

## Super Bowl LII (4 February 2018, 18:30 EST)

### New England Patriots - Philadelphia Eagles (U.S. Bank Stadium)

#### *Patriots first team to make 10th Super Bowl appearance*

- The New England Patriots will go to the Super Bowl for the 10th time, extending a record. Next in line on eight appearances are the Pittsburgh Steelers, Dallas Cowboys and Denver Broncos.
- The Patriots have won five Super Bowls and lost four. Only the Pittsburgh Steelers (6) have won more. The Dallas Cowboys and San Francisco 49ers are tied with the Patriots on five. Only one team has lost more than four: the Denver Broncos (5).
- The New England Patriots are hoping to win back-to-back championships as they defeated the Atlanta Falcons in Super Bowl LI last year.
- The Patriots are also the last team to win back-to-back Super Bowls. In 2004/2005 they won their second in a row by defeating the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XXXIX.
- The Patriots have made it to the Super Bowl in three of the last four seasons.

#### *Brady continues to rewrite Super Bowl record books*

- Tom Brady will appear in his eighth Super Bowl, extending the appearance record he set last year.
- Brady can win his sixth Super Bowl and thus break the all-time record of five he now shares with Charles Haley, who achieved this with the San Francisco 49ers (2) and Dallas Cowboys (3).
- Tom Brady already holds the Super Bowl career records for most pass attempts (309), pass completions (207), passing yards (2,071) and touchdown passes (15).
- Brady was named the Super Bowl's Most Valuable Player in four of his five victories in the game. The four are already a record amount of Super Bowl MVP Awards.
- Brady will be 40 years and 185 days old on the day of Super Bowl LI. He is set to become oldest starter in the game. Jerry Rice was 40 years and 105 days old when he started for the Oakland Raiders on 26 January 2003. .
- Brady will become the fifth oldest player to appear in a Super Bowl. The only players to appear in the game were all special teamers: Matt Stover (42-011), Jeff Feagles (41-333), Matt Bryant (41-252) and Mike Horan (40-363).
- Brady's seven previous Super Bowl appearances are as many as the entire 53-man Philadelphia Eagles roster has made combined (seven appearances by six different players).
- Tom Brady was chosen in Round 6 of the 2000 NFL Draft with the 199th pick overall.

#### *Belichick looking for sixth Vince Lombardi Trophy*

- In 324 games as Patriots head coach in regular season and postseason, Bill Belichick has built a won-lost-tied record of 241-83-0.
- Belichick has a winning record against 28 of the other 31 franchises he has faced in this time and an even record against the Carolina Panthers (3-3-0), New York Giants (3-3-0) and Green Bay Packers (2-2-0).
- Belichick is 4-1-0 facing the Philadelphia Eagles as the Pats' head coach. As head coach of the Cleveland Browns (1991-1995) Belichick faced the Eagles twice and split the series (1-1-0).
- Belichick can surpass George Halas and Vince Lombardi and become the only coach with six championship titles. Halas won all of his five before the Super Bowl era, Lombardi three of his five before he became the head coach that won Super Bowls I and II.
- Bill Belichick has 28 postseason victories to his name as a head coach. This is already an all-time NFL record. On 18 January 2015, Belichick posted his 21st postseason victory, surpassing the previous record of 20 by Tom Landry.

### *Eagles hoping third time's the charm*

- The Philadelphia Eagles have appeared in two previous Super Bowls, both of which they lost. The franchise won their only three league championships prior to the Super Bowl era: in 1948/1949, 1949/1950 and 1960/1961.
- On 25 January 1981, they lost Super Bowl XV to the Oakland Raiders (27-10) in New Orleans. That Eagles team was coached by Dick Vermeil, who later returned to win the Super Bowl as head coach of the St. Louis Rams.
- On 6 February 2005, the Eagles were beaten by the New England Patriots 24-21 in Super Bowl XXXIX in Jacksonville.
- The Eagles are one of six franchises that have appeared in multiple Super Bowls without ever winning the Vince Lombardi Trophy. They join the Atlanta Falcons, Carolina Panthers and Cincinnati Bengals on two defeats.
- The only franchises with more Super Bowl appearances that did not lead to a championship are the Minnesota Vikings and Buffalo Bills, who each lost in all of their four Super Bowl appearances.
- Four franchises were faced with what the Eagles are now facing, to find out if the third time is actually proverbially lucky. This did not prove to be the case for the Minnesota Vikings, Buffalo Bills and Denver Broncos. The only team for which it did was the New England Patriots, when they won their first Super Bowl in 2001/2002.
- The Eagles can become the fourth team to win the Super Bowl following a season in which they had a losing record in the regular season. They would join the 1981/1982 San Francisco 49ers (6-10-0 the season before), the 1999/2000 St. Louis Rams (4-12-0) and the 2001/2002 New England Patriots (5-11-0). The Eagles finished last season with a 7-9-0 record in the regular season.
- Six players on the Eagles' 53-man roster have previously appeared in the Super Bowl, including Chris Long and LeGarrette Blount, who won it with New England last year.
- Long and Blount can join Deion Sanders and Ken Norton, Jr. as the only players to appear on a winning Super Bowl roster for different teams in successive years. Derrick Martin and Brandon Browner were part of two different franchises that won the Super Bowl in back-to-back years, however neither appeared on both 53-man Super Bowl rosters in the seasons involved.
- All six current Eagles with Super Bowl experience have won all Super Bowls they appeared in (seven appearances in total). Apart from Long and Blount, the players with Super Bowl experience on the Eagles roster are Torrey Smith, Corey Graham, Dannell Ellerbe and Malcolm Jenkins.

### *Super Bowl between Patriots and Eagles is a repeat*

- This game will be the sequel to Super Bowl XXXIX, which was played on 6 February 2005, and was won 24-21 by the New England Patriots.
- This will be the sixth Super Bowl fixture to be played out more than once and in four of the previous five the team that had won the first meeting also won the second: New York Giants v New England Patriots, San Francisco 49ers v Cincinnati Bengals, Pittsburgh Steelers v Dallas Cowboys (Dallas won the third meeting) and Dallas Cowboys v Buffalo Bills.
- The only team that managed to exact revenge on the team they met in the Super Bowl for the second time are the 1982/1983 Washington Redskins, who had previously lost to the 1972/1973 Miami Dolphins.
- In Super Bowl XXXIX, Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb passed for three touchdowns, but Tom Brady also passed for two and Corey Dillon ran for one. The three points that eventually separated the teams was an Adam Vinatieri field goal.
- The latest meeting between these teams marked the only time the Philadelphia Eagles beat a Patriots team led by Bill Belichick. On 6 December 2015, the Eagles won 35-28 at Foxborough. That Eagles side was coached by Chip Kelly and quarterbacked by Sam Bradford.
- All four other times Bill Belichick's Patriots faced the Eagles, the Pats won. On each occasion, Andy Reid was the losing coach for Philadelphia.

- The Eagles still have the upper hand historically, winning seven of the previous 13 meetings between these teams in regular season and postseason.

### *Facts on Super Bowl LII*

- For the second time, the city of Minneapolis will host the Super Bowl. On 26 January 1992, in Super Bowl XXVI, the Washington Redskins beat the Buffalo Bills 37-24 at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome.
- Oddsmakers have made the New England Patriots favourites to win Super Bowl LII. In six of the previous 10 Super Bowls, the prematch underdogs prevailed to claim the championship title.
- In only one of the previous 10 Super Bowls, the team trailing after the first quarter recovered to win the game. This occurred in Super Bowl XLIV, when the New Orleans Saints trailed the Indianapolis Colts after each of the first three quarters after rallying for the victory. Twice in those 10 games, the game was scoreless after the first quarter.
- In the previous 51 Super Bowls, the team that posted the opening score of the game went on to win the game on 34 occasions.
- From the previous 51 Super Bowls, 37 were won by the team leading at halftime. Eleven were won by the team trailing at halftime. On three occasions, the teams were tied at halftime.
- Before last year, no team had ever recovered from a deficit larger than 10 points to win a Super Bowl. Last year, the Patriots shattered that record trailing by as many as 25 points with little over 17 minutes remaining to eventually win the game in overtime.
- Before last season, the Super Bowl had never gone into overtime.
- In 51 previous Super Bowls the team that lost the turnover battle won the game on only six occasions. The team that won the turnover battle prevailed 36 times. In nine Super Bowls, neither team won the turnover battle.
- The last two occasions on which a team won the Super Bowl despite losing the turnover battle, the winners were the Patriots (in 2014/2015 and 2016/2017).
- Last year, the New England Patriots' Tom Brady set Super Bowl single game records for pass completions (43), pass attempts (62) and passing yards (466).
- No team has ever been kept from scoring in the Super Bowl. In 51 games, this comes down to 102 campaigns that always registered at least three points.
- The fastest score ever in a Super Bowl occurred with 12 seconds elapsed in Super Bowl XLVIII on 2 February 2014. The Seattle Seahawks' Cliff Avril was credited with a safety against the Denver Broncos.
- The most yards covered to score a Super Bowl touchdown were the 108 by the Baltimore Ravens' Jacoby Jones on his kickoff return to start the second half of Super Bowl XLVII on 3 February 2013.
- In four of the last five seasons, the postseason top seeds from each conference face off in the Super Bowl (including this season). Since the introduction of the current playoffs format (27 previous Super Bowls), there have been six Super Bowls that were a contest between both number one seeds.