

Cyber Cup 2025 Familiarization Session



Overview



- Purpose of Portal Familiarization Period
- Event Schedule
- Event Objectives
- Participating Teams
- Rules of Engagement
- Comms Channels
- Network Topology
- Portal Demo
- Range and Tool Tour

Portal Familiarization Session

What: Blue Team Familiarization Period

When: **Session 1** - Tuesday (Feb 18th) at 4:00 PM Eastern Time

Session 2 - Thursday (Feb 20th) at 10:00 AM Eastern Time

Ends - Range access will end Monday (Feb 24th) at 5:00 pm Eastern Time

Where: SimSpace Portal → Live Action Event: **Cyber-Cup-Blue-Feb25-***

How: Complete the Pre-Event Checklist, verify portal & chat account logins, access and verify functionality of network security tools using a virtual hunt machine in the range, ask questions

Why: To prepare for the February 27th Competition

Execution Schedule

Time (ET)	Topic
9:30 - 10:00 AM	Login and Comms Checks
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Event Intro and Overview
10:30 AM	Fight's ON
10:30 AM - 1:30 PM	3 Hours of Interactive Challenges
1:30 PM	Fight's OFF
1:30 - 2:00 PM	Awards and Closing Remarks

Event Objectives

- Develop personal relationships between cyber security professionals
 - Friendly competition between participating teams
 - Virtual social interaction opportunities
- Potential learning opportunities
 - Learning moments during the exercise
 - Cross-team teaching moments
- Build upon best practices
 - Practice “a bad day” in a safe environment
 - Try new tactics, techniques, and procedures

Participants in Each Blue Team

1

Blue Team 1

Adam Hust
Danny Pradia
Scott Felch
Derick Morrow
Mason Prince
Dmitriy Massip

2

Xcaliber

Jack Frambes
Cooper Landen
Deep Ram
Luke Stalbaum
Julian Brito
Ajay Jackson
Samuel Kadima
Cory Shaefer

3

Blue Team 3

Jonathan Styles
Cooper Wiendl
Andy Pompura
Ardian Peach
Anthony Marrongelli
Logen Autry
Martin Roberts
Rodrigo Almeida Santos

4

#0000FF UwUers

Jonathan Beierle
Matthew Schramm
Jacob Acuna
Corey Burton
Fardeen Bjimani
Vincent Dinh
Dominic Baldassari
Dylan Davis

5

Cyber Bucs

John Liebenguth
John Garcia
Sandy Ruiz
Elijah Fraley
Nathan Kloster

Participants in Each Blue Team

6

The Firewall Five

Ethan Weyer
Muhammad Essa
Tenzing Gurung
Ihor Makhynia
Darpan Basnet

7

Anbu Cyber

Timothy Kircher
Alessandro Lovadina
Jason Doan
Thiago Ries Pagliaroni
Isaac Ward

8

Cyber Runners

Joshua Gray
Vincent Knight
Aros Ontiveros
Julian Pena
Preston McKnight
Corrina Alcoser
John Yanez

9

null NEU

Pratik Mody
Samyukta Kurikala
Rahul Sharma
Tanmay Sharma

10

Blue Team 10

Dhanish Patil
Treson Mariotti
Mason Miller
Matthew Chan

Participants in Each Blue Team



Blue Team 11

Owen Dransfield

Asa Reynolds

Richard Joyce

Yash Parmar

Kekoa Merez

Tyler Clark

Ryan Zaroni

Winston White

Rules of Engagement

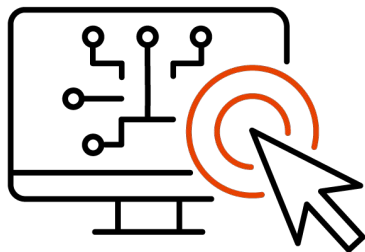


Defenders

Your goal is to defend your network through detection and reporting

- Report what you see
 - Processes? Ports? Hosts? Files? Paths? DLL? ...use details
- Document change requests in Defender Logs
 - Think ITIL change process
- Don't fight the range
 - The Control Cell will intervene if we determine that you are focusing on an artifact-of-simulation rather than the scenario
- Standard baselining and network analysis tactics will help you achieve this focus
 - Try to connect anomalous network traffic you detect to the hosts and processes generating that traffic; determine both network and host indicators of compromise

Rules of Engagement



Sim Users and Range

The range emulates users and their typical behaviors

- These users will:
 - Click links, open emails, browse the web, and work in various desktop office applications
 - Occasionally attempt to connect devices, install software, run nonstandard applications, and connect to various services
 - Complain if their services break
- Security Patching:
 - Updated security patches will not be applied during this event
 - The risk of zero-day vulnerabilities or other network hygiene related matters remain a potential risk

Rules of Engagement



Out of Bounds

- The following items related to range control and range support are out-of-bounds for both the Threat and Defender Teams:
 - **10.10.0.0/16** is the **Range Control network**. This network is used to administer the range and is only available to the Control Cell.
 - The threat will not use this network.
 - **Do not block** access to this network. Do not create any firewall rulesets other than allow any to any for this IP range.
 - Default SimSpace accounts are out-of-bounds and will not be used by the Threat Team.

Rules of Engagement



Out of Bounds

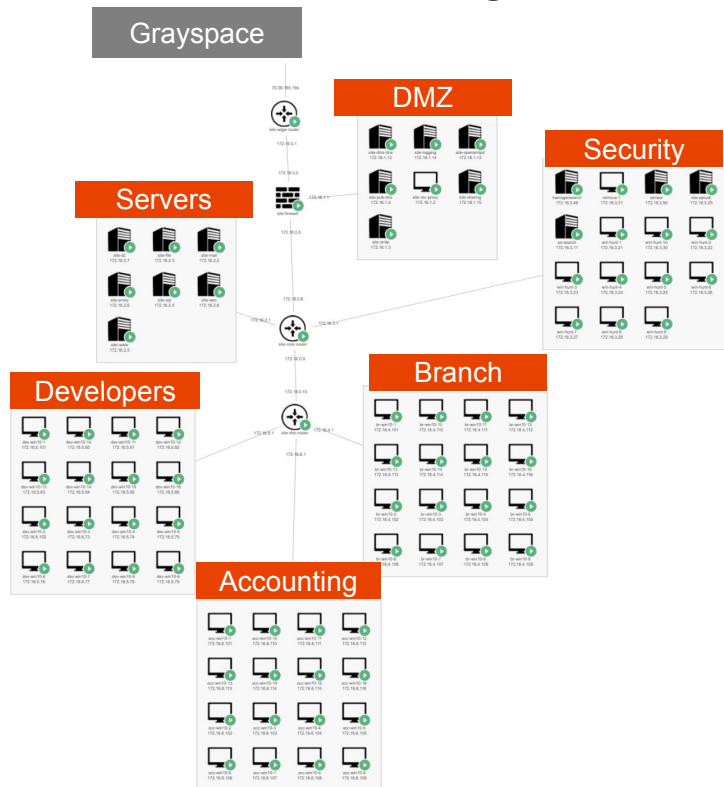
- The following processes are part of range support and should not be the focus of forensics efforts. The Threat Team will not use or inject into these processes:
 - Puppet
 - Software or files located in **C:\ProgramData\PuppetLabs**
 - Software or files located in **C:\Program Files\Puppet Labs**
 - Software or files located in **C:\ProgramData\staging**
 - Ruby
 - User Emulation
 - Software or files located in **C:\Program Files (x86)\SimSpace**
 - **java.exe** listening/communicating on ports **49999, 49998, 5762, 15672, & 27017**
 - **amqp** listening on port **5672**
 - Other
 - **systeminit.exe** and all related files to this binary

Communications Channels

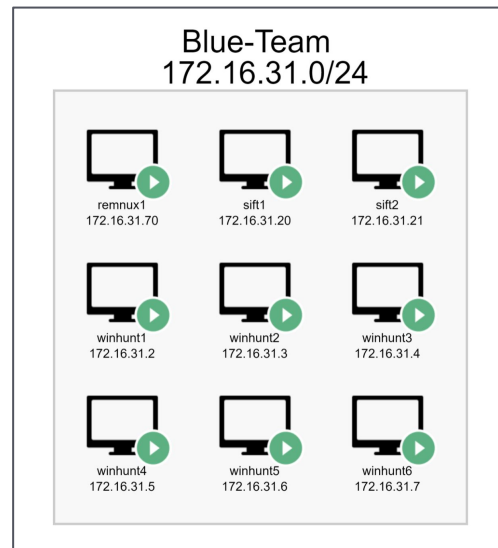
- Defender Logs – official channel of record in event **Cyber-Cup-Blue-Feb25-*** within the SimSpace portal
 - Document and track any adversary observations – the more the detail, the quicker the response, the better the event
 - **Main criteria for gaining points**
 - Request information from Control Cell for items not present within the exercise
- Mattermost Chat – **unofficial** communication channel
 - Items on interest to others on the team, exchange of data/ideas
 - Interesting observations but not yet determined as “bad”
 - **For login, Mattermost chat uses all lower case on the email address**
- Zoom – Event open communications channel
 - Used for welcome, checks, pre-brief, live engagement period, and closing remarks
 - Another unofficial communication channel
 - Each team will also have a Zoom breakout room for voice comms is needed

Topology

Shared Attack Segment



Team Access



Tools in Range

Splunk and Security Onion are the two SIEMs that will be available to query the following logs:

- Zeek
- Suricata (IDS)
- Windows Event Logs
- System
- Security
- Application
- PowerShell
- Sysmon
- Squid Proxy Logs

Demonstration

Portal

- Landing page
- Accessing the Event
- Event Documents
- Defender Logs
- Mattermost
- Other useful items

Network Topology & Security Tools

- Opening a console
- Tool access
- File Management

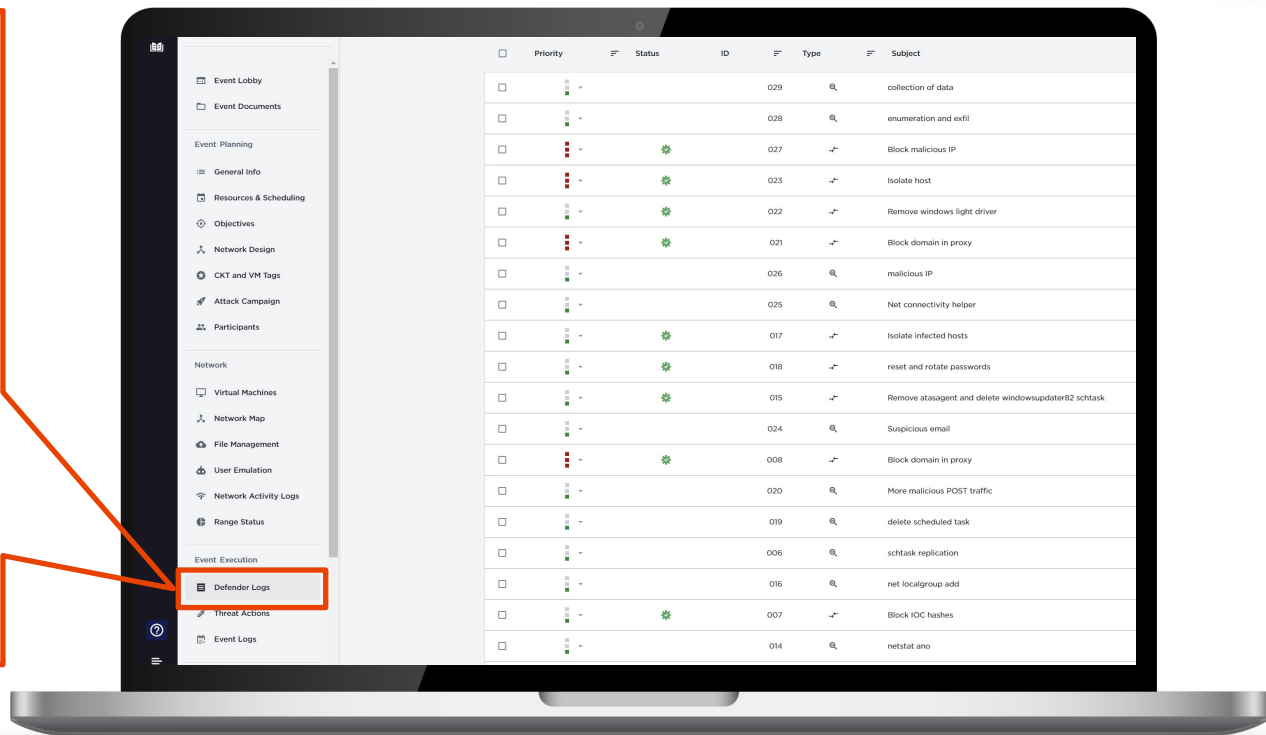
Contacts & Questions

If you have any questions later during the Familiarization Period, please don't hesitate to contact us!

SimSpace: support@simspace.com

Defender Logs – Simplified Ticketing System

- Defender Logs are records captured by blue team (defenders) during a live action event.
- The blue team records and organizes its actions, enabling these members to successfully combat the red team (attackers/adversaries) by coordinating information as it becomes available during a real-time live action event.



Defender Logs – Three Types of Logs

Tracking Items

- A record used to monitor the progress of ongoing tasks, incidents, investigations, or anomalies detected within the security environment.
- It serves as a central point for tracking the resolution of a security event.
- If, during investigation, a need for a system or policy modification is identified, a change request can be generated directly from the tracking item to initiate the necessary updates.

Change Request

- A formal request to modify or update security systems, policies, or configurations to improve security posture or address identified vulnerabilities.
- This could involve firewall rule adjustments, software patching, or changes to security group policies.
- Change requests follow a defined approval process to ensure security and minimize risks before implementation

Request for Information

- A query submitted to obtain additional details, data, or clarification related to an ongoing investigation, security policy, or operational procedure.
- Information requests often seek logs, incident timelines, or threat intelligence to support decision-making or further investigation.
- Responses to these requests help ensure the team has the data needed to perform thorough analysis and remediation.

Defender Log Example - Change Request

- Ticket created to remove a compromised host from the network.
- Evidence, such as a screen shots, can be attached in support of tickets.

Defender Logs

Active (97)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority	Status	ID	Type	Subject	Assignee
<input type="checkbox"/>		✓	047	①	Security Hunt box compromised	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>		✓	048	→	Remove from network 172.16.5.86	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>		✓	046	→	Remove from network 172.16.6.106	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>		✓	044	→	Remove from network - 172.16.4.73	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>			056	🔍	mt.exe	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>			054	🔍	louisdreyfu.com	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>			052	🔍	LogiMailApp.exe	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>			050	🔍	LogiMailApp.exe	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>			045	🔍	PRANGE Account creation on SITE-OLMS	Craig Oeltjen
<input type="checkbox"/>			043	🔍	Proxy Requests from suspicious powershell pr...	Craig Oeltjen

Ticket 048

Edit

Details

Comments (1)

Related (0)

Ticket Type

Change Request

Follow-up Request

Status

Approved by Craig Oeltjen

Mark as Implemented

Subject

Remove from network 172.16.5.86

Description

Request to disconnect from network 172.16.5.86.

Compromised system is attempting to allow lateral movement to server from the Dev location.

Priority

High

Assign to

Craig Oeltjen

IP Addresses

IP 172.16.5.86

Host Names

None

User Accounts

None

Other Tags

None

Attached File(s)

artifact1.PNG

Attach evidence here

