

<u>ROUND</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
<p>Round 1 (All teams participate)</p>	<p><b>October 14 - October 16, 2022 &amp; October 20 – 21, 2022*</b>            Because of Fall Break for many teams, Round 1 will have additional competition windows during Oct. 20-21. Teams may choose their competition period from any of the competition windows for Round 1. <b>TEAMS MAY COMPETE ONLY ONCE IN ROUND 1.</b> The Download instructions will be the same for all Round 1 dates. <b>Sneak Peeks or Premature image openings will result in penalties for teams.</b>            Image download instructions and links are sent to Coaches at <u>5 PM ET</u>, on or before the Monday prior to the competition round. The StartEx email with the password to the images is sent to teams at <u>9 AM ET</u> the Friday of the competition round.</p>	<p>All teams may compete. Tests basics of cybersecurity skills.</p>
<p>Round 2 (All teams participate)</p>	<p><b>November 4 - November 6, 2022</b>            Image download instructions and links are sent to Coaches at <u>5 PM Eastern</u>, on or before the Monday prior to the competition round. The StartEx email with the password to the images is sent to teams at <u>9 AM Eastern</u> the Friday of the competition round.</p>	<p>All teams may compete even if they did not compete in Round 1 or had a low score. More difficult than Round 1, to allow teams to be divided into skill-level tiers for the State Round.</p>
<p>State Round (All teams participate)</p>	<p><b>December 9 - December 11, 2022</b>            Image download instructions and links are sent to Coaches at <u>5 PM Eastern</u>, on or before the Monday prior to the competition round. The StartEx email with the password to the images is sent to teams at <u>9 AM Eastern</u> the Friday of the competition round.</p>	<p>All teams may compete with a clean slate. Past performance or participation in Rounds 1 and 2 do not count toward placement. Teams compete against other teams based on skill level for State Awards and Tier Awards.</p>
<p>Semifinals</p>	<p><b>January 20 - January 21, 2023</b> (Two Days only)            Image download instructions and links are sent to Coaches at <u>5 PM Eastern</u>, on or before the Monday prior to the competition round. The StartEx email with the password to the images is sent to teams at <u>9 AM Eastern</u> the Friday of the competition round.</p>	
<p>National Finals</p>	<p><b>March 17-21, 2023</b></p>	<p>National Finalist teams compete for National Championship in their respective divisions.</p>