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# 「2026 HackTheon Sejong」 International University Cybersecurity Competition Official rules

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## 1. Eligibility and team composition

### A. Eligibility

- (1) The competition is open to undergraduate students worldwide who are enrolled or on approved leave from a university as of the competition date.
  - ※ Graduate students are not eligible. Participants disqualified for misconduct in a previous edition may be restricted from this event.
- (2) If eligibility is unclear, the organizing committee will decide.

### B. Required documents: Certificate of enrollment

- ※ If a certificate cannot be issued, a supervisor recommendation or equivalent verification may be accepted.
- ※ The application form, participation agreement, and personal information consent form must be completed and submitted online.

### C. Team composition

- (1) Participants may compete as a team.
- (2) Teams may have up to four members.
- (3) No person may join multiple teams, and no team may register in more than one track (Beginner A, Beginner B, Advanced).
- (4) Team names must be within 15 characters, reflect the team appropriately, and must not violate public order or morals.
- (5) After registration, the roster must not change until the end of the finals, except that changes before the preliminary registration deadline are allowed with a new submission.

### D. Tracks

- (1) The event offers Beginner and Advanced tracks.
- (2) Teams choose a track by skill level. Beginner A is for Republic of Korea nationals; Beginner B is for non-R.O.K. nationals. Multinational teams that include R.O.K. nationals may choose Beginner A or B.
- (3) Anyone who has previously placed (any rank) in HackTheon Sejong may not register for Beginner or join a Beginner team.

(4) After online preliminaries, forty (40) teams advance to finals as follows:

- Advanced: top 20 teams from preliminaries
- Beginner: Beginner A top 10 teams + Beginner B top 10 teams

## 2. Scoring and tie-breaking

- A. Scores are assigned per problem based on base points plus bonus points when answers are submitted.
- B. Base points reflect difficulty; bonus points may depend on global solve rate.
- C. Ties are broken by earlier submission time of the final flag.

## 3. Misconduct and restrictions

- A. If registrants and actual participants differ, the team is disqualified immediately.
  - ※ If proxy participation is found even after the event, prizes may be revoked, funds returned, and legal action considered.
- B. Actions on competition systems without proper authentication may be voided.
- C. Sharing flag authentication with non-team members leads to disqualification of all involved teams and members.
- D. If cheating is suspected, organizers may require a walkthrough; failure to comply may be treated as cheating.
- E. Online sharing of flags or solutions during the event is prohibited.
- F. Disqualification for misconduct may include a three-year ban, public disclosure of affiliation/team/handle, and notice to the participant's school.
- G. Attacking infrastructure is prohibited; actions on challenge servers must be limited to legitimate solving—no disruption of operations.
  - ※ Organizers may disqualify teams for disruptive behavior at their discretion.
- H. Loud or disruptive behavior that interferes with others at the venue is prohibited.
- I. Awarded teams must attend the ceremony unless excused; absence may void awards and future eligibility.
- J. Finalists who do not attend finals cannot receive awards even if their team places.

#### **4. Confidentiality**

- A. Participants must not disclose or distribute security-related information obtained during the competition.
- B. Leaking or misusing secrets learned during the event may incur civil or criminal liability.

#### **5. Miscellaneous**

- A. These rules may be amended; the latest published version prevails.
- B. Rights to write-ups and similar submissions may be jointly held by Sejong Special Self-Governing City for promotion and development of the event.
- C. Matters not covered here or interpretation disputes are decided by the organizing committee.