



CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES PREVIEW

FOUR TEAMS REMAIN AS NFL ENTERS CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND

The final four teams are set and this Sunday will determine the two teams heading to Houston for Super Bowl LI.

	Visitor	Home	Time	Network
NFC Championship Game	Green Bay Packers	Atlanta Falcons	3:05 PM ET	FOX
AFC Championship Game	Pittsburgh Steelers	New England Patriots	6:40 PM ET	CBS

Championship Sunday begins with the NFC title game between the Green Bay Packers and Atlanta Falcons in the final NFL game at the Georgia Dome. The Falcons defeated Seattle 36-20 in the Divisional round and the Packers knocked off the top-seeded Cowboys 34-31. The teams met in Week 8 (October 30, 2016) with the Falcons notching a 33-32 victory.

The AFC Championship Game will feature the Pittsburgh Steelers and New England Patriots, the fifth postseason meeting between the clubs and the third in a row that will occur in the AFC Championship Game. In the Divisional Playoffs, the Steelers knocked off the Chiefs 18-16 and the Patriots defeated the Texans 34-16.

GREEN BAY PACKERS (12-6) at ATLANTA FALCONS (12-5) (Sunday, FOX, 3:05 PM ET)

- This is the fourth postseason meeting between the teams and the first since the 2010 season. Green Bay has won two of the previous three playoff meetings, including a 48-21 win over Atlanta on January 15, 2011.
- The Packers lead the all-time series 17-14 (including the postseason). Green Bay has won four of the past five meetings. Atlanta won the last contest between the clubs, knocking off the Packers 33-32 at the Georgia Dome in Week 8 (October 30, 2016).
- The Packers are 11-5 (.688) all-time in NFC/NFL Championship Games and the team's 11 victories are the most in NFL history. Green Bay is making its first NFC Championship Game appearance since the 2014 season (January 18, 2015) when the Packers lost 28-22 in overtime at Seattle.
- Green Bay defeated Dallas 34-31 last week in the Divisional Playoffs. It marked their 34th postseason victory, tied with the Cowboys for the most by an NFC team.
- Packers head coach **MIKE MC CARTHY** won his 10th career postseason game last week, the most in franchise history.
- The Packers have won eight consecutive games, outscoring opponents 257-156 during that span.
- Packers quarterback **AARON RODGERS**, who has passed for at least 350 yards and multiple touchdowns in both playoff games this season, has a 100.1 career postseason passer rating, one of four quarterbacks in NFL history to have a 100+ rating (minimum 150 attempts).
- **Rodgers** completed a 25+ yard pass to five different receivers last week – **WR DAVANTE ADAMS, WR GERONIMO ALLISON, WR RANDALL COBB, TE JARED COOK & TE RICHARD RODGERS**.
- Green Bay kicker **MASON CROSBY** made a 56-yard field goal with 1:33 remaining and converted the game-winning 51-yarder as time expired. The 51-yard field goal was the longest game-winning field goal in NFL postseason history and Crosby is the first player in league annals to make two 50+ yard field goals in the final two minutes of a playoff game.
- Packers running back **TY MONTGOMERY** rushed for two touchdowns in the first half last week to become only the second Green Bay player to rush for multiple TDs in the first half of a playoff game (**RYAN GRANT**, January 12, 2008).
- The Packers had three players selected to the Pro Bowl: safety **HA HA CLINTON-DIX** (first), guard **T.J. LANG** (first) and quarterback **Rodgers** (sixth).
- The Falcons have advanced to the NFC Championship Game for the fourth time in franchise history. Atlanta is making its first appearance in the NFC Championship Game since the 2012 season (January 20, 2013) when the Falcons lost 28-24 to San Francisco at the Georgia Dome.
- Atlanta defeated Seattle 36-20 last week in the Divisional Playoffs. It marked the first career postseason victory for second-year head coach **DAN QUINN**.
- Atlanta led the NFL with 540 points scored during the regular season, the first time in franchise history the Falcons have ranked No. 1 in that category. Including last week's Divisional Playoff game, Atlanta has scored a touchdown on its first possession in each of the past seven games.
- Falcons quarterback **MATT RYAN** completed 26 of 37 passes (70.3 percent) for 338 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions for a 125.7 passer rating in last week's victory. Ryan has posted a passer rating of at least 120 in each of his past five games and has 14 touchdowns, zero interceptions and a 131.8 passer rating during that span.
- **Ryan** has thrown at least three TD passes in three consecutive playoff games, tied for the longest streak in NFL history.

- During the regular season, **Ryan** threw a touchdown pass to 13 different players, the most in a season in NFL history.
- Falcons wide receiver **JULIO JONES** was the only player in the NFL this season to average at least 100 receiving yards per game (100.6). Jones tied for the team-lead with six receiving touchdowns and had a touchdown catch last week.
- Atlanta linebacker **VIC BEASLEY JR.** led the NFL with a career-high 15.5 sacks.
- Atlanta had six players selected to the Pro Bowl: linebacker **Beasley** (first), kicker **MATT BRYANT** (first), running back **DEVONTA FREEMAN** (second), wide receiver **Jones** (fourth), center **ALEX MACK** (fourth) and quarterback **Ryan** (fourth).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS (13-5) at NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (15-2) (Sunday, CBS, 6:40 PM ET)
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- This is the fifth postseason meeting between the teams and the third in a row that will occur in the AFC Championship Game. New England has won three of the four playoff meetings against Pittsburgh, including the past two to advance to the Super Bowl. The Patriots defeated the Steelers 41-27 in the 2004 AFC Championship Game (January 23, 2005) and 24-17 in the 2001 AFC Championship Game (January 27, 2002). New England won the Super Bowl both of those years.
- The Steelers lead the all-time series 15-14 (including the postseason). The Patriots have won the past three meetings, including victories in each of the past two regular seasons. New England knocked off Pittsburgh 28-21 to open the 2015 regular season (September 10, 2015) and defeated the Steelers 27-16 in Week 7 earlier this year (October 23, 2016).
- Pittsburgh will play in the team's 16th Championship Game, the most since the 1970 merger. The Steelers have won eight AFC Championship Games, tied with Denver and New England for the most ever.
- Pittsburgh defeated Kansas City 18-16 in last week's Divisional Playoffs. It marked the Steelers' 36th postseason victory, the most in NFL history.
- Steelers head coach **MIKE TOMLIN** won his 8th career postseason game and looks to lead the Steelers to the Super Bowl for the third time in his career.
- Pittsburgh running back **LE'VEON BELL** rushed for 170 yards last week and is the first player in NFL history to rush for at least 150 yards in each of his first two postseason games. Bell, who had 167 rushing yards and two touchdowns in the Wild Card win against Miami, has the two highest single-game rushing performances in franchise postseason history.
- Steelers wide receiver **ANTONIO BROWN** had six catches for 108 yards last week against the Chiefs, his fourth consecutive playoff game with at least 100 receiving yards. Brown is tied with **LARRY FITZGERALD** (four in the 2008 playoffs) for the longest streak of consecutive playoff games with at least 100 receiving yards.
- Pittsburgh quarterback **BEN ROETHLISBERGER** has now won 13 of his 19 career postseason starts and will play in his fifth AFC Championship Game.
- Steelers kicker **CHRIS BOSWELL** made all six field-goal attempts in last week's win at Kansas City, the most field goals made in a single postseason game in NFL history.
- Pittsburgh had five players selected to the Pro Bowl: running back **Bell** (second), wide receiver **Brown** (fifth), guard **DAVID DE CASTRO** (second), center **MAURKICE POUNCEY** (fifth) and quarterback **Roethlisberger** (fifth).
- New England has advanced to its sixth consecutive AFC Championship Game and are the first team since the 1970 merger to advance to six Conference Championship Games in a row.
- The Patriots have won eight AFC Championship Games, tied with Denver and Pittsburgh for the most ever. New England is 5-1 all-time in AFC Championship Games played at home.
- The Patriots defeated Houston 34-16 last week in the Divisional Playoffs. Patriots head coach **BILL BELICHICK** and quarterback **TOM BRADY** have won 23 postseason games together, the most in NFL history by a head coach and starting quarterback combination. In fact, no other head coach and starting quarterback have even participated in that many games together.
- **Belichick** has advanced to 11 Conference Championship Games, the most by a head coach since the 1970 merger.
- **Brady** has 23 career playoff wins, the most by any starting quarterback in NFL history. Brady is also the NFL postseason leader in career completions (756), attempts (1,221), passing yards (8,244) and touchdown passes (58).
- Patriots running back **DION LEWIS** had a 13-yard touchdown reception, a 98-yard kickoff-return touchdown and a one-yard touchdown run in the Divisional Playoffs. Lewis, who was making his postseason debut, is the only player in NFL history to have a rushing touchdown, a receiving touchdown and a kickoff-return touchdown in a single playoff game.
- New England wide receiver **JULIAN EDELMAN** had eight catches for 137 yards against Houston. Edelman has 76 career postseason catches with the Patriots, the most in franchise history.
- Cornerback **LOGAN RYAN** and safeties **DEVIN MC COURTY** and **DURON HARMON** each had an interception last week against Houston.
- The Patriots had four players selected to the Pro Bowl: quarterback **Brady** (12th), linebacker **DONT'A HIGHTOWER** (first), safety **McCourty** (third) and special teamer **MATTHEW SLATER** (sixth).

FINAL 2016 NFL STANDINGS

American Football Conference

East Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
z-New England Patriots	14	2	0	.875	441	250	6-2-0	8-0-0	11-1-0	5-1-0	7W
x-Miami Dolphins	10	6	0	.625	363	380	6-2-0	4-4-0	7-5-0	4-2-0	1L
Buffalo Bills	7	9	0	.438	399	378	4-4-0	3-5-0	4-8-0	1-5-0	2L
New York Jets	5	11	0	.313	275	409	2-6-0	3-5-0	4-8-0	2-4-0	1W

North Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
y-Pittsburgh Steelers	11	5	0	.688	399	327	6-2-0	5-3-0	9-3-0	5-1-0	7W
Baltimore Ravens	8	8	0	.500	343	321	6-2-0	2-6-0	7-5-0	4-2-0	2L
Cincinnati Bengals	6	9	1	.406	325	315	4-3-1	2-6-0	5-7-0	3-3-0	1W
Cleveland Browns	1	15	0	.063	264	452	1-7-0	0-8-0	1-11-0	0-6-0	1L

South Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
y-Houston Texans	9	7	0	.563	279	328	7-1-0	2-6-0	7-5-0	5-1-0	1L
Tennessee Titans	9	7	0	.563	381	378	5-3-0	4-4-0	6-6-0	2-4-0	1W
Indianapolis Colts	8	8	0	.500	411	392	4-4-0	4-4-0	5-7-0	3-3-0	1W
Jacksonville Jaguars	3	13	0	.188	318	400	2-6-0	1-7-0	2-10-0	2-4-0	1L

West Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
y-Kansas City Chiefs	12	4	0	.750	389	311	6-2-0	6-2-0	9-3-0	6-0-0	2W
x-Oakland Raiders	12	4	0	.750	416	385	6-2-0	6-2-0	9-3-0	3-3-0	1L
Denver Broncos	9	7	0	.563	333	297	5-3-0	4-4-0	6-6-0	2-4-0	1W
San Diego Chargers	5	11	0	.313	410	423	3-5-0	2-6-0	4-8-0	1-5-0	5L

National Football Conference

East Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
z-Dallas Cowboys	13	3	0	.813	421	306	7-1-0	6-2-0	9-3-0	3-3-0	1L
x-New York Giants	11	5	0	.688	310	284	7-1-0	4-4-0	8-4-0	4-2-0	1W
Washington Redskins	8	7	1	.531	396	383	4-4-0	4-3-1	6-6-0	3-3-0	1L
Philadelphia Eagles	7	9	0	.438	367	331	6-2-0	1-7-0	5-7-0	2-4-0	2W

North Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
y-Green Bay Packers	10	6	0	.625	432	388	6-2-0	4-4-0	8-4-0	5-1-0	6W
x-Detroit Lions	9	7	0	.563	346	358	6-2-0	3-5-0	7-5-0	3-3-0	3L
Minnesota Vikings	8	8	0	.500	327	307	5-3-0	3-5-0	5-7-0	2-4-0	1W
Chicago Bears	3	13	0	.188	279	399	3-5-0	0-8-0	3-9-0	2-4-0	4L

South Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
y-Atlanta Falcons	11	5	0	.688	540	406	5-3-0	6-2-0	9-3-0	5-1-0	4W
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	9	7	0	.563	354	369	4-4-0	5-3-0	7-5-0	4-2-0	1W
New Orleans Saints	7	9	0	.438	469	454	4-4-0	3-5-0	6-6-0	2-4-0	1L
Carolina Panthers	6	10	0	.375	369	402	4-4-0	2-6-0	5-7-0	1-5-0	2L

West Division

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	Conf	Div	Streak
y-Seattle Seahawks	10	5	1	.656	354	292	7-1-0	3-4-1	6-5-1	3-2-1	1W
Arizona Cardinals	7	8	1	.469	418	362	4-3-1	3-5-0	6-5-1	4-1-1	2W
Los Angeles Rams	4	12	0	.250	224	394	1-7-0	3-5-0	3-9-0	2-4-0	7L
San Francisco 49ers	2	14	0	.125	309	480	1-7-0	1-7-0	2-10-0	2-4-0	1L

x - Clinched Playoffs; y - Clinched Division; z - Clinched Conference

2016 CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

(All times ET)

Sunday, January 22

Green Bay at Atlanta, 3:05 PM (FOX)

Pittsburgh at New England, 6:40 PM (CBS)