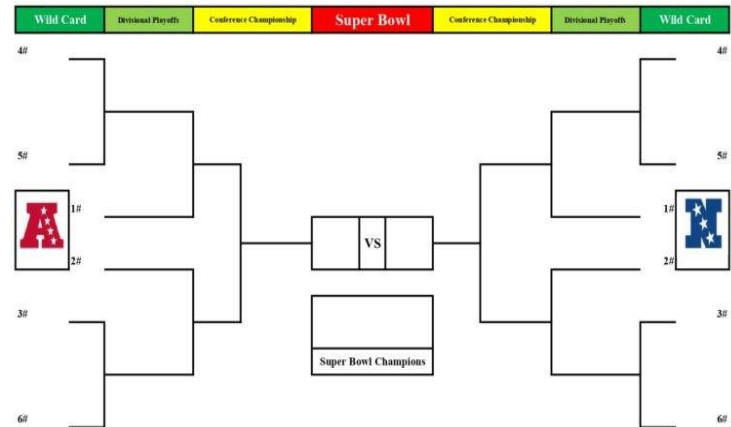


Not every Team is Great!

Is the recent NFL Playoff Expansion too much Post-Season?

The 2020 NFL Playoff Schedule and seating changes have been seen & viewed with mixed opinions & perspectives.

Before 2020, there were a total of 12 NFL franchises that make the playoff bracket to compete to get to the Superbowl and win that Lombardi Trophy! 6 teams from each of the two conferences would make the playoffs, 4 of the 6 were the conference division winners and the remaining 2 were wildcards, the two teams with the best records in the conference to not win their division. The top 2 teams in both the AFC & the NFC would earn a bye for the first round of the playoffs, aka the Wildcard Round, and be automatically in the second round of the playoffs, the Divisional Round.



Today, post the 2020 playoff schedule changes, there are a total of 14 out of the 32 franchises in the NFL playoff bracket, 7 for each conference containing the 4 division winners & 3 wildcard franchises. In other words, 43.75% of the NFL takes part in the playoffs with a chance for a Superbowl title. There are many arguments both for and against these recent changes & amendments.



Critics argue that 14 teams is too many! It is also worth noting that only the top seeded team in each conference earns the bye from the Wildcard Playoff Round, which was previously earned

by the top 2 teams prior to 2020. Critics also stand on that the top two teams earning a bye is a better system, along with 6 teams for each conference qualifying for the playoffs.

Some proponents are in favor of the 7 teams in each conference making the playoffs. They argue it's a chance for more teams with better records to get their chance to sign in the post-season, with allowing an additional wild card team. In 2002, the AFC and NFC went from 3 divisions each to 4 divisions each. Back then, with 6 teams from each conference making the playoffs, there were only 3 division winners and then 3 wildcard teams in the post-season. With 4 divisions in each conference and the new bracket in place, the new NFL playoffs now return to a total of 3 Wildcard Teams making the playoffs for each conference.

The NFL is not the only sports league to recently allow more franchises into the leagues post-season. The MLB recently expanded the playoffs from 10 teams to 12 teams in 2021. So the question remains, are too many major league teams and athletes making the post-season? Will leagues like the NFL, MLB, & others, continue to amend their post-season brackets to allow more franchises in? With more teams making the post-season, there is an expectation that these professional sports leagues will add more franchises. There are currently a total of 32 teams in the NFL and it has been that way since 2002.

Will additional franchises be acquired in the nearer future? That seems to be the expectation.