



# THE CYBERSENTINEL

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

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## CyberPatriot XIV

### Round 1 Recap

Thanks to everyone who made the Round 1 kickoff a success. If you were unable to tune-in to the live event, you can watch it here. In total, 3,311 teams competed in Round 1.

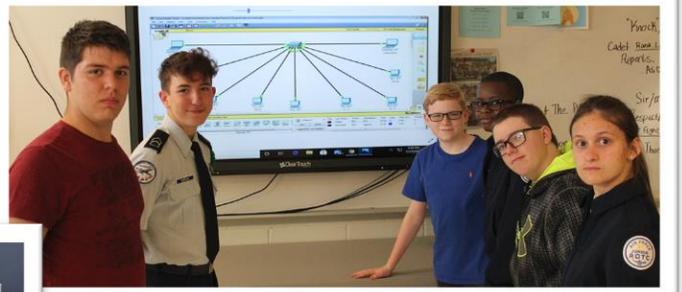
### Teams Competing in Round 1

[Right] Team Hondo Cyber Owls (TX), show their team spirit as they prepare to compete in Round 1.



[Left] Coach Fredrick Hall incorporated a Halloween party to keep the round fun!

[Right] Team Mighty 62, representing Air Force JROTC Carrolton, Georgia prepares for the Cisco Packet Tracer exercises.



[Left] Team Broken Clocks from Bayshore High School (FL) hold up batteries to keep their brains charged through the competition.



## Round 2 Information

CyberPatriot XIV Round 2 is set for the weekend of Nov. 12-14. Image download instructions will be sent to coaches on or before the Monday, Nov. 8. A StartEx email will be released to teams at 9:00 AM ET Friday, Nov. 12.

### Competition Windows

Teams may choose any 6-hour window from the following availability:

Fri. 9:00 AM – Sat. 3:00 AM ET  
Sat. 8:00 AM – 11:59 PM ET  
Sun. 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM ET

### Round Challenges

Teams will be challenged on three virtual machines and two Cisco Networking exercises.

- Windows 10
- Server 2019
- Ubuntu 20
- Cisco Quiz (Modules 8-11)
- Cisco Packet Tracer (Modules 1-11)

State Round tier placement for the Open and All Service Divisions is based on cumulative Round 1 and Round 2 scores. Following Round 2, teams are sorted into tiers based on their skill level. The top 30% of teams will be placed in the Platinum Tier, the middle 40% of teams are placed in the Gold Tier, and the remaining 30% of teams are placed in the Silver Tier.

The Middle School Division does not have tier system. All middle school teams advance to the State Round.

### Registration Fee Payment Deadline

**November 15 is the payment deadline** for teams competing in CyberPatriot XIV. Round 2 scores for unpaid teams will not be released, until one of the following occurs:

- Payment has been received and processed
- A purchase order has been submitted to [info@uscyberpatriot.org](mailto:info@uscyberpatriot.org)
- A waiver request with supporting documentation has been submitted
- A payment deadline extension has been granted for your team

## Job Opening with CyberPatriot

CyberPatriot is looking for a talented individual to fill its [Competition Operations Coordinator](#) position. This is a full-time, entry-level position. As this is in-office position (not remote), we are looking for candidates located in or will to relocate to the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

If you are interested in applying, email your, cover letter, resume, [AFA employment application](#), and salary requirements to [recruiter@afa.org](mailto:recruiter@afa.org). with subject line *CyberPatriot Competition Operations Coordinator*.

## Social Media Guide for CyberPatriot XIV

For over a decade, CyberPatriot has been dedicated to promoting STEM and cybersecurity education through a fun, hands-on, national youth cyber defense competition. Let the world know that you are helping the cause and motivating the next generation of cyber professionals with the CP-XIV Social Media Guide!

This all-in-one guide provides logos, graphics, and sample posts for social media promotion. It also includes a press release / newsletter article template.

Feel free to customize the resources to fit your organization's mission.



[Download the CP-XIV Social Media Guide Today!](#)

## NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Educator Award



**NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Educator Award is now open for applications.** This award identifies exemplary formal and informal educators who play a pivotal role in encouraging 9th-12th grade women, genderqueer, or non-binary students to explore their interest in computing and technology, and recognizes these educators for their efforts to promote gender equity in computing. Learn more at <http://www.aspirations.org/AiCEduAward>.

## Sponsor Spotlight | Robert Morris University



In October, Robert Morris University (RMU) signed on as a CyberPartner. RMU is dedicated to advancing the cyber talent that is needed for today's workforce by offering various cyber programs at the bachelor, masters, PhD, and certification levels. Some of their cyber degrees are Cybersecurity B.S., Cyber Investigations and Intelligence M.S., Cybersecurity M.S., including certification pathways for Cyber Forensic and Information Security, and Mobil Forensic and Security.

## Participant Spotlights

### Former CyberPatriot Competitors Create and Launch the Cyber Community Club (Cx3)

Former CyberPatriot competitors, Annabelle Klosterman, Mariel Klosterman, and Austen King created and are now launching the Cyber Community Club (Cx3) - a community of like-minded individuals striving to educate middle and high school students in the STEM fields of technology and cybersecurity.

While in high school, Annabelle, Mariel, and Austen observed that the Midwest region and other rural areas have little or no access to resources that teach or promote education about technology and cybersecurity. In their years of competing in CyberPatriot, their state



had less than five teams compete annually. Despite the lack of resources and training available, Annabelle and Austen's team earned a spot at CyberPatriot XI and XII as National Finalists.

Now, as Dakota State University students pursuing degrees in the cyber sciences, they saw the opportunity to impact the next generation of cyber defenders. With the assistance of Dr. Ashley Podhradsky, and sponsorship by CybHER Vault and First Bank & Trust, they created Cx3. The program strives to reach underserved communities within the Midwest region and other rural areas. Cx3 holds virtual events and activities designed to inspire youth to pursue the field of cyber sciences. They work to connect each individual with opportunities based upon their unique needs and aspirations, whether that be polishing resumes, improving interview skills, or working on personal projects. Students need no prior experience to join or participate and the program is free to join with no membership fees.



Cx3 is tailored to any skill level, whether beginner or advanced, they have a spot for you! In addition to middle and high school students, Cx3 has opportunities for mentors, teachers, volunteers, and sponsors who want to help make Cx3 possible. Annabelle, Mariel, and Austen are strong promoters of CyberPatriot and hope to inspire and motivate students to discover the endless possibilities that the cyber field holds.

For more information, visit [www.cybher.org/cx3](http://www.cybher.org/cx3) or contact Annabelle Klosterman at [cybher.outreach@dsu.edu](mailto:cybher.outreach@dsu.edu).

### CyberPatriot Alumni | An interview with Daniel Agrawal



*Q: How did you get started with CyberPatriot?*

A: I first heard about CyberPatriot in 7th grade, when my family was stationed at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado. Initially, I had never heard of the program, and wasn't really that interested in computers in general, but when our librarian mentioned that she would be hosting a CyberPatriot after-school club, it seemed interesting enough to join.

*Q: Did CyberPatriot impact your decision to pursue computer science?*

A: Overall, the time spent in the CyberPatriot program was the main push I had to pursue a degree, and hopefully a career, in computer science. Throughout the various meetings, practices, and competitions for CyberPatriot, I ended up developing a huge interest in computer science. I loved learning all the ways that computers could work, and it blew my mind how many more things you could do with a computer than just writing papers for English or looking up funny videos online. Our teacher taught us how to fix the kinds of issues judges were looking for during the CyberPatriot competitions and showed us how we could install different operating systems or download system images. In the downtime our team had between long updates or downloads, the teacher would show us tons of cool websites; ones that could be used to make art or music, or just fun little tools that could pass the time or make schoolwork easier. After that year, I signed up for any electives I could that had to do with computers and cybersecurity, including a programming course that taught the basics of HTML and JavaScript, two of the most prevalent languages in use on the web.

*Q: I hear that you have received a full scholarship to Texas Tech for a Computer Science Degree, can you tell us more?*

A: I received my scholarship to Texas Tech as a National Merit Scholarship winner. My junior year of high school, I took the PSAT/NMSQT — a test that can qualify those with high enough scores for academic scholarships. I spent hours studying, practicing, and taking mock tests online to be ready for the test. All of the hard work that went into the test paid off, and I ended up making semi-finalist in the competition. While searching with my parents for a good college for a computer science degree, I applied to Texas Tech and was accepted. Subsequently, we found that Texas Tech offers scholarships to National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists; in fact, quite a large number of colleges offer some sort of scholarship to PSAT/NMSQT Semi-finalists.

Even before attending Texas Tech, the experience I gained during CyberPatriot was able to help in securing my current internship with Code Platoon, where I am serving as a teaching assistant for veterans learning software development and programming. All throughout high school, I was told that experience was one of the most important factors when looking for a job relating to computer science, and during the application for the internship it was easy to see how the experience gained from CyberPatriot (and opportunities that path led to during high school) played a huge part in the selection process.



*Q: What advice would you give young CyberPatriot competitors about looking for scholarships?*

A: I would say: be on the lookout for any opportunities to earn scholarships. There are quite a few places you can look—for example, the College Board website links to several, and even offers some just for going through SAT test prep and searching for college options. Many schools will also have resources about how to apply for certain scholarships and plan finances for college.

## Meet the CyberPatriot Staff

An Interview with Taylor Crouch | Internship, CyberPatriot



*Q: What made you interested in the CyberPatriot internship?*

A: When I first learned about CyberPatriot, I was interested because it is such a proactive way to address the current shortage of cybersecurity professionals. Educating the next generation is a great way to invest in our future, while also providing great opportunities for students who participate. CyberPatriot's mission really resonated with me, especially because I have my own interest in the field. The internship would allow me to help make an impact for students, while also gaining cybersecurity skills that I can eventually use in my own career.

*Q: What school and program are you studying right now?*

A: I'm enrolled at Salisbury University (Perdue School of Business) as an Information Systems major. I'm in my last semester, and will be graduating in December.

*Q: What are your plans after you graduate? Do you have a company in mind or a career path that you are interested in pursuing?*

A: I am currently looking into graduate programs so that I can hopefully start working on my master's next fall. I would like to work towards either an MBA or a Master's in Cybersecurity. I'm interested in pursuing a career in cybersecurity. I would really like to pursue a role related to incident response or digital forensics.

*Q: What has been your favorite part of the CyberPatriot internship?*

A: So far, I really enjoy being able to be in contact with team coaches to help resolve issues and answer questions during rounds of the competition. Troubleshooting and solving problems has been rewarding because it feels like a very direct way of helping teams compete in the competition.

*Q: What advice would you give to our competitors?*

A: It can be helpful to have each team member specialize in a different type of operating system when doing research. Then, during the competition, each team member can compete on the operating system they have become most familiar

with. It is important to plan out as much as you can before a round starts. After doing research, compile a checklist of tasks to do immediately when a round starts. There are a lot of great resources on CyberPatriot's website to use for research and making a checklist. This can help a lot with the time limit during the competition.

## CyberPatriot & The News

### [CyberPatriot Draws Record Number of Teams in 14th Season](#) | By Air Force Association

Arlington, Va. - The Air Force Association's CyberPatriot program launched its 14th season with more than 5,200 teams, an encouraging sign that the annual National Youth Cyber Defense Competition is back on the rise to its pre-pandemic participation.

### [Squadron plans for national CyberPatriot competition](#) | By Big Sioux Composite Squadron

BROOKINGS – Big Sioux Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol is organizing a CyberPatriot team for the upcoming national competition season. Middle school and high school students are welcome to participate, but they must attend three of the squadron's weekly meetings and become a member of Civil Air Patrol prior to competing. No previous cybersecurity experience is necessary.

### [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.

## LOLs & Executables



### Syntax - If Statement Joke

A Coding Pro is going Thanksgiving shopping. His wife says, "Get a loaf of bread, and if they have eggs, get a dozen."

The IT Pro comes home with 12 loaves of bread. His wife says, "Why did you get so much bread?"

He says, "Because they had eggs."

## THE PRICE IS RIGHT | Thanksgiving Edition

Item	Guess the Price (USD)
Turkey (20 lb)	\$
A dozen dinner rolls	\$
A sweet potato	\$
Stuffing Mix	\$
Pumpkin Pie	\$
A gallon of milk	\$

Answers: (1) Turkey - 1.51/lb x 20 lbs = \$30.20 (2) Dinner rolls - \$2.97 (3) Sweet Potato - \$1.05 (4) Stuffing mix - \$1.99 (5) Pie - \$3.98 (6) Milk - \$3.69



## Answers for October's Executable

1. Ghost House
2. Candy Corn
3. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe
4. Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
5. Casper the Friendly Ghost
6. Dawn of the Dead