NCL Fall 2025 Individual Game Scouting Report

Dear Jonathan Villanueva,

Thank you for participating in the National Cyber League (NCL) Fall 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 Fall 2025 Season had 8,520 students/players and 538 faculty/coaches from more than 490 two- and four-year schools & 200 high schools across all 50 U.S. states registered to play. The Individual Game Capture the Flag (CTF) event took place from October 24 through October 26. The Team Game CTF event took place from November 7 through November 9. 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/XWN3Q3HC9CFD

Based on the performance detailed in this NCL Scouting Report, you have earned **13 hours** of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) as approved by CompTIA. You can learn more about the NCL - CompTIA alignment via nationalcyberleague.org/partners.

Congratulations for your participation in the NCL Fall 2025 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 FALL 2025 INDIVIDUAL GAME

NATIONAL RANK
578TH PLACE OUT OF 7873
PERCENTILE 93RD

YOUR TOP CATEGORIES

ENUMERATION & EXPLOITATION
98TH PERCENTILE

PASSWORD CRACKING
98TH PERCENTILE

SCANNING & RECONNAISSANCE
95TH PERCENTILE

76.8% ACCURACY
Average: 61.0%

cyberskyline.com/report
ID: XWN3Q3HC9CFD

Learn more at nationalcyberleague.org

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NCL Fall 2025 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.

578 TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

93 rd National Percentile

1965 POINTS OUT OF 3000
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 974.0 Points

76.8% ACCURACY

Average: 61.0%

70.7% COMPLETION

Average: 40.1%

Cryptography

235 POINTS OUT OF 355 | 89.5% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 85.0%

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

Enumeration & Exploitation

300 POINTS OUT OF 300 | 57.1% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 100.0%

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

Forensics

10 POINTS OUT OF 300 | 33.3% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 6.7%

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

Log Analysis

230 POINTS OUT OF 300 | 80.0% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 85.7%

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

150 POINTS OUT OF 300 | 81.8% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 64.3%

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

Open Source Intelligence

310 POINTS OUT OF 385 | 65.7% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 82.1%

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

290 POINTS OUT OF 360 | 90.5% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 82.6%

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

Scanning & Reconnaissance

240 POINTS OUT OF 300 | 87.5% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 93.3%

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

Web Application Exploitation

100 POINTS OUT OF 300 | 66.7% ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 16.7%

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.
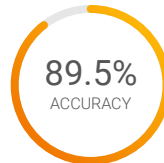
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Cryptography Module

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

685 TH PLACE OUT OF 7873
NATIONAL RANK

92nd National Percentile

235 POINTS OUT OF 355
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 157.0 Points

89.5% ACCURACY

Average: 69.5%

85.0% COMPLETION

Average: 58.2%

Baking Soda (Easy)
50 POINTS OUT OF 50 | **83.3%** ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze and obtain the plaintext from text encoded with common number bases.

ROTten domains (Easy)
45 POINTS OUT OF 45 | **100.0%** ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze and obtain plaintext for messages encrypted with a shift cipher.

Convenience (Easy)
20 POINTS OUT OF 60 | **100.0%** ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 50.0%

Analyze and obtain the plaintext from text encrypted with Vigenère cipher.

01101011 01100101 01111001 (Medium)
40 POINTS OUT OF 40 | **100.0%** ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 100.0%

Decrypt a message using an XOR key.

Squirtle (Medium)
60 POINTS OUT OF 60 | **83.3%** ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze and exploit a DES encryption implementation using known weak keys.

Temet Nosce (Hard)
20 POINTS OUT OF 100 | **100.0%** ACCURACY | COMPLETION: 50.0%

Exploit a flaw in AES encryption to decrypt text with an unknown secret key.

Enumeration & Exploitation Module

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

160 TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

98th National Percentile

300 POINTS OUT OF 300
PERFORMANCE SCORE
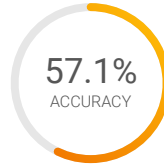
Average: 98.2 Points

57.1% ACCURACY

Average: 60.4%

100.0% COMPLETION

Average: 49.4%

Deno Finds a Way (Easy)
100 POINTS OUT OF 100   **100.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Review source code and exploit a command injection vulnerability to escalate privileges.

Stacked (Medium)
100 POINTS OUT OF 100   **33.3%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Perform an HTTP-triggered stack overflow to retrieve critical information from the server.

Sewer System (Hard)
100 POINTS OUT OF 100   **100.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Exploit a race condition in software to return protected data.

Forensics Module

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

1777 TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

78th National Percentile

10 POINTS OUT OF 300
PERFORMANCE SCORE
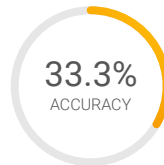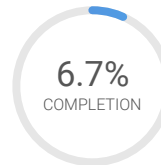
Average: 115.2 Points

33.3% ACCURACY

Average: 45.9%

6.7% COMPLETION

Average: 48.4%

Four & Six (Easy)
10 POINTS OUT OF 100   **33.3%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **12.5%**

Use a forensics tool to examine unallocated space for files.

This Bytes (Medium)
0 POINTS OUT OF 100   **0.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **0.0%**

Research JPEG specifications to repair an image.

Stage Left (Hard)
0 POINTS OUT OF 100   **0.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **0.0%**

Fix a corrupted SQLite database file and analyze the tables.
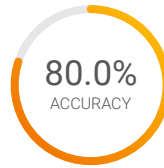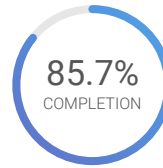
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Log Analysis Module

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

696 TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

92nd National Percentile

230 POINTS OUT OF 300
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 160.8 Points

80.0% ACCURACY
Average: 55.3%

85.7% COMPLETION
Average: 61.1%

Process This (Easy)
100 POINTS OUT OF 100   75.0% ACCURACY   COMPLETION: 100.0%

Examine parsed Sysmon JSON process tree logs to determine a chain of events.

Brute Force (Medium)
100 POINTS OUT OF 100   83.3% ACCURACY   COMPLETION: 100.0%

Identify a brute force attack by analyzing patterns of malicious actor behavior in web server logs.

Stolen Swipe (Hard)
30 POINTS OUT OF 100   100.0% ACCURACY   COMPLETION: 33.3%

Parse and correlate ATM and EMV Field 55 logs (ISO 8583 standard) to identify a fraudulent transaction.
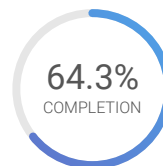
Network Traffic Analysis Module

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

1008 TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

88th National Percentile

150 POINTS OUT OF 300
PERFORMANCE SCORE
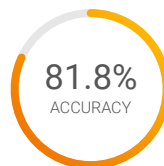
Average: 112.2 Points

81.8% ACCURACY
Average: 51.6%

64.3% COMPLETION
Average: 45.0%

RMM Tool (Easy)
100 POINTS OUT OF 100   100.0% ACCURACY   COMPLETION: 100.0%

Analyze DNS packet requests and responses to identify a suspicious download.

Drive-by Download (Medium)
50 POINTS OUT OF 100   66.7% ACCURACY   COMPLETION: 66.7%

Identify details of a drive-by-download attack and de-obfuscate JavaScript.

The Insider (Hard)
0 POINTS OUT OF 100   0.0% ACCURACY   COMPLETION: 0.0%

Reconstruct a file from UDP packets and decode VBA script.

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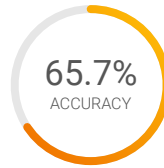CYBER SKYLINE

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.

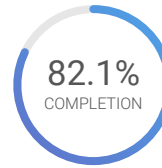**813** TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

90th National Percentile

310 POINTS OUT OF **385**
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 213.9 Points

65.7% ACCURACY

Average: 58.5%

82.1% COMPLETION

Average: 65.3%

Rules of Conduct (Easy)
30 POINTS OUT OF 30 — **100.0%** ACCURACY — COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Introductory challenge on acceptable conduct during NCL.

Cooking Breakfast (Easy)
45 POINTS OUT OF 45 — **100.0%** ACCURACY — COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Parse Chef (esolang) code to determine what input it requires.

NotPetya (Easy)
100 POINTS OUT OF 100 — **72.7%** ACCURACY — COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Gather key information on NotPetya malware.

Flamed (Medium)
55 POINTS OUT OF 55 — **100.0%** ACCURACY — COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Use open source tools to find patterns between GPS locations.

Material (Medium)
80 POINTS OUT OF 80 — **35.7%** ACCURACY — COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Use the EDGAR database to filter 8-K filings.

I Cee Stuff (Hard)
0 POINTS OUT OF 75 — **0.0%** ACCURACY — COMPLETION: **0.0%**

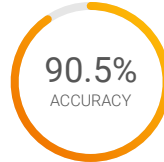Use ICS/OT OSINT tools do passive recon on infrastructure.
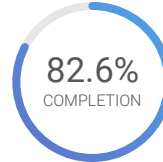
Password Cracking Module

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

183 RD PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

98th National Percentile

290 POINTS OUT OF 360
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 163.6 Points

90.5% ACCURACY

Average: 86.3%

82.6% COMPLETION

Average: 50.2%

Hashing (Easy)
40 POINTS OUT OF 40   **80.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Generate hashes for passwords with the MD5, NTLM, and SHA256 hashing algorithms.

Crack You One More Time (Easy)
50 POINTS OUT OF 50   **100.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Crack MD5 and SHA1 password hashes using password cracking tools.

Oph the Dome (Easy)
60 POINTS OUT OF 60   **75.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Crack Windows NTLM password hashes using rainbow tables.

Redacted (Medium)
50 POINTS OUT OF 50   **100.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Crack an insecure password for a protected PDF file and recover redacted information.

MasKquerade (Medium)
60 POINTS OUT OF 60   **100.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **100.0%**

Build a wordlist or pattern rule to crack password hashes of a known pattern.

Enterprise (Hard)
30 POINTS OUT OF 100   **100.0%** ACCURACY   COMPLETION: **33.3%**

Build a wordlist to crack passwords not found in common wordlists.
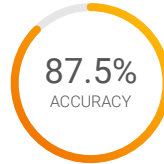
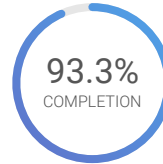POWERED BY
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Scanning & Reconnaissance Module

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

467 TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

95th National Percentile

240 POINTS OUT OF 300
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 152.1 Points

87.5% ACCURACY

Average: 72.9%

93.3% COMPLETION

Average: 58.2%

Portscan (Easy)	100 POINTS OUT OF 100	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%

Use nmap to scan a machine and discover open ports.

Chain (Medium)	100 POINTS OUT OF 100	83.3% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%

Enumerate SMB to locate and retrieve a private SSH key.

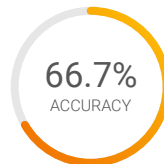| I'm TXT (Hard)	40 POINTS OUT OF 100	80.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	80.0%

Enumerate a DNS service to discover hidden files in DNS TXT records.
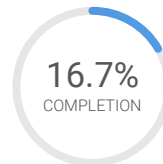
Web Application Exploitation Module

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

1694 TH PLACE OUT OF **7873**
NATIONAL RANK

79th National Percentile

100 POINTS OUT OF 300
PERFORMANCE SCORE

Average: 120.0 Points

66.7% ACCURACY

Average: 73.0%

16.7% COMPLETION

Average: 31.8%

Browser (Easy)	100 POINTS OUT OF 100	100.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	100.0%

Exploit a client-side validation weakness in a web application.

Ersatz Motel (Medium)	0 POINTS OUT OF 100	0.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	0.0%

Perform a SQL Injection Union attack to retrieve information.

Micro Fail (Hard)	0 POINTS OUT OF 100	0.0% ACCURACY	COMPLETION:	0.0%

Access sensitive files on a webserver by chaining together a prototype pollution attack with an XML external entity injection attack.

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