

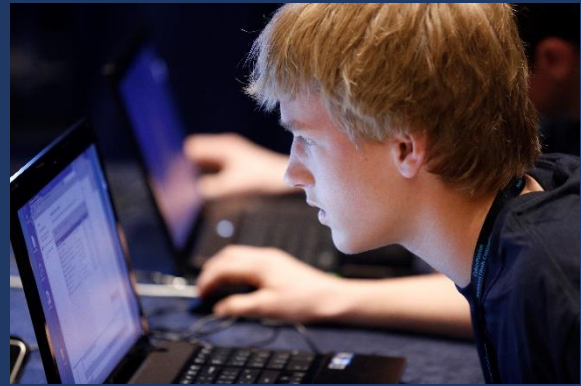


# THE CYBERSENTINEL

The official newsletter of CyberPatriot—AFA's National Youth Cyber Education Program

## January 2022 | In This Issue

[CyberPatriot XIV Info and Updates →](#)  
[New Challenges for Semifinals Round →](#)  
[CyberPatriot XIV Registration Report →](#)  
[CyberTaipan National Finals →](#)  
[Win CyberPatriot Coach Gear →](#)  
[New Year Resolution Ideas →](#)  
[Participant Spotlight →](#)  
[CyberPatriot & The News →](#)  
[LOLs & Executables →](#)



## CyberPatriot XIV Info and Updates

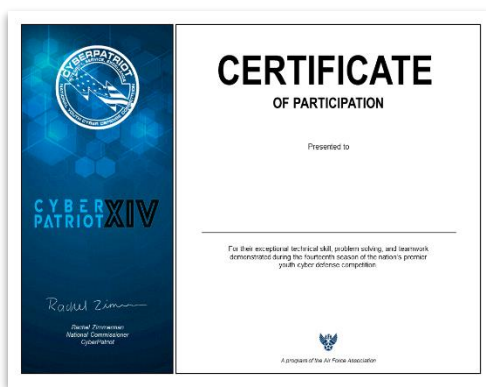
	Team Number	Location/Category	Division	Tier	Score Time (HH:MM)	CCS Score
1	14-1539	CA	Open	Platinum	04:50	300
2	14-1540	CA	Open	Platinum	05:37	285
3	14-0943	CA	Open	Platinum	05:39	284
4	14-0105	TN	Open	Platinum	05:53	284
5	14-1545	CA	Open	Platinum	05:58	274
6	14-1544	CA	Open	Platinum	05:55	271
7	14-1605	CA	Open	Platinum	05:42	270
8	14-1551	CA	Open	Platinum	05:44	270
9	14-1622	CA	Middle School	Middle School	05:12	267
10	14-1198	VA	Open	Platinum	05:42	267

### State Round Recap

For the CyberPatriot State Round competition, 3213 teams competed during the three-day event. Only one team achieved a perfect score on the three images.

The average scores for the image portion of the competition can be seen to the right.

Tier	Avg. Score
Middle School	69
Silver	57
Gold	95
Platinum	138



### Participation Certificates

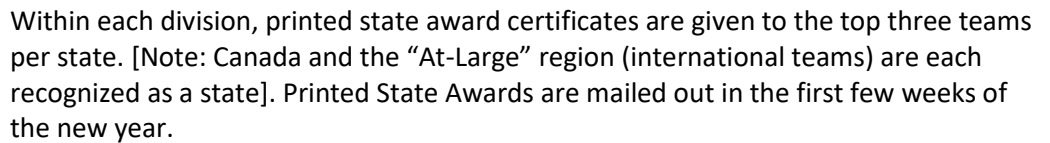
The Participation Certificate Template is available on the coach's dashboard. The template is customizable and can be made with each individual competitor's name on the certificate.

Also available on the dashboard is the CyberPatriot XIV Social Media Guide. Use the provided press release or newsletter template to spread the work about your team's participation in the competition.

Based on State Round scores, the top 25% of teams in each of the skill tiers (Platinum, Gold, Silver) in the Open and All Service Divisions advance to the Semifinal Round.

**Wildcard advancement (Open Division):** If a state, Canada, or At-Large region are not represented by the top 25% of teams advancing, the highest-scoring team from the missing location will advance to the Semifinals as a State Wildcard.

## State and Tier Awards



See Appendix VII of the Official Rules Book for examples of state and tier awards.

The Semifinals is a two-day event only, and does not include Sunday as a competition day. Please plan your team's competition times accordingly. The Semifinals is the first round of competition where only a portion of teams advanced and are eligible to compete. All teams qualifying for the Semifinals will receive a digital Semifinalist Certificate via email. Award publication and a list of award winners is published with the scores on the [CyberPatriot website](#).

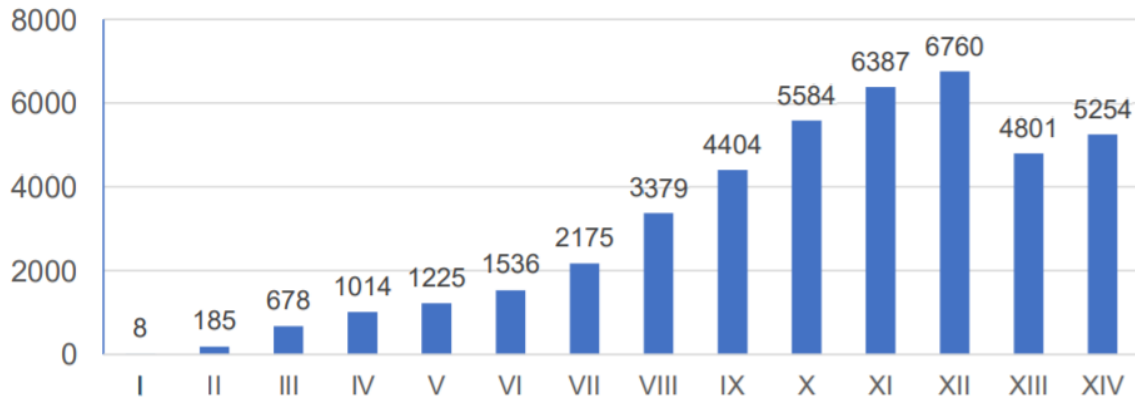
During the CyberPatriot XIV Semifinals, the Platinum Tier semifinalists will have two new challenges. The challenges will be worth 20% of their score. Gold, Silver, and Middle School Division will not participate in the two challenges.

On January 10, more information will be released via email to Platinum Tier Coaches. Teams will be required to register in the Boeing competition system before the competition.



## CyberPatriot XIV Registration Report

The [CyberPatriot XIV \(2021-22\) Registration Report](#) is now available on the CyberPatriot website. Over 5,200 teams and 19,000 competitors registered for the CP-XIV season.



## CyberTaipan National Finals



**What is CyberTaipan?** CyberTaipan is the CyberPatriot international derivative in Australia. As part of the CyberPatriot International Programs, CyberTaipan is only one of the few to include a growing global presence with programs in the United Kingdom, CyberCenturion, Canada, CyberTitan, Saudi Arabia, and the newest addition in Japan, CyberSakura. CyberTaipan is presented by Northrup Grumman in partnership with CSIRO Digital Careers, sponsored by the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD).

**How does CyberTaipan work?** Throughout several rounds of competition, teams of high school students work through a set of virtual images that represent different operating systems. Teams

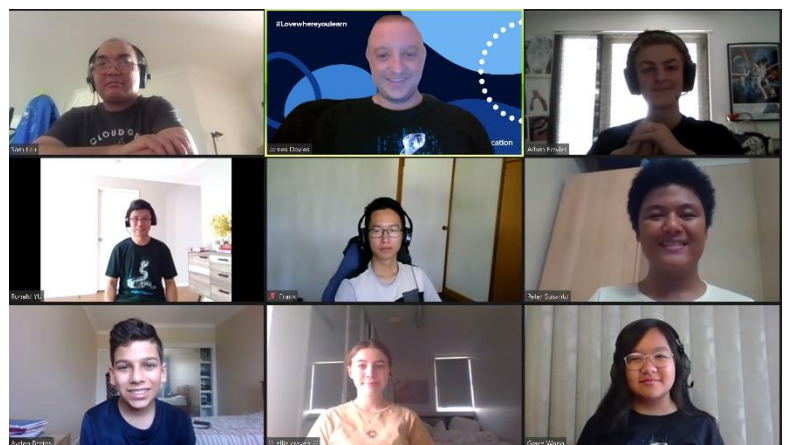
receive points to find and fix cyber security vulnerabilities, strengthen systems, and maintain critical services. After two 6-hour competition rounds, the top 10 teams progress to a National Final. Students may compete face-to-face with their peers or virtually as a geographically dispersed team.

**And The National Final Winners are...** Team Mensa received the 2021 CyberTaipan National Champion title at a virtual award ceremony held on 2 November 2021. Along with taking the first-place title, each Team Mensa member received a \$1,000 gift voucher and an opportunity to participate in CSIRO's virtual work experience program.

The second-place title went to the Kernel Krushers from the King's School NSW, with each team member receiving a \$400 gift voucher.

The third-place title went to CGS Alpha from the Australian Capital Territory – each team member received a \$200 gift voucher.

Well done to all the coaches, mentors, and students who participated in the 2021 competition!



*CyberTaipan National Finals Winner Team Mensa*

## CyberPatriot Polo Shirt Giveaway! (for coaches)



Submit a team photo (preferably wearing the CP-XIV gear) and a quote, and you could receive a CyberPatriot polo shirt!

All submission should be emailed to [info@uscyberpatriot.org](mailto:info@uscyberpatriot.org) with the subject line: *Polo Shirt Giveaway*. Along with the team photo and quote, please include your organization's name, team nickname(s), your polo shirt size, and a shipping address. We will notify the winners once selected!

## New Year's [Cyber] Resolutions

### Become a Tech Caregiver



As a Tech Caregiver, you will complete a Tech Caregiver training course with resources and guides provided by CyberPatriot. Upon completion of the training course and exam (with passing grade), you will receive your certification to assist senior citizens to safely operate online by teaching basic security measures in a way that is easy to understand. You'll also have the opportunity to conduct virtual or in-person workshops in your own community should you so choose.

### Hone your Cisco Skills with Cisco Self-Paced Courses



There are digital badges and certificates of completion that can be displayed on a learner's LinkedIn profile or online portfolio after completing the course. By clicking on the links below, you will also see a course description that will help you determine if you have interest in enrolling. From that page, you will be able to enter in your first name, last name, and email address to enroll into the course. Choose as many as you'd like there is no limit to the number of courses you can be enrolled in.

To see all courses offered to all CyberPatriot teams and their friends and family, visit [https://www.uscyberpatriot.org/Pages/Announcements/Cisco\\_Netacad\\_Courses.aspx](https://www.uscyberpatriot.org/Pages/Announcements/Cisco_Netacad_Courses.aspx).

## Participant Spotlight

### Interview with Team CyberChargers from Westview High School (Martin, TN)

**Q:** *At the start of the State Round, your team was faced with an additional challenge to overcome as your area was impacted by tornados the Friday of the competition. How did your team cope with the events and stay focused on the tasks at hand?*

**A:** While the monstrous weather events definitely took a toll on our ability to focus during the competition, our team was blessed to have only miniscule damage to our homes. Fortunately, we were able to persevere and continue the competition.

**Q:** *Was your team impacted with any service outages, such as loss of internet? On Friday, when the weather was starting to pick up what was your team's game plan?*



**A:** Our original plan was to compete Sunday afternoon. Although the tornadoes devastated multiple cities around us, we were spared a direct hit. Multiple services in the area were down: cellular service, electricity, and internet service all had outages. Locally our internet was down until Sunday morning. Our plan on Friday was to determine whether or not competing on Sunday would even be possible. Our first concern was the safety of all the team members and their families. We did have a list of alternative locations planned.

**Q:** *Disaster Recovery and the ability to bring services back to normal are a key area of cybersecurity. If you were to come up with a Disaster Recovery plan, what steps would you take?*

**A:** First, verify the safety of all team members. In this case, all team members were safe and unharmed. Second, assess the situation. Although the surrounding areas suffered devastating damage, our town was largely undamaged. We normally compete in a computer lab located at the University of Tennessee-Martin (our coach is an associate professor there). The university has redundant internet connections and a backup power supply. However, we were unable to verify whether the university had power or internet access until Sunday. Third, select an alternative. We did have a list of alternative locations, which included our high school, the local library, and possibly a local business. However, the storms caused extensive damage in the area. Our last option was requesting an alternative competition date. Fourth, implement that alternative and deal with unexpected consequences. Fortunately, we did not have to change our location. If we had needed to meet elsewhere, transportation could have been an issue.



**Q:** *How did your team come up with the team nickname CyberChargers?*

**A:** “Cyberchargers” is a play on our school’s mascot, the Charger.

**Q:** *What advice would you give teams that want to give up when the going gets tough?*

**A:** We usually find ourselves in a burnt-out state about three hours into our competitions. However, we cope with this by taking a break, switching members between images, eating some snacks in the room opposite our computer lab, and supporting each other until the last second of the competition. Undoubtedly, the most critical aspect of succeeding is supporting each other, as none of us can singularly complete 3 images, a packet tracer, and a test in a day, let alone 6 hours.

## **Sea Cadets Building the Next Generation of Cyber Defenders | By Jennifer Cragg, U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Public Affairs**

ORLANDO, Florida -- U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps showcased their cybersecurity capabilities during the world's largest modeling, simulation, and training conference at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Nov. 29-Dec. 3.

Sea Cadets from the Orlando-based Centurion Battalion took center stage at the 2021 Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference (I/ITSEC), which welcomed thousands from around the world to look closely at "Innovating and Accelerating Training: Adapting to an Unexpected Future."



"Our CyberPatriot coach, Instructor Denise Nicholson, coordinated an opportunity for our two Sea Cadet CyberPatriot teams to be on the STEM floor for emerging trends," said Lt. Doug Evans, commanding officer, Centurion Battalion, who has had a career in federal law enforcement and now volunteers with the Sea Cadet youth organization.



"I have a unique perspective in the fact that I am intimately aware that our nation receives a tsunami of attacks daily on our collective systems, which serves as an immediate and constant asymmetrical threat. The only way we will survive as a nation is to develop cyberwarriors, and these young men and women will be on the front lines of cyber-safeguarding those systems. We have to protect our cyber-defenses; and these young men and women, wearing Sea Cadet uniforms, are learning how to defend it," said Evans.

Of the over 5,200 teams registered for CyberPatriot XIV, 27 teams come from the Sea Cadet youth organization.

While the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps' Centurion Battalion has participated in past years' conferences, this year was the first time their CyberPatriot demonstration showcased both Navy League Cadet Corps and Sea Cadet Corps team members. In 2016, the Centurion Battalion won the national CyberPatriot competition beating out thousands of other teams.

Sea Cadet Corps Instructor Denise Nicholson, who serves as the coach for both the Navy League Cadet Corps and the Sea Cadet Corps teams for Centurion Battalion, has been volunteering with the youth organization for nearly the past decade.

Serving as the chief operating officer of SoarTech, an artificial intelligence company, Dr. Nicholson has been working with military simulation and autonomy for the past 23 years. Through that involvement, cyber was an added component and it served as a best fit for their Sea Cadet teams. "My company is using the same technologies to train the next generation of cyber workforce," said Nicholson. "I am taking that experience and applying it to our Sea Cadet teams to build the future cyber workforce."



When asked why she volunteers with the Sea Cadets, Nicholson said the motivation is rewarded in the smiles and the accomplishments of the Sea Cadets she mentors.

### Interview with CyberPatriot Team Broken Clocks from Bayshore High School (Bradenton, FL)



The coach of team Broken Clocks contacted our office during Round 2 of the competition when they found the Pixel Dungeon game on the Ubuntu image. To their fascination the game was playable and the team decided to put the image and the game to the test. Our staff takes time to test every part of the competition images and we do like to add something of a surprise into the images. Team Broken Clocks not only works hard but makes sure to have fun while doing so.

**Q:** *What is your team nickname?*

**A:** [William] We are Broken clocks. We are right twice a day.

**Q:** *Did your team have a game plan for going into the State round?*

**A:** [All] Nooo! (and much laughter)

[Daniel] Actually, our plan is to finish in the top 25%.

[Bryan] And Edwing and I have to do the quiz and take Trevor's Server image because he is sick.

**Q:** *What are your team dynamics?*

**A:** [Coach] Trevor doesn't say a word the whole time. Daniel talks loudly to himself all day. William goofs around most of the time. Miguel works tirelessly on the Cisco packet tracer. Edwing and Bryan team up to handle the quiz and any other situations.

**Q:** *Do you have any funny CyberPatriot stories?*

**A:** Daniel signed up for some trial software on his image and used his Mom's phone number. That wasn't helpful. William spent round 2 playing the Pixel Dungeon game on the Ubuntu image. During States he wore a box during part of the competition. He also tricked Daniel into downloading Deltarune using his Steam setup in the Windows 10 image. He chided Daniel when he uninstalled them without playing them. Before States the team found my stash of movie posters and spent 8:30-9:00am going through them. We have to drag Edwing from class every time because he forgets we have a competition.



## CyberPatriot & The News

### Institute of Competition Sciences



CyberPatriot is now listed on the Institute of Competition Sciences website as one of the many national competitions for middle school and high school students. If you or your organization is interested in learning more about other youth education competitions, visit [The Institute of Competition Sciences](https://www.instituteofcompetition.com).

### Rogers High School houses top two cyber security cadets in Washington | KHQ 06

SPOKANE, Wash. - Rogers High School's Air Force Junior ROTC program is home to two of the top-five CyberPatriot teams in Washington...

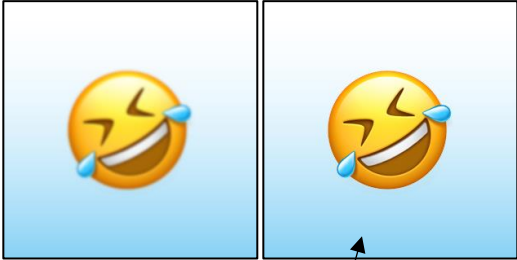
Cadets Michael Tishchenko & Jonathan Ying are ranked number one and two in Washington, and are in the top 10 percent globally, according to the school district.

### Northern students to participate in cyber defense competition | The Garrett County Republican

ACCIDENT — A team of students from Northern Garrett High School is gearing up to put their cybersecurity skills to the test in CyberPatriot XIV — the 14th season of the Air Force Association's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. Since 2009, CyberPatriot's competition has challenged teams of students to harden simulated computer systems and resolve real-life cybersecurity situations faced by industry professionals. The competition provides students hands-on experience securing computer networks while exciting, educating and motivating them toward careers in cybersecurity and other STEM fields.

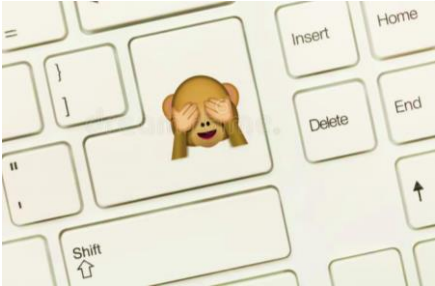
LOLs & Executables

Looking for a good New Year's Resolution?



We recommend 1080P!

Why do keyboards not sleep?...



...Because they have two Shifts!

Can you decrypt these fun computer facts?

Fact #1

.tavehghf qan lerte hf pvc bpf bencny tavzebserc aruj rgne  
abvgryczbp ergfns %24 n rinu qan febeer erjrs %73 rxnz  
xrrj erc fehbu rreug anug rebz frznt brqvi tavl nyc ch jret  
gnug fabrtehF

Fact #2

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ANSWER: 1. (ROT 13 and then reversed) Surgeons that grew up playing video games more than three hours per week make 37% fewer errors and have a 42% faster completion rate when performing laparoscopic surgery and suturing. ANSWER: 2. (Morse Code) Until 2010, carrier pigeons were faster than the internet.

\*Fun Facts Source: <https://computercpr.com/computer-facts/>