMPLETION: 25.0% **ACCURACY** 

Hidden (Medium)

Information (Easy)

password Scan (Medium)

15 POINTS OUT OF

Analyze a network packet capture to identify open ports on the target server and the type of nmap scan

Analyze a vulnerable WPA-encrypted network and perform a wordlist attack on the

Analyze a network packet capture of WHOIS queries to obtain information on a

Ponder (Hard)

0.0% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION: 0.0%

Analyze a network packet capture to extract data stolen through DNS based data exfiltration



### 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.

6 TH PLACE OUT OF 6273

PERFORMANCE SCORE

100.0% ACCURACY

Average: 80.0%



#### TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

NATIONAL RANK

98<sup>th</sup> National

Average: 215.7 Points

Identify the scheme of a set of numbers without a well known format

Rules of Conduct (Easy) COMPLETION: 100.0% 100.0% **ACCURACY** Introductory challenge on acceptable conduct during NCL COMPLETION: 100.0% 100.0% Waypoints (Easy) **ACCURACY** Identify openly available information on navigation waypoints COMPLETION: 100.0% Document (Medium) 100.0% **ACCURACY** Extract the fields from the machine-readable zone of a passport COMPLETION: 100.0% Esoteric (Medium) 100.0% Identify the esoteric alphabet used to hide a secret message COMPLETION: 100.0% Greek (Medium) 100.0% **ACCURACY** Identify the location of a photograph using reverse image search COMPLETION: 100.0% Numbers (Hard) 100.0% **ACCURACY** 



## Password Cracking Module

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

**TH** PLACE OUT OF **6273** 

PERFORMANCE SCORE

90.0% ACCURACY

40.9% COMPLETION Average: 45.5%

TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

78<sup>th</sup> National Percentile

Crack the password for a protected PDF file

Average: 133.2 Points

Average: 87.3%

Hashing (Easy)	30 POINTS OUT OF	75.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Generate password hashes for MD5, SHA1, and SHA	256	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
Cracking 1 (Easy)	45 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Crack MD5 password hashes				
Cracking 2 (Easy)	O POINTS OUT OF 45	0.0% accuracy	COMPLETION:	0.0%
Crack Windows NTLM password hashes using rainbo	ow tables			
Cracking 3 (Medium)	45 POINTS OUT OF	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%
Build a wordlist or pattern config to crack password h	nashes of a known pattern			
Cracking 4 (Hard)	O POINTS OUT OF 45	0.0% accuracy	COMPLETION:	0.0%
Build a wordlist or pattern config to crack password h	nashes of a known pattern			
Cracking 5 (Hard)	O POINTS OUT OF 100	0.0% accuracy	COMPLETION:	0.0%
Build a wordlist to crack passwords not found in com	nmon wordlists			
PDF (Medium)	O POINTS OUT OF 50	0.0% accuracy	COMPLETION:	0.0%



### Scanning & Reconnaissance Module

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

3 RD PLACE OUT OF 6273

ERFORMANCE SCORE

100.0% ACCURACY Average: 70.1%

41.7% COMPLETION Average: 43.7%

TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

NATIONAL RANK

87th National

Ports (Easy)

Average: 111.6 Points

100.0% **ACCURACY** 

COMPLETION: 100.0%

Scan a remote host for open ports and identify running services

Who (Medium)

0.0% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION: 0.0%

Enumerate the possible domains on a WHOIS server to extract information

Metadata (Hard)

0.0% **ACCURACY**  COMPLETION: 0.0%

Scan an AWS EC2 Metadata Service to extract information about the instance

## Web Application Exploitation Module

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

**TH PLACE** 56 / OUT OF 6273

PERFORMANCE SCORE

20.0% ACCURACY

16.7% COMPLETION

TOP NICE WORKROLES

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

91 st National

Average: 33.0 Points

Average: 39.7%

Average: 20.0%

COMPLETION:

Shopping (Easy)

0.0% ACCURACY COMPLETION: 0.0%

Exploit an implicit type conversion vulnerability in an express application

Attack Portal (Medium)

50.0%

50.0%

Manipulate a web form to inject extra JSON fields to override a server-side check

File Server (Hard)

0.0%

COMPLETION: 0.0%

Exploit a race condition to download a restricted file during server operations