



Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition 2026

Enterprise Meeting #2
Wednesday, 17 December 2025

13th Year!



Scott Bell PCDC Director

Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic (NIWC Atlantic)

For PCDC Planning Purposes Only



Title Sponsor

PCDC 2026



PCDC XIII is
scheduled for
11-13 April 2026



11 April











PCDC 2026 Approach

Intent: With the success of the last few year's venue setup and open e-sport style game center approach we are looking to use a very similar layout this year. We are once again poised to work with Amazon to deliver a cloud-based competition. We look forward to another successful year with our gracious hosts @ Trident Technical College.




PCDC Gold Team 2026


-  Gold Team Leads: Valerie Plucinski, Nik Heitzig, & Jan Rega
-  Gold team already holding meetings and working architecture
-  Scoring: Working on updating our scoring engine
-  Build Parties – Devs busy building remote environment
-  Table-Top Prototype/Design presented to and approved by leadership - functional prototype expected by late December, early January.
-  Blue Team scored services have been defined – Gold Team access only.
-  AWS build parties will begin the second full week of January (12-Jan). Schedule TBD.
-  Always looking for additional volunteers

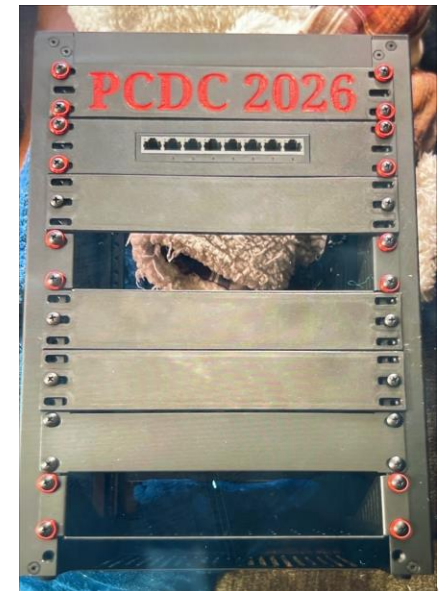


PCDC Red Team 2026

 Red Team Leads: James Jernigan, Jason Husk

 Red Team is staffed for 2026. We are waiting to hear from a handful of folks but have a full standby list waiting in reserve. Focusing on a smaller team this year.

 Red Team is already working a giveaway prize for high school and college day. Mini-rack home lab starter kit! We welcome any industry partner donations - specifically looking to build a small home lab toolkit for inclusion (cable tester & crimpers. Already have small screwdriver set).



2026 PCDC Teams

Blue Team Mentors

Lead: Bryan Haines (welcome!)

The Blue Teams are the competitors challenged with protecting their systems. High School Mentors assist the teams from the area high schools to get ready for the competition.



White Team

Lead: Tim Bootle
(welcome!)

The White Team serves as in competition judges and first line support. White team members answer questions and aid the Blue Teams throughout the competition while ensuring all rules are being followed.



Orange Team

Lead: Kate Sobus

The Orange Team serves as the business operations during the competition. This team plays the role of headquarters during the competition, inserting business problems into the scenario and generates voice and data traffic to keep the scenario realistic.



Blue, White, & Orange Teams still need volunteers!

High Schools



 Automatic Bids based on last year's top 3:

 Home Team Stem, Academic Magnet, Clover

 Next 7 invitees based on Cyber Patriot results coming soon!




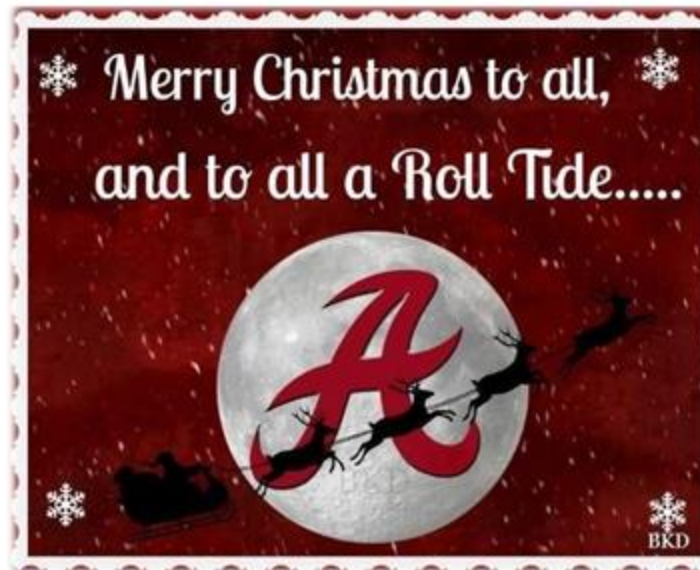
Colleges



 Automatic bids for last year's top 3:

 The Citadel, Clemson, USC

 With 11 teams expressing interest we will use SECCDC or equivalent regional event as qualifier (February) for remaining 8 teams



Professional

 Automatic bids based on last years' Top 3:

 NAVWAR Cyber Pillar, US Cyber Team, US Women's Cyber Team





2026 Pro Day Commitments



Government



Army – 1 CYBN



Coast Guard (?)

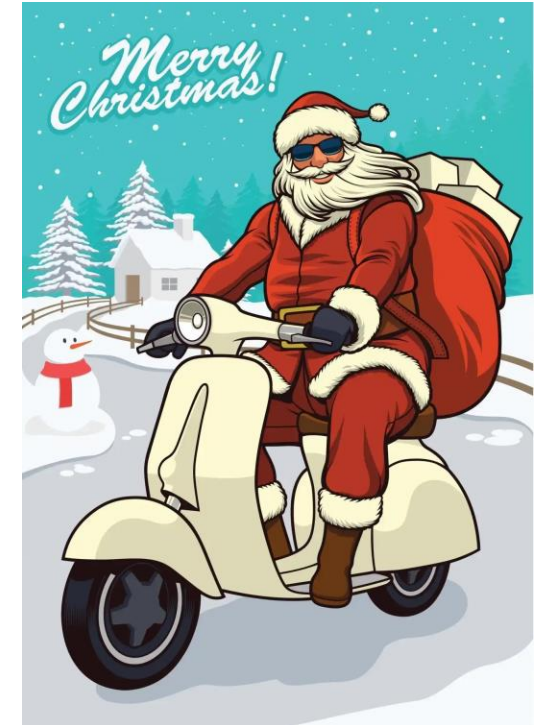


Corporate



On The To-Do List

- ❖ *Keynote speaker invites*
- ❖ *Confirm volunteers for wiring the venue*
- ❖ *Date for initial meeting with Trident Tech*
- ❖ *Updates on grants (STEM, TTC)*



Updates

❖ *Director – Scott*

❖ *Deputy Director - Jeff*

❖ *Gold Team – Val, Nik, Jan*

❖ *White Team – Shiran, Tim*

❖ *Blue Teams*

❖ *High School - Bryan*

❖ *Collegiate Coord - Nicky*

❖ *Pro Day Coord – Whitney, Jeff*



❖ *Orange Team – Kate, Liam*

❖ *Red Team – James, Jason*

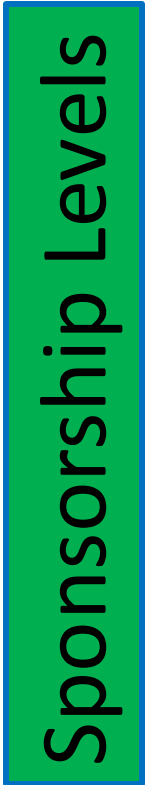
❖ *AFCEA – Greg, Jacob*

❖ *Treasurer – Kelly, Claire*

❖ *Logistics - Jamie*

❖ *Operations / CITM - Karen*





Sponsorship POC: Greg Blackburn, AFCEA PCDC Coordinator
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Important Links

▼ PCDC Website: pcdc-sc.com

▼ PCDC Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PalmettoCyberDefenseCompetition>

▼ PCDC Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PalmettoCyber>

▼ Cyber Patriot: <http://www.uscyberpatriot.org>

▼ AFCEA: <http://charleston.afceachapter.org/>

▼ #PCDC





PCDC 2026 Primary POCs



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- ▼ Nicky Shipp, SENTAR, Collegiate Coordinator,
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- ▼ Greg Blackburn, AFCEA PCDC Lead, Capt USN (Ret)-Sponsorship Lead
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PCDC 2026

Around the Table

▼Big Ideas?
▼Innovations?
▼Questions?



Wrap Up

