

#### **OUR PRO GUIDE INCLUDES**

- SUPER BOWL LIX GAME PREVIEW & TOP TRENDS
- PROP BETTING STRATEGIES AND TIPS
- FINAL SCORE & MVP PREDICTIONS FROM VSIN HOSTS



Greetings, all,

Super Bowl LIX takes place on Sunday, February 9 down in New Orleans and our Super Bowl Betting Guide is in your hands right now to get ready for the matchup between the Kansas City Chiefs and Philadelphia Eagles.

This is just a snippet of the content you can expect from us in advance of Super Bowl Sunday, as we'll be posting all kinds of picks, prop bets, and tips for Chiefs vs. Eagles at VSiN.com, but this is a tremendous overview of SB LIX and what our VSiN hosts, writers, and personalities are thinking.

In this Guide, you will read:

- Super Bowl LIX Preview from Zachary Cohen
- · Final Score and MVP Predictions from Brent Musburger and VSiN hosts/writers
- Steve Makinen's Top Trends
- Our Projected Super Bowl LIX Box Score
- Prop Betting Tips
- An Explainer on Circa Squares
- Betting Results from Past Super Bowls

Like I said, we'll have plenty more at VSiN.com from now until kickoff. And we'll have a special day of programming beginning at 8 a.m. ET on Sunday, February 9 to celebrate the Super Bowl.

(all times ET)

#### 8-10 A.M.

VSiN By The Books (Dave Ross, Mark Dominik, Ryan Leaf, Jensen Lewis)

#### 10 A.M.-1 P.M.

VSiN's Pro Football Tailgate Show (Stormy Buonantony, Rich Gannon)

#### 1-2 P.M.

A Numbers Game (Gill Alexander, Kelley Bydlon)

#### 2-4 P.M.

Prop Points (Tim Murray, John Hansen)

#### 4-7 P.M.

Follow The Money (Mitch Moss, Pauly Howard)

#### 7-11 P.M.

Big Game Betting: Live From Vegas (Matt Brown, Mike Somich)

#### 11 P.M.-1 A.M.

Big Game Postgame Show (Matt Youmans, Jonathan Von Tobel)

#### 1-3 A.M. ET

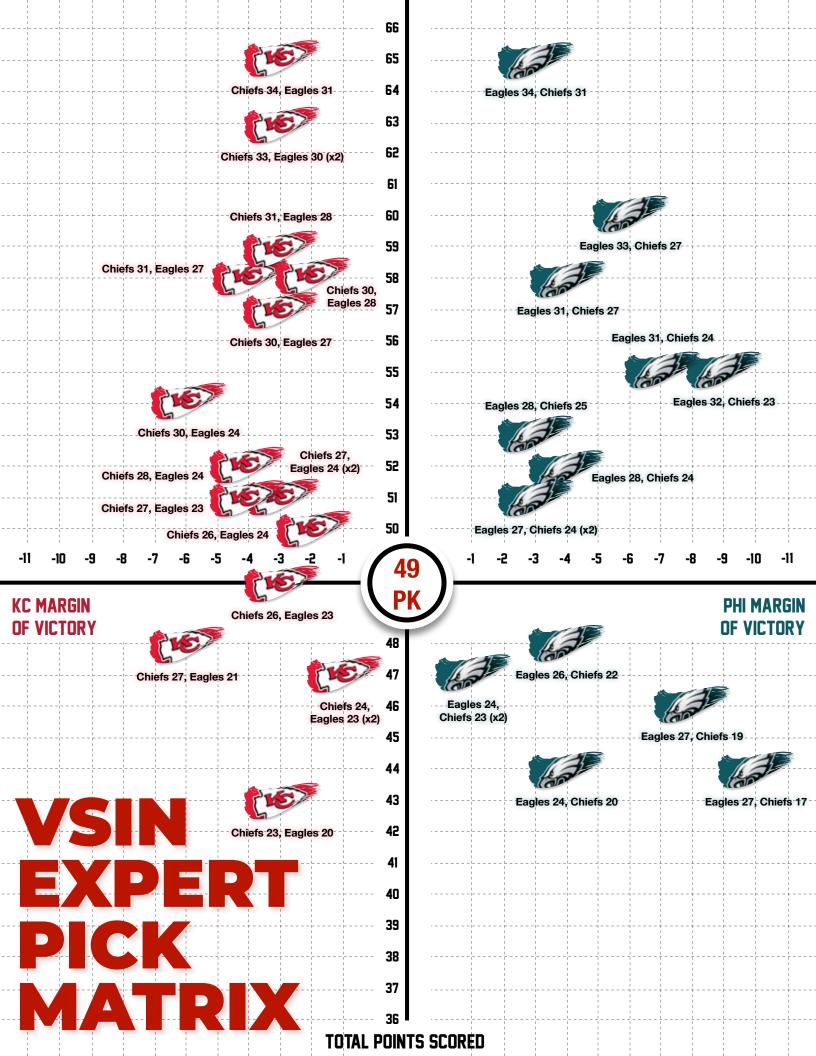
Cashing Out (Scott Seidenberg)

We'll also have Joe Ceraulo and Grace Remington as our "roving reporters" in Las Vegas from Noon to 7 p.m. ET giving you the sights and sounds of Sin City leading up to kickoff.

We're looking forward to the Super Bowl and we know you are, too, so keep it locked in right here at VSiN, The Sports Betting Network.

Adam Burke Managing Editor, VSiN.com aburke@vsin.com @SkatingTripods on X





## SUPER BOWL LIX SCORE AND MVP





#### **BRENT MUSBURGER**

Chiefs 27, Eagles 24 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

Andy Reid, Patrick Mahomes and the Swifties celebrated the opportunity to "Three-Peat", but let me tell you who celebrated the most: Miami Heat President Pat Riley. He trademarked the term when he was head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers and now he'll be rooting for the Kansas City Chiefs to be the first NFL team to "Three-Peat" when they play the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl 59.

There have been several challenges but the patent court continues to rule in Riley's favor that he does indeed own the trademark.

If the Chiefs beat the Eagles and "Three-Peat," Riley will be able to buy his own team with the t-shirt royalties! I'm on board.

Chiefs 27, Eagles 24. And the NFL loses to Riley in patent court! Jackpot, Baby!

#### **GILL ALEXANDER**

Chiefs 33, Eagles 30 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### **JOSH APPELBAUM**

Chiefs 33, Eagles 30 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### MATT BROWN

Eagles 24, Chiefs 20 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **STORMY BUONANTONY**

Eagles 28, Chiefs 24 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **ADAM BURKE**

Chiefs 24, Eagles 23

MVP: Patrick Mahomes

#### **KELLEY BYDLON**

Chiefs 31, Eagles 27 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### **JOE CERAULO**

Chiefs 30, Eagles 24 **MVP:** Travis Kelce

#### **ZACHARY COHEN**

Eagles 27, Chiefs 24 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **SEAN GREEN**

Eagles 32, Chiefs 23 MVP: Jalen Hurts

#### **WILL HILL**

Chiefs 30, Eagles 27 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### **PAULY HOWARD**

Chiefs 30, Eagles 28 **MVP:** Travis Kelce

#### **RYAN KRAMER**

Chiefs 26, Eagles 23 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### **RYAN LEAF**

Chiefs 31, Eagles 28 **MVP:** Travis Kelce

#### **JENSEN LEWIS**

Eagles 33, Chiefs 27 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **STEVE MAKINEN**

Eagles 31, Chiefs 24 **MVP:** Jalen Hurts

#### **PATRICK MEAGHER**

Chiefs 28, Eagles 24 MVP: Travis Kelce

#### **TIM MURRAY**

Eagles 24, Chiefs 23 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **GREG PETERSON**

Chiefs 27, Eagles 24

MVP: Patrick Mahomes

#### **GRACE REMINGTON**

Chiefs 24, Eagles 23 **MVP:** Xavier Worthy

#### **WES REYNOLDS**

Eagles 26, Chiefs 22 **MVP:** Jalen Hurts

#### **DAVE ROSS**

Eagles 31, Chiefs 27 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **ADAM SCHEIN**

Eagles 34, Chiefs 31 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **GEOFF SCHWARTZ**

Chiefs 34, Eagles 31 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### **ED SEHON**

Chiefs 27, Eagles 23 **MVP:** Xavier Worthy

#### SCOTT SEIDENBERG

Eagles 28, Chiefs 25 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **TYLER SHOEMAKER**

Eagles 27, Chiefs 19 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **MIKE SOMICH**

Chiefs 27, Eagles 21 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### **DUSTIN SWEDELSON**

Eagles 27, Chiefs 24 **MVP:** Dallas Goedert

#### **DAVE TULEY**

Chiefs 23, Eagles 20 **MVP:** Patrick Mahomes

#### **JONATHAN VON TOBEL**

Eagles 27, Chiefs 17 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley

#### **BEN WILSON**

Chiefs 26, Eagles 24

MVP: Patrick Mahomes

#### **MATT YOUMANS**

Eagles 24, Chiefs 23 **MVP:** Saquon Barkley



### **SUPER BOWL LIX PREVIEW**

**PREVIEW BY ZACH COHEN** 



The Chiefs are going to be a trendy favorite this week. As we get closer to kickoff, our VSiN DraftKings betting splits and Circa betting splits pages will likely confirm that. People just aren't going to want to go against Patrick Mahomes in another big game.

There were all kinds of reasons to believe in Buffalo beating Kansas City last week, including a Bills win over the Chiefs earlier in the year. There was also the fact that the Bills were comparable defensively all season long, but they had the much better offense over the course of the season. But in the end, the big difference between the teams was that one had Mahomes and the other didn't. It's hard to downplay that late in a playoff game, and it isn't just Mahomes. Andy Reid presses the right buttons as a postseason play caller, Steve Spagnuolo is as good a defensive coordinator as there is in this league and several other Kansas City players rise to the occasion in big moments — including Travis Kelce. Will any of that change against Philadelphia?

The numbers look pretty good for the Eagles. While Kansas City was just 15th in the NFL in EPA per play allowed (0.006) this season, Philadelphia was third (-0.087). And not only were the Eagles second in Rush EPA per play allowed (-0.194), but they were third in Dropback EPA per play allowed (-0.024). Philadelphia's defense, led by well-respected defensive coordinator Vic Fangio, should theoretically pose a big challenge to this Kansas City offense — especially with a young group of defensive backs that is peaking at the right time.

Offensively, the Eagles also had an edge over the Chiefs in the regular season. Philadelphia was sixth in EPA per play (0.111), and it should come as no surprise that the Eagles were first in Rush EPA per play (0.053). Saquon Barkley has mostly looked like he was shot out of a cannon all season. Barkley is also averaging 147.3 rushing yards per game in the postseason, and he has found the end zone five times over the last two weeks. So, it's not like this running game has slowed down. Also, Jalen Hurts just played his best game of the playoffs, completing 20 of 28 passes for 246 yards and a touchdown while also rushing for another three scores.

There's just a lot to like about what we've seen from Philadelphia all year, and it's also worth pointing out that the Chiefs struggle to cover tight ends. No team in football gave up more receiving yards per game against the position, and the Eagles do a great job of scheming Dallas Goedert open. That's something to keep an eye on when it comes to the outcome of this game, and it's also something to consider on the player prop market.

It should also be pointed out that the small postseason EPA per play sample favors Philadelphia on both sides of the ball. The Eagles have an EPA per play of 0.199 in three playoff games. The Chiefs have an EPA per play of 0.175 in two playoff games. Philadelphia's EPA per play allowed is also -0.084. Kansas City's is 0.120.

Considering all of the above, you're really deciding between resume — both regular season and postseason — and a proven ability to deliver in close games. And it's hard to fault anybody for going with the latter. Not only has Kansas City won back-to-back Super Bowls, but the team is also 6-0 against the spread on a neutral field under Reid. Also, with Reid on the sidelines, the Chiefs are 50-23 ATS in games with lines between +3 and -3. Meanwhile, under Nick Sirianni, the Eagles are just 7-11 straight-up and 8-10 ATS as underdogs.





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## STEVE MAKINEN'S SUPER BOWL LIX BOX SCORE

VSiN Director of Analytics Steve Makinen simulated Super Bowl LIX and here is the projected score, team stats, and player stats to help with your bets on the Big Game. Head to VSiN.com for a more detailed explanation of Steve's projections and methodology.

This is my fourth year projecting the score and the player props. The score projections pointed to a Buccaneers outright win over the Chiefs in 2021, a tight Rams win in 2022, and Unders on both game totals, so a 4-for-4 start. The 2023 numbers did project a Philadelphia win, and for as much as the Eagles outplayed the Chiefs for most of the game, that didn't happen.

Because the yardage and play totals had the look of a game that the Eagles should have won, most of my prop projections did very well. Then, in last year's game, I nearly pegged the score exactly, projecting a 26-21 Chiefs win over the 49ers when it finished 25-22. Both the side and total won, meaning I am officially 6-2 (75%). Hopefully this year's projections send you in the right direction as well.

For enhanced accuracy, I used only the last 10 meaningful games for each team, ignoring the regular-season finales for the Chiefs and Eagles, who rested numerous starters.

#### **PROJECTED SCORE**

Let's start by looking at overall projections for the game, using my EFFECTIVE STATS method as the basis for calculation. This method takes into account the team's performance against the weighted averages of its opponents. In other words, STRENGTH OF SCHEDULE is built in.

**Effective Offensive Points** 

Kansas City: 31.56 Philadelphia: 39.61 **Effective Defensive Points** 

Kansas City: 15.08 Philadelphia: 16.65

I, along with a few of my statistical colleagues in the industry, typically estimate that about two-thirds of the "scoring output" is dictated by the offenses. Using that ratio, the score projection would be:

#### **Last 10 Games Effective Scoring Forecast**

Kansas City 26.59 Philadelphia 31.43

The total points of 58.02 is significantly higher than the actual total of 49.5, and the Eagles would be expected to be almost a five-point favorite. This obviously dramatically exceeds the actual line being offered in which Philly is an underdog. Incidentally, this model has projected the underdog to win outright twice in four years, first when Tampa Bay upset Kansas City and last year when the Chiefs edged the 49ers.

Comp (DK)

Yards (DK)

6.2(4.5)

#### **PROJECTED BOX SCORE**

#### **Kansas City**

Isiah Pacheco

Passing

Patrick Mahomes	19.7 (24.0)	248.1 (249.5)
Rushing	Att (DK)	Yards (DK)
Kareem Hunt	12.1 (11.5)	36.5 (47.5)
Isiah Pacheco	5.8 (6.5)	27.7 (22.5)
Patrick Mahomes	4.6 (6.5)	16.1 (29.5)
Samaje Perine	1 (N/A)	4.2 (N/A)
Carson Steele	0.9 (N/A)	1.2 (N/A)
Receiving	Rec (DK)	Yards (DK)
Travis Kelce	4.9 (6.5)	59.1 (64.5)
Xavier Worthy	4.0 (5.5)	56.2 (57.5)
Marquise Brown	1.8 (3.5)	28.3 (41.5)
DeAndre Hopkins	1.9 (1.5)	25.1 (13.5)
Noah Gray	1.8 (1.5)	21.1 (12.5)
Justin Watson	1.8 (N/A)	14.9 (N/A)
Kareem Hunt	1.5 (1.5)	14.2 (7.5)
JuJu Smith-Schuster	0.8 (1.5)	12.9 (15.5)
Samaje Perine	1.0 (1.5)	10.2 (6.5)

0.9(1.5)

#### **PROJECTED TEAM STATS**

Team Stats		(Car
Yards Per Play	5.57	5.99
Total Yards	327.0	357.6
Total Plays*	58.7	59.7
Rushing (Yards)	95.2	202.3
Rushing Attempts	26.2	34.0
Yards Per Rush	3.63	5.95
Passing (Yards)^	231.8	155.3
Comp-Att	19.7-30.0	19.9-23.0
Yards Per Attempt	7.13	6.04
Time of Possesion	28:56	31:04

<sup>\*</sup>Yards per play adjusted for 2/3 offense, 1/3 defense formula

Comp (DK)

Yards (DK)

#### **Philadelphia**

**Passing** 

Jalen Hurts	15.4 (19.0)	172.9 (206.0)
Rushing	Att (DK)	Yards (DK)
Saquon Barkley	20.1 (22.5)	138.3 (116.5)
Jalen Hurts	9.3 (9.5)	42.8 (38.5)
Kenneth Gainwell	3.3 (N/A)	16.5 (N/A)
Will Shipley	1.3 (N/A)	4.7 (N/A)

Receiving	Rec (DK)	Yards (DK)
A.J. Brown	4.2 (5.5)	54.9 (71.5)
DeVonta Smith	3.9 (4.5)	43.5 (51.5)
Dallas Goedert	3.5 (4.5)	41.3 (51.5)
Saquon Barkley	1.5 (2.5)	12.0 (13.5)
Grant Calcaterra	0.7 (N/A)	8.6 (N/A)
Kenneth Gainwell	0.9 (N/A)	7.0 (N/A)
Jahan Dotson	0.7 (N/A)	5.6 (3.5)

(DK) = DRAFTKINGS ODDS AS OF JANUARY 29

<sup>^</sup> Kansas City: 231.8 / 7.13 (KC 248.1 total passing yards minus yardage of 2.5 projected sacks against) Philadelphia: 155.3 / 6.04 (PHI 172.9 total passing yards minus yardage of 2.7 projected sacks against)

# HIP TO BET A SQUARE

#### By Adam Burke

Super Bowl Squares are never going away, but Circa Sports has a new option in that market. Circa Squares are a little bit different than what is traditionally played at Super Bowl parties, around the office, or with family and friends. The base concept is similar, but the execution is where the differences lie.

Let's start with an overview of Super Bowl Squares and then talk about what makes Circa's version unique and potentially way more profitable.

#### **SUPER BOWL SQUARES EXPLAINED**

Super Bowl Squares have been around a long time. It starts with a 10x10 grid with the AFC representative either across the top or down the left side and the NFC rep in the other position.

All of the squares need to be filled in before the numbers are drawn. Some boards might be \$1 per square. Others might be \$100 per square. Most are somewhere in between.

When all the squares are filled, numbers are drawn for the columns and rows. The numbers correspond to the last digit of a team's score based on whatever rules the contest is using. Most Super Bowl Squares contests will pay out prizes for the first, second, and third quarters, as well as the final score.

So, if the combination in your square is NFC 7, AFC 3 and it's 7-3 NFC at the end of the first quarter, you'd win the prize for that quarter. If it's 17-13 NFC at the end of the third quarter, you'd win the prize for that quarter.

There are all kinds of variations to this game, though. Some bigger pools might give money to the squares that are touching the winning square on the board. Others might pay the "inverse", so the square with AFC 7,

NFC 3 might win something in the above example. Some squares boards will use the same numbers for all four quarters. Others will change the numbers every quarter, which are randomly drawn before the game even begins.

#### **CIRCA SUPER BOWL SQUARES EXPLAINED**

What Circa does is different. Instead of picking a square and getting numbers randomly assigned to you, you bet into the square that you want. Each square is assigned its own odds. These can be bet at all Circa locations and on the mobile apps in Nevada, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, and Kentucky.

The minimum bet is \$1 and the maximum payout on a square is \$100,000. Players can choose to bet into squares for any of the first three quarters or the final score. Frequent landing numbers like 3, 7, and 0 have lower odds than infrequent landing numbers like 9 or 2, but that's part of the gamble that you take with Circa Squares.

Using the example above of NFC 7, AFC 3 for the first quarter, that paid 9/1 for Super Bowl LVIII between the 49ers and Chiefs. AFC 7, NFC 3 also paid 9/1. NFC 7, AFC 0 paid +575. Other highly unlikely combinations, like NFC 2, AFC 9 paid 2000/1. Much like traditional squares, it is based on the last digit of a team's score.

The final score odds board had a lowest posted payout of 20/1 (NFC 7, AFC 0; AFC 7, NFC 0) for Super Bowl LVIII.

The odds on each of the Circa Squares could be adjusted as more bets come in, but your odds are locked in at the time that the bet is made. If making a bet at the counter, it is best to use the four-digit number above the odds called the Rotation Number to eliminate any confusion between you and the ticket writer.

HIEFS/EAGLES SQUARES FULL GAME

CHIEFS O, EAGLES O

HIEFS 0, EAGLES 1

+5000

+6000

# MY TOP 9 HISTORICAL SUPER BOWL BETTING TRENDS

By Steve Makinen

For the purposes of our 2025 Super Bowl Betting Guide, I was asked to put together my Top Super Bowl Trends and how they will factor into this year's matchup: Eagles vs. Chiefs. (A larger, more detailed article will be posted at VSiN. com)

These trends are ordered in the order of importance for recent Super Bowl handicapping. As far as the line/total was concerned, as of this writing, we had Kansas City -1.5/49.5.

## THE TEAM WITH THE BETTER RECORD GOING INTO THE SUPER BOWL GAME IS 30-20 SU ALL-TIME BUT HAS LOST 12 OF THE LAST 14 AND IS ON A 1-16 ATS SKID SINCE 2004.

• The team that is the better playoff seed is also just 2-16-2 ATS (11.1%) in the last 28 Super Bowl games, with equal-seeded matchups eight times in that span. This trend will be in play, as Kansas City, a No. 1 seed, was 15-2 in the regular season and Philadelphia, a No. 2 seed, was 14-3.

#### THE OUTRIGHT WINNER IS 48-7-3 ATS (87.3%) IN THE 58 PREVIOUS SUPER BOWLS.

 This is the highest mark of any playoff round. Interestingly, one of those ATS losses did occur as recently as 2022, when Cincinnati became the first underdog to cover a point spread without winning on a Super Bowl line of less than 6 points.

#### UNDERDOGS IN THE SUPER BOWL OWN A 17-6 ATS (73.9%) EDGE OVER THE LAST 23 YEARS, INCLUDING 13-4 ATS IN THE LAST 17.

This follows a pattern established in #1.
 Kansas City has pulled off outright upsets
 in each of the last two SB games as exactly
 1.5-point underdogs. As of now, they are
 favored here.

## TEAMS THAT ALLOWED FEWER POINTS PER GAME DURING THE REGULAR SEASON HAVE GONE 8-1 SU AND 7-2 ATS (77.8%) IN THE LAST NINE SUPER BOWL GAMES.

 This trend includes Kansas City from a year ago. If you check out my Super Bowl Betting Trends & Systems piece to be released a bit later, you will see that the importance of defensive statistics far outweighs that of offensive numbers in terms of how it relates to recent Super Bowl success. Philadelphia allowed fewer points than Kansas City in the regular season, 17.8 PPG to 19.2.

#### TEAMS THAT GENERATED MORE YARDAGE OVERALL OFFENSIVELY IN THE REGULAR SEASON ALSO OWN NO EDGE WHEN IT COMES TO SUPER BOWL SUCCESS, GOING 2-11 SU AND 1-12 ATS (7.7%) IN THE LAST 13!

 Recently, the old saying "defense wins championships" has been fruitful.
 Remember, defensive coordinators have two full weeks to get ready for these explosive offenses, as well as the talent to hold them down. Philadelphia holds this "edge" significantly in 2025, 367.2 YPG to 327.6.

## BETTORS ARE 12-6 (66.7%) IN THE LAST 18 GAMES IN WHICH THEY MOVED OPENING TOTALS.

 This trend includes a streak of seven straight winners on total moves, so this could be an emerging strategy to follow for recreational bettors.

#### REGARDING IN-GAME STATISTICS DERIVED, TEAMS WITH AN EDGE IN AT LEAST THREE OF FOUR KEY STATISTICAL CATEGORIES— RUSHING YARDS, PASSING YARDS PER ATTEMPT, TURNOVERS, AND TIME OF POSSESSION—ARE 40-6 SU AND 36-9-1 ATS (80%).

• There is a certain "recipe" for success in the Super Bowl, and I've found that it stems a lot from the four key stat categories I've noted. However, amazingly, four of those outright losses were in the last 10 games, including 2023. Still, I stand by my belief. For those of you looking to project this type of information for 2025, Philadelphia was superior in all four categories, including time of possession, where it ranked #1 in the NFL.

## LOOKING BACK AT THE LAST 23 SUPER BOWLS IN TERMS OF 6-POINT TEASER TRENDS, UNDERDOGS ARE 20-3 (87%).

An 87% teaser trend moving a line just 6 points is nothing to take lightly. For what it's worth, in this same 23-game span, favorites on the 6-point teaser line are just 13-10. Consider this as you craft your wagers for the 2025 game. An underdog 6-point teaser would put Philadelphia at +7.5, likely a very attractive wager for many bettors.

## SINCE 1979, THERE HAVE BEEN 28 TEAMS TO HIT THE 30-POINT MARK IN THE SUPER BOWL GAME. THEIR RECORD: 25-3 SU AND 24-4 ATS.

Of course, in 2023, Philadelphia put up 35 points, the most ever for a losing team.
 Don't let that memory tarnish what has been a prolific trend. Scoring 30 points has proven paramount in the big game. For what it's worth, the 32 points the Chiefs put up in the AFC title game were their highest all season long. The Eagles scored 30+ on seven occasions. Both teams allowed 30+ points two times.

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# PROP BET TIPS FOR THE BIG GAME

#### By Adam Burke

Prop bets and parlay wagers seemingly increase in volume every single day and you can bet that there are going to be hundreds of millions of them across the sports betting world for Super Bowl LIX.

In some ways, it makes the Super Bowl a little less special, as bettors in the old days used to line up at the Westgate Superbook or Leroy's or some other shop in Las Vegas awaiting the release of the prop lines. Of course, that's when betting was restricted to Sin City and faraway places. It's pretty much a free-for-all now and that includes prop offerings on pretty much every regular season game, let alone playoff matchups.

The ease and accessibility of betting props, whether that means searching for them yourself with single bets, throwing in a bet on a premade parlay at your sportsbook of choice, or putting together your own parlay, means that bettors don't really need a crash course in what they mean or how to find them.

However, there are some prop betting strategies that are relevant throughout the year and especially for the Super Bowl. Here are some things to keep in mind:

#### **SHOP AROUND FOR THE BEST PRICE**

I simply cannot stress this one enough. Each sportsbook has its own needs and its own clientele, so there will be lines and odds differences across the board. You want to get the best odds and the best line that you can find and that means shopping around.

The example I always like to give is that you like a certain brand of jeans. They are \$34.99 at one place, \$29.99 at another place, and \$39.99 at another. Where are you most likely to buy them? The place with the best price, right?

Sure, sometimes convenience comes into play and if you are already shopping at the place where they are \$34.99, you'll just shrug off the five-dollar difference. With sports betting, however, the ease and convenience of apps, and also the promotions and bonuses for new depositors at Super Bowl time, why not just take the extra few minutes and sign up with a new sportsbook if it has the best line on a prop bet you like?

Nearly all of the most common sportsbooks allow you to see their lines in the app or on the website before you ever sign up and deposit. Obvious differences like Over 84.5 Rushing Yards vs. Over 81.5 Rushing Yards are one thing, and you will find those. These are pretty easy and pretty self-explanatory. Why bet Over 84.5 Rushing Yards when you can bet Over 81.5 Rushing Yards?

But, it is also important to understand the price difference in the vig. At -110, your break-even percentage is 52.38%, so you need to hit that percentage in order to break even on your wagers given the "Bet \$11 to win \$10" vig. If you bump that to -115, your break-even percentage

increases to 53.49% given the "Bet \$11.50 to win \$10" vig. The difference in just five cents of vig requires you to win an extra bet out of every 100 just to break even.

At -120, your break-even percentage becomes 54.55%. At -125, it becomes 55.56% and so on.

That doesn't sound like a lot, but over the long-term picture regarding your bankroll as a sports bettor, it will add up. Shopping around for the best lines AND the best odds is critical in all settings, but the Super Bowl is a prime example of the reasons why.

#### **LEVERAGE ODDS BOOSTS AND BONUSES**

The sports betting industry is extremely competitive and that can sometimes provide a really good opportunity for the consumer. Sportsbooks will offer new sign-up bonuses or reload bonuses at this time of the year because they want to write as much action as possible. It is the single biggest betting event of the year and the best chance to impress shareholders, stakeholders, traders, bosses, and everybody with a piece of the pie.

As a result, sportsbooks will come up with some creative offers or alternative pricing. There may be free bets or match bets on players to score a touchdown or some kind of bet insurance to mitigate risk and loss. In the above example about that pair of jeans, if you see a coupon that saves you some money or maybe includes a buy one, get one offer, are you likely to use it?

That doesn't mean that all odds boosts, bonuses, and offers are going to be +EV, or positive expected value. However, it does mean that some of those opportunities may be out there and you can put yourself into a better spot than most by utilizing some of those Super Bowl sweeteners.

#### **AVOID OVEREXPOSURE / THINK ABOUT "GAME STATE"**

I like to group these two concepts together because they go hand-inhand. You might have really strong opinions about the side that you like in Super Bowl LIX. You've bet the spread. You've bet the moneyline. You've bet the Over QB Passing Yards and Passing Touchdowns. You've bet the Over WR1 Passing Yards and Passing Touchdowns.

But, what if you're wrong? What if your handicap on the game falls flat? What if the QB gets hurt in the first quarter? That would be a prime example of overexposure. You are tying yourself to one outcome in that game and you can have a really, really bad evening if that outcome doesn't come to fruition. Remember Super Bowl LIII between the Patriots and Rams? That game had a total of 55.5 and ended 13-3. It can happen.

Too many bettors make the mistake of getting tunnel vision and load up on player props for the side that they like. Instead, think about the "Game State". If you are right and the team that you like plays really well and wins comfortably, they may not be throwing the football in the second half. That wide receiver may just be out there running cardio or blocking for the run game. We've certainly seen the team with the lead get very conservative in the second half of the most important game of the season.

So, I'd encourage you to think about what the Game State might be. If it does end up being a blowout and you are right, then the other team will spend the second half throwing the football. Maybe you'd want to bet their QB Over Passing Attempts or their WR1 Over on Receptions. Similarly, your team may be running the football, which would bring the RB1 Over on Rush Attempts into the mix.

That's not to say that you don't want some potential correlation in your props and game expectations. If you are really convinced it will be either a high-scoring or a low-scoring game, your prop portfolio may want to reflect that. You just don't want a really high risk of ruin by having the wrong handicap.

The beauty of a large prop catalog is to be able to diversify your wagers, giving you the chance to win as many as possible based on the Game State that you expect to see.

#### **MINUSES (-) OVER PLUSES (+)**

In the era of Same-Game Parlays (SGP) and sports betting lottery tickets, bettors are all looking for the easiest way to bet a little to win a lot. Plus-money prop bets can look very enticing, but you have to think about the probability and the possibility that those things occur.

Overtime is the biggest one. Most Super Bowls end in one-score games. Some of them don't, but the thought certainly has to cross your mind that the Super Bowl, with allegedly the two best teams, could go to overtime.

There are 272 regular season NFL games. A total of 16 went to overtime. That is 5.9% of the games. If we include the 12 postseason games to this point, none of which went to OT, 5.6% of the games this season have been tied at the end of the fourth quarter.

A line of +1100 on 'Yes' for Overtime (DraftKings as of Monday Jan. 27) carries an implied probability of 8.33%, which is not in line with the rate of overtime games and the 2 of 58 (3.4%) we've had in Super Bowls. There is a reason why the 'No' is priced much higher than that. Yes, it happened last year. Yes, the Super Bowl LIX line is close. That doesn't mean history will repeat itself.

Generally speaking, it is better to have a "minus price" than a "plus price" in props. Only one guy can score the first touchdown. Only one guy can be the MVP, and it is rarely a nonquarterback. By the very nature of props, you are more likely to add to your bankroll betting more to win less (minus) than less to win more (plus).

The plus prices are less indicative of the true odds of an event happening, whereas the minus prices are usually a much better barometer. This is also true of parlaying a bunch of props. Don't take money out of your wallet by going 6-2 on props that would have netted a positive return as straight bets, but net absolutely nothing on a parlay.

And, yes, I'm fun at parties. Sort of. If you want to spray some fun-money bets, it's the Super Bowl. I get it. But, I do encourage you to look long and hard at your prop bets and consider these strategies and others you find helpful for the Big Game.



## SUPER BOWL BETTING HISTORY

SB# (Date)	FL	FT	NFC TEAM	Score	AFC Team	Score	SU	ATS	Total
1 (1/15/67)	GB -14		Green Bay	35	Kansas City	10	Green Bay	Green Bay	N/A
2 (1/14/68)	GB -13.5	43	Green Bay	33	Oakland	14	Green Bay	Green Bay	Over
3 (1/12/69)	BAL -18	40	Baltimore	7	NY Jets	16	NY Jets	NY Jets	Under
4 (1/11/70)	MIN -12	39	Minnesota	7	Kansas City	23	Kansas City	Kansas City	Under
5 (1/17/71)	DAL -2.5	36	Dallas	13	Baltimore	16	Baltimore	Baltimore	Under
6 (1/16/72)	DAL -6	34	Dallas	24	Miami	3	Dallas	Dallas	Under
7 (1/14/73)	WAS -1.5	33	Washington	7	Miami	14	Miami	Miami	Under
8 (1/13/74)	MIA -6.5	33	Minnesota	7	Miami	24	Miami	Miami	Under
9 (1/12/75)	PIT -3	33	Minnesota	6	Pittsburgh	16	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Under
10 (1/18/76)	PITT -6.5	36	Dallas	17	Pittsburgh	21	Pittsburgh	Dallas	Over
11 (1/9/77)	OAK -4.5	38	Minnesota	14	Oakland	32	Oakland	Oakland	Over
12 (1/15/78)	DAL -6	39	Dallas	27	Denver	10	Dallas	Dallas	Under
13 (1/21/79)	PITT -4	37	Dallas	31	Pittsburgh	35	Pittsburgh	TIE	Over
14 (1/20/80)	PITT -10.5	36	LA Rams	19	Pittsburgh	31	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Over
15 (1/25/81)	PHI -3	37.5	Philadelphia	10	Oakland	27	Oakland	Oakland	Under
16 (1/24/82)	PK EM'	48	San Francisco	26	Cincinnati	21	San Francisco	San Francisco	Under
17 (1/30/83)	MIA -3	36.5	Washington	27	Miami	17	Washington	Washington	Over
18 (1/22/84)	WAS -3	48	Washington	9	LA Raiders	38	LA Raiders	LA Raiders	Under
19 (1/20/85)	SF -3	53	San Francisco	38	Miami	16	San Francisco	San Francisco	Over
20 (1/26/86)	CHI -10	37	Chicago	46	New England	10	Chicago	Chicago	Over
21 (1/25/87)	NYG -9.5	40.5	NY Giants	39	Denver	20	NY Giants	NY Giants	Over
22 (1/31/88)	DEN -3.5	47	Washington	42	Denver	10	Washington	Washington	Over
23 (1/22/89)	SF -7	47.5	San Francisco	20	Cincinnati	16	San Francisco	Cincinnati	Under
24 (1/28/90)	SF -12.5	47	San Francisco	55	Denver	10	San Francisco	San Francisco	Over
25 (1/27/91)	BUF -7	39	NY Giants	20	Buffalo	19	NY Giants	NY Giants	TIE
26 (1/26/92)	WAS -7	49	Washington	37	Buffalo	24	Washington	Washington	Over
27 (1/31/93)	DAL -6	45	Dallas	52	Buffalo	17	Dallas	Dallas	Over
28 (1/30/94)	DAL -10.5	50.5	Dallas	30	Buffalo	13	Dallas	Dallas	Under
29 (1/29/95)	SF -18	54	San Francisco	49	San Diego	26	San Francisco	San Francisco	Over

## SUPER BOWL BETTING HISTORY

SB# (Date)	FL	FT	NFC TEAM	Score	AFC Team	Score	SU	ATS	Total
30 (1/28/96)	DAL-13.5	52	Dallas	27	Pittsburgh	17	Dallas	Pittsburgh	Under
31 (1/26/97)	GB -14	49	Green Bay	35	New England	21	Green Bay	TIE	Over
32 (1/25/98)	GB -11.5	49	Green Bay	24	Denver	31	Denver	Denver	Over
33 (1/31/99)	DEN -7.5	51.5	Atlanta	19	Denver	34	Denver	Denver	Over
34 (1/30/00)	STL -7	48	St Louis	23	Tennessee	16	St Louis	TIE	Under
35 (1/28/01)	BAL -3	32.5	NY Giants	7	Baltimore	34	Baltimore	Baltimore	Over
36 (2/3/02)	STL -14	52.5	St Louis	17	New England	20	New England	New England	Under
37 (1/26/03)	OAK -3.5	44	Tampa Bay	48	Oakland	21	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Over
38 (2/1/04)	NE -7	38	Carolina	29	New England	32	New England	Carolina	Over
39 (2/6/05)	NE -7	47	Philadelphia	21	New England	24	New England	Philadelphia	Under
40 (2/5/06)	PIT -4	46.5	Seattle	10	Pittsburgh	21	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Under
41 (2/4/07)	IND -6.5	47	Chicago	17	Indianapolis	29	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Under
42 (2/3/08)	NE -12.5	54	NY Giants	17	New England	14	NY Giants	NY Giants	Under
43 (2/1/09)	PIT -6.5	46.5	Arizona	23	Pittsburgh	27	Pittsburgh	Arizona	Over
44 (2/7/10)	IND -4.5	56.5	New Orleans	31	Indianapolis	17	New Orleans	New Orleans	Under
45 (2/6/11)	GB -3	44.5	Green Bay	31	Pittsburgh	25	Green Bay	Green Bay	Over
46 (2/5/12)	NE -3	53	NY Giants	21	New England	17	NY Giants	NY Giants	Under
47 (2/3/13)	SF -4.5	47.5	San Francisco	31	Baltimore	34	Baltimore	Baltimore	Over
48 (2/2/14)	DEN -2	47	Seattle	43	Denver	8	Seattle	Seattle	Over
49 (2/1/15)	SEA -1	47	Seattle	24	New England	28	New England	New England	Over
50 (2/7/16)	CAR -4.5	43.5	Carolina	10	Denver	24	Denver	Denver	Under
51 (2/5/17)	NE -3	57	Atlanta	28	New England	34	New England	New England	Over
52 (2/4/18)	NE -4.5	49	Philadelphia	41	New England	33	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Over
53 (2/3/19)	NE -2	55.5	LA Rams	3	New England	13	New England	New England	Under
54 (2/4/20)	KC -1	53	San Francisco	20	Kansas City	31	Kansas City	Kansas City	Under
55 (2/7/21)	KC -3	55.5	Tampa Bay	31	Kansas City	9	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Under
56 (2/13/22)	LAR -4.5	48.5	LA Rams	23	Cincinnati	20	LA Rams	Cincinnati	Under
57 (2/12/23)	PHI -2.5	51.5	Philadelphia	35	Kansas City	38	Kansas City	Kansas City	Over
58 (2/11/24)	SF -1.5	47.5	Kansas City	25	San Francisco	22 \	Kansas City	Kansas City	Under

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