Nym Squad League: Spring Season report

The world needs more heroes! Nym Squad League is a framework for anyone to join the Nym community, grow their skills and start contributing to Nym’s mission: to enable privacy for all of humanity.

Every season, a new set of missions are publicly announced for different levels of skills:
- New to Nym? Sign up, learn about Nym and start contributing as a ‘Nymster’.
- Keen and talented? You will quickly be promoted to ‘Nymja’ and trusted with more serious missions and higher rewards.
- Core community members who are ready to take more leadership are invited to join the ranks of ‘Shinobi’ to collaborate closely with the core team.

From capturing the essence of online privacy in a dank meme all the way to building tooling and applications, the league is open to skills of all kinds - with rewards distributed accordingly. The ultimate goal of the Squad League is to foster a community of privacy experts who can operate and sustain the decentralized infrastructure of the future.

This 2024 Spring season community report announces the past three months achievements: completed missions, promotions and rewards, (find the previous season report here). A full update is also provided for the Nym community treasury: Squad Wealth Fund.

Squad Wealth Fund update

The Squad Wealth Fund is the community treasury. It funds community missions, moderation, meet-ups and more. Here is how it works:

1. Every season the Nym core team treasury stakes NYM tokens on community operated mix nodes as part of the Nym Delegations Program. This helps bootstrap new Nym nodes as well as earn rewards for the community.
2. At the end of each season, staking rewards are redeemed and added to the Squad Wealth Fund (SWF), which is the main source of funding for Nym community development and growth.
3. The Nym community then goes to the forum to vote on contributions to missions to decide who gets rewarded.
4. Rewards are distributed and a report is generated.
Staking and rewards

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total staked by Treasury</td>
<td>29 750 000 NYM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APY (annualized)</td>
<td>6.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total staking rewards</td>
<td>490 249 NYM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income and spending

![Squad Wealth Fund income vs spending chart](image)
Balance

Squad Wealth Fund summary

With little change to treasury stake and APY, seasonal income has stayed similar at 490k NYM. We saw more contributions this season which led to a growth in spending, but the season is closed with a positive balance of 230k NYM. This leaves a war chest of 530k NYM token in the fund after all is said and done.
Seasonal objectives

The Nym community had the following key objectives for season 1 2024:

1. Ready the Nym mainnet for the launch of NymVPN
2. Test NymVPN with different audiences
3. Build new tools for the Nym ecosystem
4. Grow and strengthen the Nym community

Let’s take them in this order and see how we did!

1. Ready the Nym mainnet for the launch of NymVPN

NymVPN is the first user-facing commercial app to run on the Nym mixnet. It brings powerful privacy protections to ordinary people and will generate income for Nym node operators. The launch is around the corner, and the Nym node community has been busy to make sure the network is up to scratch.

- 4 on-chain governance proposals were discussed and voted on. A network-wide minimum profit margin was set, and the community decided on the reward split between the different layers of the Nym network.
- Fast and furious test sessions took place to assess performance and 365 Nym nodes leveled up to run 'smooshed' nodes capable of serving any necessary role in the mixnet.

Wins: core dev team and Nym nodes are collaborating better than ever before to iteratively improve network performance.
Areas of improvement: Nym node onboarding and tooling. Stay tuned for some serious improvements!

2. Test NymVPN with different audiences

The Nym community has been testing and showcasing the progress on the NymVPN since early this year. With the first NymVPN alpha release this spring, testing and demos expanded from highly technical people to broader audiences. The app was to audiences all around the world at 15 events, keynotes, meetups, and workshops from Vietnam to Ukraine, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Mexico, and Brasil.

The community was the first to get access to the NymVPN Alpha release. The contributions in the form of 150 bug reports, feature requests, and general feedback has been instrumental for the progress of the app!

Wins: Community testing resulted in invaluable feedback.
Areas of improvement: More materials are needed to support community-organized events such as slide decks and presentation templates.
3. Build new tools for the Nym ecosystem

Last season rewarded a community-developed CRM system to underpin the Node Delegations Program. This work is being improved, but otherwise, the Nym Squad League builder grant was sorely underutilized!

An honorable mention is mixplorer.xyz, a community-built explorer of the Nym network. Its creators are in the process of applying for a builder grant, so expect to hear more over the summer season!

**Wins:** improvements to the CRM by Pawnflake to enable a better Node Delegations Program.

**Areas of improvement:** attract more people, Squads and DAOs to build out the Nym ecosystem.

4. Grow and strengthen the Nym community

Nym Squad League opened to new joiners in the Spring season. The program has already seen 250 new registrations since then, and the majority of new participants remained active throughout the season. But community is not just about numbers. It’s about collective action, squad wealth, decentralization and shared responsibility.

The list of contributions grew longer this quarter from 22 to 52, with squads and individual contributors stepping up to fill important roles: community management, technical mentorship and translations.

**Wins:** 250 new joiners to the Squad League.

**Areas of improvement:** simplify Nym Squad League so it is easier for new joiners to understand.

Contributions and rewards

The Nym Squad League supports the community to complete missions and get rewarded for it. These missions can be ongoing, repeating each season, or they can be one-off projects.

This past season’s mission board can be seen here and contributions and rewards are also public. Nymja and Shinobi can also work on “covert missions”, proposing their own ideas.
Nymster rewards

Nym Squad League rewards contributors in two different ways: via missions or by collecting points.

- **Missions** are available to people with a proven track record in the Nym community: Nymja and Shinobi only.
- **Starting with the Spring Season, points** can be gathered by anyone, including ‘Nymsters’ – people who have just joined. Collect points and unlock achievements to gain multipliers, and work your way up to the bigger missions.

A leaderboard is published at the end of the season and the top contestants share the Nymster prize pool proportionally to their final score.

**The 2024 Spring season leaderboard** is available [here](#).

In the 2024 Spring season, all 100+ contestants who collected points get a share of the 50K NYM reward pool, and start the next season with a score multiplier. **Congratulations!**
Missions and grants

This chart gives an overview of rewards paid out for:

1. **Ongoing missions this season were rewarded with a total of 130,500 NYM.** A growing list of important roles now filled by community contributors and their squads, which will repeat next season:
   a. Community mentors provide ongoing technical support to the Nym node operator community;
   b. Four different language channels are now independent from core team, fully community-managed;
   c. All Nym content and the interface and website of NymVPN is community-translated to four languages;
   d. Showrunners help with administration and execution of the Nym Squad League;

2. **One-off missions were rewarded with a total of 80,500 NYM.** One-off missions include things like organizing an event/workshop/meetup, representing Nym at an event/conference, creating content or building a tool/application. The past season saw:
   a. Nym community events participation across three continents
   b. Ongoing testing and showcasing of NymVPN
   c. Content creation, from blog posts to twitter threads

The number of contributions grew from 22 to 52 compared to the Q1 pilot season, and the payout total also grew from 150k to 260k NYM to match.
Here is a breakdown of payouts by category:

- **Mentorship, CM**: 42.9%
- **Events**: 16.5%
- **Translations**: 19.0%
- **Covert missions**: 13.0%
- **Community awards**: 4.7%
- **Content**: 3.0%

Total payout: 90,500 NYM tokens
Contribution highlights

We saw tremendous contributions this season. Here are some highlights with our favorite photos of the season. The complete list of contributors is attached as Annex A at the end of this report.

NymVPN community event in Bangladesh (hosted by WSA squad)

KEC & Nym 2024 event in Ukraine feat. Beyond (Nymja)
Nym community members with Psydenst (Nymja) at Cybersec event in Rio de Janeiro

Workshop how to operate a nym node in Technological University of Tecamachalco by Noisk8 (Shinobi)
Nhuelcryp (Nymja) representing Nym at Arbitrum summit in Nigeria

The first Spanish-speaking Nym community call was livestreamed (Rocio Gonzales, Noisk)

NYM
EL RINCON DE LA PRIVACIDAD

Conoce a JL iBercrypto
CM Axelar Network español

Jueves 4 de Julio
19:00 Colombia
Promotions

There are three ranks in the Nym Squad League:

1. Nymster: new joiners who are here to learn about Nym and privacy
2. Nymja: core community members with a proven track record of contributions
3. Shinobi: heavy weight contributors, true experts at Nym and its technology

At the end of each quarter, the most outstanding contributors can rank up. Here is a list of this quarter’s promotions - thanks to all of them for making a difference this season!

Rocio Gonzalez Toral | BWNYM squad -> Shinobi
Ever-present member of the Nym community, bringing sunshine to each and every event, channel, and discussion. She has quickly become a true expert at Nym tech, with many contributions (Squad leadership, node mentorship and operation, events, meetups, Spanish community calls, and more)

psydenst | TupiNymQuim squad -> Shinobi
Besides managing the Portuguese speaking community, the Tupinymquim squad has delivered some of the best Nym event presence we've seen this season. Psydenst played an important role in most of these events. He is an active participant in all Nym-related discussions and acts as thought leader in complex conversations, such as the minimum profit margin.

Beyond | RawBox and BeyondDAO squads -> Shinobi
Member of not one but two squads, Beyond has been instrumental in the recent Nym event presence in Ukraine, both as a speaker and as an organizer. He submitted the most contributions this season, and many more projects are currently being discussed.

kaled | Hidden Internauts squad -> Nymja
This promotion has been a long time coming. Ever since he joined as a Nymster, he has been among the most active and helpful members of the Nym community, participating in every discussion. He also helped the Nym team A LOT with the Talentland Mexico event, it wouldn't have been possible without him. Kaled wants to form his own squad and vote on everything Nym - well, now he can!

Gelois | BWNym squad -> Nymja
Member of the BWNym squad, Gelois represents Nym in Ecuador. He's created manuals and documentation for node operators, and contributed greatly to hunting down good VPS providers.

Estefani | DAOariwas squad -> Nymja
Member of the DAOariwas squad, Estefani is the admin of 3 gateways and 3 mix nodes, and she was responsible for all blog translations to Spanish this season.

Palichis | DAOariwas squad -> Nymja
Yet another member of the DAOariwas squad, Palichis is the admin of 4 gateways in the Nym Service Grants Program. He has been helping the LatAm operator community with various technical questions.
Duda | Tupynimquim squad -> Nymja
Member of the Brazilian Tupinymquim squad, Duda helped the Nym team greatly at Websummit 2024. She is also leading Portuguese translations of the NymVPN Android app, Linux and Windows client and the NymVPN.com website.

Juan -> Nymja
Juan is not a member of any squad yet - he wants to create his own squad in Spain. He helped the Nym team greatly at our booth at the Talent Land Malaga event, and held a Nym node workshop as well.

NymSTAR awards
NymSTAR is a prestigious monthly award the community gives to those who went the extra mile with their contributions, or simply by being outstanding members of the Nym community. A big thank you to to all NymSTARs this quarter:

- John Smith
- Rocio Gonzales
- Alex / Platohedroboss
- Anonymouserkan
- Erik Valle
- Bikrambiswas786
- Vitor Santanna
- Beyond
- Noisk

What's next?
Nym Squad League summer season starts on the 15th of July, 2024. It will last for three months until the end of September 2024. This seasonal structure allows the core team and community to iterate and improve the focus and missions. Upcoming improvements will include...

Doubling down on builder grants
While we saw a few great dev projects and more are being discussed, the NSL builder grant is currently under-utilized. We hope to see this change over the course of Q3, with a portion of the accumulated 530k NYM war chest going towards NSL builder grants.

This is an open call to builders! Got any ideas for developer tooling, integrations, or new privacy-preserving applications using the Nym mixnet? Get in touch and apply for a builder grant of up to 100K NYM.
Delegations program APY will be maximized

Although the primary goal of the Nym Delegations Program isn't to maximize return on treasury delegations, there is room to grow from the annualized APY of 6.75% which was achieved throughout Q2. This is around half the average staking APY of the Nym network for delegators. The Nym team will investigate the reasons for this and make sure the average APY of the Nym Delegations Program improves by the end of the summer season.

The SWF will be staked

Starting next quarter the majority of the Squad Wealth Fund will be staked on Nym nodes so unspent funds can compound and earn even more staking rewards for the community.

More transparency and better reporting of contributions

As of next season reporting guidance will be provided for each mission type. This will not only improve transparency, but also make sure that all the great ideas, best practices and successful projects are readily available to learn from by new contributors.

New mission board and better documentation

A new mission board is released every season. The new summer season mission board will be simplified to make it easier to understand. There is also room to improve on documentation: the submission process, reporting guidance, reward timeline and process will all be documented in one place.

Conclusion

Nym Squad League is closing an action-packed and successful season. With upcoming improvements to the Squad League framework, next season should yield valuable contributions to the fundamental right to privacy.

Squad Wealth Fund income is keeping the community in the green, building up a sizable war chest for the community in just 6 months. With higher APY on treasury stake and staking unspent NYM tokens of the Squad Wealth Fund, there is plenty of room for the program to grow and support significantly more contributions of all shapes and sizes.
Annex A: List of all rewarded contributions this season

Visit the [Nym forum](#) for more information about each contribution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Mission/grant</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Reward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alex / Platrohedorboss</td>
<td>Nymster</td>
<td>NymSTAR award</td>
<td>The champion of the Nym community in April 2024</td>
<td>1,000 NYM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymousekan</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>Content creation</td>
<td>Turkish - Article, twitter thread</td>
<td>1,000 NYM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymousekan</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>NymSTAR award</td>
<td>The champion of the Nym community in May 2024</td>
<td>1,000 NYM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arif Newaz</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>NSL showrunner</td>
<td>Assistance with compiling quiz scores</td>
<td>500 NYM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond</td>
<td>Shinobi</td>
<td>NymSTAR award</td>
<td>The champion of the Nym community in June 2024</td>
<td>1,000 NYM</td>
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<td>Beyond DAO</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>Content creation</td>
<td>Presentation about testing NymVPN</td>
<td>1,000 NYM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond DAO</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>Content creation</td>
<td>Tutorial on nmvvpn testing (Ukrainian)</td>
<td>500 NYM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beyond DAO</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>decentralized CM</td>
<td>Managing, moderating and growing Ukrainian community channels</td>
<td>15,000 NYM</td>
</tr>
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<td>Beyond DAO</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>Nym meetup</td>
<td>NYM WorkShop in Dnipro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beyond DAO</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>Represent Nym at an event</td>
<td>Incrypted Conference &amp; NYM 2024 event</td>
<td>5,000 NYM</td>
</tr>
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<td>Beyond DAO</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>Represent Nym at an event</td>
<td>Represented Nym at KEC &amp; Nym 2024 event</td>
<td>5,000 NYM</td>
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<td>Beyond DAO</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>translations</td>
<td>translations of announcements, the Nym blog, and the NymVPN interface and content to Ukrainian language</td>
<td>10,000 NYM</td>
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<td>Bikrambiswas786</td>
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<td>DAOariwas</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>Represent Nym at an event</td>
<td>Represented Nym on Cypher Radio of Platrohedor</td>
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<td>Erik Valle</td>
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<td>Erik Valle, John Smith, Noisk</td>
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<td>Gustavo / Gutss Erik Valle Alex (Platohedro Boss) Oucan</td>
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<td>Covert mission</td>
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<td>Gutss</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>NSL showrunner</td>
<td>Daily Nym round-ups: writing copy, distributing, answering questions</td>
<td>2,500 NYM</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Smith</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>commissioned content creation</td>
<td>Beginners manual to Nym</td>
<td>1,000 NYM</td>
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<td>John Smith</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>node operator mentorship</td>
<td>Supporting Nym node operators and the Nym Delegations Program</td>
<td>5,000 NYM</td>
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<td>John Smith</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
<td>NSL showrunner</td>
<td>Community beacon - various misc. contributions</td>
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<td>John Smith</td>
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<td>The champion of the Nym community in April 2024</td>
<td>1,000 NYM</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Smith, Unclelem</td>
<td>multiple collaborators</td>
<td>Content creation</td>
<td>node setup and update guide in Russian language</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jose David Carracedo</td>
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<td>Covert mission</td>
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<td>Shinobi</td>
<td>Covert mission</td>
<td>assistance with Nym Service Grants program</td>
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<td>Micryptomundo</td>
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<td>Content creation</td>
<td>Twitter threads</td>
<td>750 NYM</td>
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<td>NhuelCryp</td>
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<td>Represent Nym at an event</td>
<td>Represented Nym at Arbitrum Summit, Nigeria</td>
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<td>Noisk</td>
<td>Shinobi</td>
<td>node operator mentorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noisk</td>
<td>Shinobi</td>
<td>NymVPN meetup</td>
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<td>Noisk</td>
<td>Shinobi</td>
<td>NymVPN wiki/subreddit</td>
<td>NymVPN wiki in Spanish</td>
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<td>Nym gang</td>
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<td>decentralized CM</td>
<td>Managing, moderating and growing Russian community channels</td>
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<td>Supermeia</td>
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<td>Tan Elliot</td>
<td>Nymja</td>
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<td>NymVPN workshop - Vietnam</td>
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<td>Tupinymquim</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>Represent Nym at an event</td>
<td>Represent Nym at cybersec event at Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>5,000 NYM</td>
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<td>Represent Nym at an event</td>
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<td>Represented Nym at Hacking in the Web Day, delivered a lecture</td>
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<td>Animated videos about Nym &amp; NymVPN</td>
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<td>WSA</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>Content creation</td>
<td>translations for Twitter posts, blogs &amp; dubbing videos in Bangla</td>
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<tr>
<td>WSA</td>
<td>Squad</td>
<td>NymVPN meetup</td>
<td>NymVPN workshop in Bangladesh</td>
<td>1,500 NYM</td>
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