

# Week 2 NFL Predictions

by Mason Ramirez (MR) and Sawyer Klein (SK)

THURSDAY NIGHT 6:25 PM MST

## TEXANS AT BENGALS

**SK:** Bengals 14-13. Both teams took terrible home losses to not very good divisional opponents as the Ravens defeated Cincy 20-0 and Jaguars absolutely crushed Houston 29-7. I really don't know what to expect in what should be a rough Thursday night game. Bengals have home-field advantage.

**MR:** Bengals 16-10. The Bengals got off to a disastrous start of a season with their 20-0 loss against the Ravens, but they will find a way to turn it around against an awful Texans team. Don't say "they got JJ Watt" because he didn't do anything in the first game and if I know him, I'm pretty sure he is going to get injured. Also, the quarterback situation in the Texans will not help the team at all.

SUNDAY 11:00 AM MST

## BROWNS AT RAVENS

**SK:** Ravens: 24-19. The Browns showed many positive things in last week's loss to the Steelers, limiting the best running back in the league to an atrocious game for his standards. Deshone Kizer was also impressive, utilizing Corey Coleman very well. But the Ravens absolutely destroyed the Bengals in Cincinnati, giving them life - enough life to hold off the improving Browns.

**MR:** Ravens 27-24. It is going to be a very close game because both teams have improved tremendously since last season, as showed during both of their first games; and they have very good players on both teams as well. I'm going to go with the Ravens, however, because of their decimation of the Bengals last week and because they have more momentum heading into the Browns game

## BILLS AT PANTHERS

**SK:** Panthers 23-18. In a sloppy, old school, grind it out matchup versus the Jets, the Bills were able to come out with a week 1 victory, 21-12. The Panthers went to San Francisco and did what most teams should do to a plain bad 49ers team. Kelvin Benjamin wasn't involved at all last week, but he didn't need to be. This week, in order to hold off a scrappy Bills team, he will need to be involved, and hopefully (for Panther's fans) Cam Newton will recover to almost 100% from his nagging shoulder injury. This should lead to a home win for Carolina.

**MR:** 26-20. Both teams had a win last week and will both certainly play well this week, but I'm going to give the edge to the Panthers with their ferocious defense keeping the Bills at bay. Cam Newton is going to give the Panthers offense the thing it needs to power past the Bills.

## CARDINALS AT COLTS

**SK:** Cardinals 33-12. Los Angeles destroyed the Colts at home last week. With Andrew Luck out for yet another week, Scott Tolzien will lead Indianapolis. From what he showed in LA, I'm not sure the Colts' offense will score a touchdown against a good Cardinals' defense that will be looking to respond after being shredded apart in Detroit. Despite being without David Johnson for almost the remainder of the year, the re-signing of Chris Johnson will allow the Cardinals offense to be almost as good as it would be with DJ.

**MR:** Cardinals 36-10. The Colts just played horribly last week and will not play any better this week with Andrew Luck out for the game. Their horrible defense will be mowed down by a very good Cardinals' offense and the Cardinals' defense will destroy the equally horrible Colts' offense.

## TITANS AT JAGUARS

**SK:** Jaguars 27-20. Leonard Fournette definitely impressed many with his ability to get the ball and go, and with 26 carries for 100 yards he helped the Jags wreck the Texans 29-7 in Houston. Tennessee lost a hard fought game to Oakland, mostly because Demarco Murray wasn't involved in their offense enough to make a big impact. Jacksonville has fixed their quarterback troubles by naming Blake Bortles the starter once again. If Allen Robinson can have a big game, and Leonard Fournette continues to run the rock, the Jags will defeat the Titans.

**MR:** Jaguars 32-24. The Jaguars last week mowed down the weak Texans team and the Titans lost a very close game to the Raiders. Right now the Jaguars look like they can't be stopped and I do not believe the Titans have it in them to beat the dominating and indestructible Jaguars.

## EAGLES AT CHIEFS

**SK:** Chiefs 34-23. Both teams showed what they're made of in week 1, defeating two very solid teams on the road. If Alex Smith continues to stay focused and hit his receivers, not even the Eagles' defense will stop the Chiefs. Carson Wentz will struggle in his first trip to Arrowhead.

**MR:** Chiefs 36-20. Both teams respectively won their games last week defeating the Patriots and the Redskins, but I would give the edge to the Chiefs with their better defense and the awesome offense led by Alex Smith. They will dominate the okay Eagles' defense.

## PATRIOTS AT SAINTS

**SK:** Patriots 37-23. Yeah, I'd rather not talk about the Patriots' first game, but let's just say it was not the result I was hoping for. Their defense needs to figure it out, quickly. Brady and company struggled, but still managed to put up 27 points on a good Chief's defense. This week, look for Brandin Cooks to have a great day in seek of revenge against his former team. Brees will score, but the Patriots' offense will win the offensive battle against New Orleans, boosting them back to .500.

**MR:** Patriots 32-27. I do believe that the Patriots will find a way in week 2 to bounce back from the disastrous start to the season because they are going up against the Saints who gave up 19 points in the fourth quarter to the Vikings and ended up losing the game. The Saints do not really stand a chance against the Patriots and in the end it will be the Patriots who take home the win.

## VIKINGS AT STEELERS

**SK:** Steelers 30-27. Despite looking terrible against the Browns last week, the Steelers escaped victorious. There's no doubt that they will utilize Le'veon Bell more than last week, versus a Vikings team that handily defeated New Orleans. Thielen will have another great game in Pittsburgh, as the Steelers don't have the cornerback depth to handle Thielen and Diggs. This

will keep the game close, but ultimately, the Steelers' playmakers on offense will win the game.

**MR:** Vikings 29-26. Both teams had a win in week 1 and will certainly want a win for week 2. The Vikings are playing wonderfully and showed their dominance last week with their insane win over the Saints by scoring 19 points in the fourth quarter. Dalvin Cook will have a great game and will power through the Steelers' defense, and, despite Ben Roethlisberger and Antonio Brown leading the way for the Steelers offense, the Vikings awesome defense will keep them at bay and take the win.

## BEARS AT BUCCANEERS

**SK:** Buccaneers 24-16. The Bears proved worthy against Atlanta in week 1, almost defeating them with a touchdown at the end. But almost doesn't count. With a week 1 bye due to Hurricane Irma, the Bucs will be fresh, but it will take time to get used to the flow that the Bears are already in. As Jameis Winston gets deeper into the game, he will settle in and the Bucs will escape the Chicago Bears in Tampa.

**MR:** Buccaneers 28-20. The Bears did better than most people expected last week and almost won. But the Bucs, who had a week 1 bye because of Hurricane Irma, will be refreshed and ready to go and will take down the Bears

SUNDAY 2:05 PM MST

## DOLPHINS AT CHARGERS

**SK:** Chargers 26-12. The Chargers looked absolutely terrible the first three quarters in Denver last Monday, but they turned it on into the fourth quarter. It was, however, too little too late. Philip Rivers will be looking to rebound from a disappointing loss, and Keenan Allen is back and ready to go! Jay Cutler will not be able to do much against a very solid Chargers defense, especially in San Diego. Also, just like the Bucs, Miami will take time to settle into the flow that all other teams are already in, this will cost Miami.

**MR:** Chargers 28-10. The Chargers will be hungry for a win after coming close last week and will take out their frustrations on the weak Dolphins. Philip Rivers and the rest of the offense will destroy the Dolphins' defense and the Chargers' defense will hold the Dolphins offense to 10 points. Chargers will walk out as the winners.

## JETS AT RAIDERS

**SK:** Raiders 24-6. An easy matchup will present itself for the Raiders in week 2. The Jets scored 12 points in week 1, losing to the Bills 21-12. Their offense simply isn't good enough to take down the Raiders.

**MR:** Raiders 31-18. The Raiders showed why they could be championship contenders last week against the Titans and the Jets did not as they lost to the Bills. The Raiders will carry their momentum this week and continue their dominating play against the awful Jets, ultimately sending the Jets crashing down and will take home the win.

SUNDAY 2:25 PM MST

## COWBOYS AT BRONCOS

**SK:** Cowboys 31-20. Despite emerging victorious in week 1 against a okay Chargers' team, the Cowboys' rushing game is too much for the Broncos to handle. With a great offensive line, and Ezekiel Elliott's suspension wiped, the Cowboys will have no problems scoring in Denver. Their defense also proved worthy against a very good Giants' offense, although they were without Odell Beckham. Trevor Siemian will score around 20 for another week, but the Cowboys' overpowered offense is too much.

**MR:** Cowboys 29-26. Despite the Broncos picking up the win last week, there was just too many problems in the game, and they played just horrible in the fourth quarter. The Cowboys, on the other hand, had an excellent win against the Giants and proved that they had not lost any momentum. This week the Cowboys will continue their dominance due to Dak Prescott and Ezekiel Elliott leading the offense and their defense holding the Broncos offense. They will take the win.

## REDSKINS AT RAMS

**SK:** Redskins 23-20. Although the Rams absolutely demolished the Colts last week in LA, they will face a much better offense that will be looking to rebound after a home loss to the Eagles. Kirk Cousins will be looking to settle in and try to get Terrelle Pryor SR involved. Yes, the Rams' defense has a ton of playmakers throughout their front seven. No discredit to their secondary, it's good, but what will win the game for Washington is their passing attack.

**MR:** Rams 24-18. The Rams had a dominating game last week and destroyed the Colts. The Redskins, on the other hand, came up short against the Eagles. This week the Rams' awesome offense and excellent defense will continue their dominance against a okay Redskins team and will give them another win

## 49ERS AT SEAHAWKS

**SK:** Seahawks 19-3. After losing to the Panthers in week 1 at home, the 49ers shouldn't have any expectations for themselves in Seattle. The Seahawks defense will dominate the 49ers offense; I don't know how else to put it.

**MR:** Seahawks 21-3. This game really should be a no-brainer. The 49ers don't have a chance against the Seahawks and the Seahawks' defense will destroy the 49ers offense. Panthers will take home a win.

SUNDAY NIGHT 6:30 PM MST

## PACKERS AT FALCONS

**SK:** Falcons 37-34 OT. In my opinion, this is one of the most intriguing matchups of the week. Just like last year in the NFC championship, this will be a high scoring affair. Matt Ryan, Julio, Freeman - what else could you ask from an offense? I'm not sure there's a better offense in the league, and that's saying alot coming from Pats' fan. Rodgers, Jordy, Davante Adams, Randall Cobb, Ty Montgomery are maybe the second best offense. I really had a hard time calling this game, so I'm going with a bold prediction: the Falcons will get overtime revenge after losing the Super Bowl in overtime to the Patriots' James White on a diving attempt.

**MR:** Packers 41-38. It is going to be a very close game and will come down to the final play of the game. Both teams will certainly give each other a challenge and there will not be a dominant team in the game. I'm going to give the slight edge to the Packers as Aaron Rodgers will find a way to outsmart the Falcons and will make his team win.

MONDAY NIGHT 6:30 PM MST

## LIONS AT GIANTS

**SK:** Giants 19-16. In low scoring fashion, the Giants and Eli Manning should be able to pull out a victory after a deflating week 1 loss to Dallas. Matthew Stafford went through the roof against a pretty good Cardinals' defense last week. Golden Tate had a good game; Marvin Jones caught a touchdown; and rookie receiver Kenny Golladay had a huge game with two touchdowns. The Giants' very good secondary will contain these receivers just enough for the Giants to outscore Detroit.

**MR:** Giants 22-16. In this type of game the Giants will have an edge against the Lions because they will be very frustrated and will want to destroy the Lions. I know the Lions won last week, but they will not be able to put up a good fight against a hungry Giants team. Detroit will be on the losing side when the game is over.

### Week 1 Points

**(1 point per every correct prediction; score doesn't matter)**

**Mason Ramirez - 12 Points**

**Sawyer Klein - 8 Points**