



THE CYBERSENTINEL

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

NOVEMBER 2023

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CyberPatriot XVI (2023-24)

Registration for CyberPatriot XVI closed on October 3rd with 5,183 teams registered for the competition season. The competitor registration deadline was October 25th and nearly 20,000 competitors are registered to compete this season! See the list and map of CyberPatriot XVI teams on the CP website [here](#).



High School Divisions Round 1

Round 1 was held October 19-23. High School division teams faced a Windows 10 image and an Ubuntu 20 image, as well as Cisco Quiz and Packet Tracer. This round had a max score of 230 points. Official scores for Round 1 will be posted to the [CyberPatriot website](#).

Middle School Introductory Round

Introductory Round, the first round for CyberPatriot Middle School teams, takes place over November 2-6. Middle School Division teams face a Windows 10 image and Ubuntu 22 image, along with Cisco Quiz and Packet Tracer. This round has a maximum score possible of 230 points.

High School Divisions Round 2

Round 2 for CyberPatriot High School teams takes place over November 2-6. High School Division teams face a Windows 10 image, a Server 2022 image, and Debian 11 image, along with Cisco Quiz and Packet Tracer. This round has a maximum score possible of 330 points.

Registration Fee Deadline – November 15

November 15 is the payment deadline for teams competing in CyberPatriot XVI. Participant Kits will not be sent to unpaid teams, until one of the following occurs:

- Payment has been received and processed
- A purchase order has been submitted to info@uscyberpatriot.org
- A waiver request with supporting documentation has been submitted
- A payment deadline extension has been granted for the team

NOVEMBER 2-6 TEAMS HAVE 4 HOURS TO COMPETE

MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION INTRODUCTORY ROUND: 230 POINTS POSSIBLE

- Windows 10
- Ubuntu 22
- Cisco Quiz & Packet Tracer

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS ROUND 2: 330 POINTS POSSIBLE

- Windows 10
- Server 2022
- Debian 11
- Cisco Quiz & Packet Tracer



Training Round 2 is coming!

To give teams an opportunity for some additional Linux image training, we are pleased to announce that we will be offering Training Round 2. Details coming soon!

Coaches, be sure to check your email or your coach dashboard for more information that will be released on November 10th.

New Coach Workshop

Don't forget about this great resource! The New Coach Workshop can be viewed in a stand-alone [PowerPoint presentation](#) or by [watching a video on YouTube](#). The New Coach Guide will go over the structure of the competition, registration process, training resources, competition rounds, technical specifications, how to download and open a virtual image, and Cisco Networking Academy (Cisco NetAcad).



Coaches & Mentors LinkedIn



LinkedIn group for Coaches & Mentors. The group is a place to connect, discover, and collaborate with fellow CyberPatriot coaches and mentors (past, present, and future). This CyberPatriot community is a space for coaches and mentors to connect with peers, participate in lively discussions, and share materials. <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12861069/>

Cisco NetAcad Courses

There are two courses required for the Cisco NetAcad Challenge. The Content Course, which teams will use to study for the competition, and the Competition Course, which teams will use to compete in the competition. To see the recent Coaches' email concerning Cisco Networking Academy courses, please go to <https://conta.cc/3PxRK9o>.

- **Content Course:** This course includes all training materials for the Cisco NetAcad Challenge. CyberPatriot will enroll coaches using the email address they are registered with for CyberPatriot. *Full Instructions are available on the coach dashboard.*
- **Competition Course:** This is the course that teams will use to compete. Content course log ins will NOT work for the competition course. Coaches must create a unique email address and Cisco NetAcad account specific to each team. *Full instructions are available on the coach dashboard.*

*For the Competition Course teams must include their team number in the Packet Tracer file and in the file name per the instructions found on Round 2/ Intro Round Competition Course page within the NetAcad website. If a team number is not associated with a Packet Tracer file, teams will not receive any points for Packet Tracer in the NetAcad challenge for that round.

CP-XVI Participant Kits

Team Participant kits will start getting packed and shipped later this month! Each coach will receive one box with gear for themselves and their competitors. Mentor and Team Assistant gear is sent separately (directly to the volunteer) for those officially linked to teams in the registration system. Coaches will receive an email notification with tracking information when their participant kit ships. Remember, only teams who have paid will receive a participant kit.

The Participant Kit for CP-XVI includes:



CyberPatriot XVI State Round

The CyberPatriot State Round will take place December 7-11, 2023. All registered teams may compete in the CyberPatriot XVI State Round. There is no score cutoff or participation requirement. If your team cannot compete in early rounds, you can still compete in the State Round.

For Open/AllService Division teams, the State Round is a stand-alone round where all teams start with a clean slate and previous scores do not count. For Middle School Teams, the Introductory Round and State Round scores are considered for State Awards. If a team did not participate in or did not score high in earlier rounds, they can still compete in the State Round. Teams may win awards even if this is the first time they compete this season.

CyberPatriot Alumni Spotlight

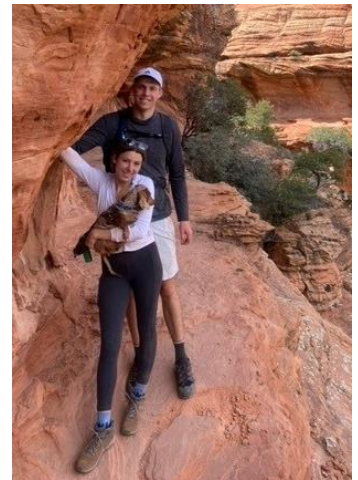
Nicole Guilbault | CyberPatriot VII



After joining her high school's computer club, Nicole participated in her first CyberPatriot competition. She was immediately hooked and got so excited every time her team got a point!

After high school, Nicole pursued a technical degree and started with KPMG as an intern doing IT audits. Eventually she worked her way up and after a few years, she joined a Vulnerability Scanning and Penetration Testing team. Being on this team helped her to remember the fascination she first felt in high school while competing in CyberPatriot.

Aside from increasing her technical knowledge, if there is anything Nicole has learned from CyberPatriot, it is to allow herself to be genuinely curious and participating in CyberPatriot helped her feel comfortable to ask questions without an ounce of self-consciousness. "Being in the workplace feels scary sometimes, like you have to impress people, but when you can remove that fear, you really open the door to learning." If Nicole could offer one piece of advice to the next generation of CyberPatriot competitors, she hopes that they too can learn to be curious, always keep looking for answers and "Never be afraid to ask the question."



Fun fact: Nicole now resides in Arizona, and she loves to spend her free time hiking with her fiancé and dog.

***Do you want to be featured in an issue of the CyberSentinel?
Complete the [survey](#) and your story could be in the spotlight!***

CyberTitan

Calling all CyberTitan Alumni! CyberTitan is now in its 7th year, and they are hoping to highlight the success of past CyberTitan students. CyberTitan is looking to hear where these alumni are today, what schooling and/or work they've done and how CyberPatriot/CyberTitan has helped them succeed post competition. If you would like to participate, or know anyone who may want to participate, please reach out to cybertitan@ictc-ctic.ca.

CyberTitan would also like to offer cybersecurity resources to Canadian CyberTitan teams and their schools. Canadian courses are available that the teams can use to supplement the CyberPatriot training. Introductory offerings are also available and can be used in classrooms and with groups across Canada, to increase the interest in the program and hopefully lead to more registrations next year. To learn more and to register, visit <https://etalentcanada.ca/for-educators/programs/cybrary-cybersecurity-course-and-resource-library>.

National STEM Challenge

CALLING ALL YOUNG INNOVATORS!

Show us your creativity and problem-solving skills!

Your mission? Craft a STEM project that tackles a real-world challenge. Choose from one of the 2024 themes listed and use the scientific method or engineering design process.

THEMES

- Environmental Stewardship
- Future Foods
- Health and Medicine
- Powering the Planet
- Aerospace
- Tech for Good

The Challenge is open to grades 6-12 in the US States and Territories.

200 National STEM Champions plus a caregiver will have travel and accommodation expenses covered to go to **Washington DC** for **The National STEM Festival on April 12-13th, 2024.**

Submissions open:
October 4th, 2023

Submissions close:
November 12th, 2023

Scan the QR code or click the image for more information! Entry deadline is November 12th at 8:59 PM PT



Thank you to all the CyberPatriot Sponsors who make our program possible:

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