

# Philadelphia Eagles Media Conference

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

## Coach Nick Sirianni

Weekday Press Conference



**Q. I got to ask now, do you have a decision on Jalen? I got to make sure that's clear. Do you have a decision on Jalen if he's starting today?**

NICK SIRIANNI: It's trending in the right direction. You know, again, like I'm going to see how today goes. He's trending in the right direction. We feel good about it. We got to see how today goes. That's why I meet with you guys beforehand?

**Q. Well, what could change in a day?**

NICK SIRIANNI: What do you mean?

**Q. If you can't make a decision now, like what would change the decision or alter it?**

NICK SIRIANNI: Again, you're just seeing how you feel after the fact. Like the major thing is I don't have to tell you guys yet, right? I'm not quite there yet and we still are thinking through everything.

So again, it's just like anything, you just aren't quick to just say exactly what you think might happen because there are obviously circumstances that could happen and things the way he could feel today.

**Q. Has he been cleared for contact?**

NICK SIRIANNI: Has he been cleared for contact? I don't even -- we say he's clear to he's not clear to play. We don't say contact.

Again, that's the thing we talked with the doctors about after today's practice, but to say contact, it's really going to be if he's ready to play or not.

**Q. (Regarding comfortability with Jalen.)**

NICK SIRIANNI: If he's ready to play, we'll play him. So it's really as simple as that. If we feel like after today's -- feel like he's trending in the right direction and after today's

practice and after he goes through his rehab today and all those different things that he's ready to go, like the contact, the hits, the throwing, everything is obviously taken into account.

That's why I'm trying to clarify. We don't segment anything. He's ready to play or not ready to play.

**Q. What are some difference you see in this week versus what he was able to do last week?**

NICK SIRIANNI: Obviously he's done more this week. He's done a little bit more this week, and so it's just -- I thought he threw the ball well last week, but you're talking about the healing that's going on, things you can't see. It's things going on in there. It's one week -- he's healed one week further out from when it happened.

**Q. I know it's a physical game, so there always some risk, but what was your understanding of the level of risk of reinjury for Jalen at this stage with the shoulder?**

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, again, everything is taken into account. We're not going to want to put anybody out there if they're going to hurt themselves worse. In certain scenarios, there will be some things like -- everything obviously is taken into account. I'm trying to explain this the right way.

If a guy is not completely healed, right, and he can hurt himself more, right, we always think about that. We're not going to want to put them in a position to do that.

**Q. With him specifically do you worry about his competitive nature taking over and him taking those unnecessary hits if he plays?**

NICK SIRIANNI: Again, I think he's savvy about how he goes down. It's going to be more so some different things of how we talk to him about that and tell him, hey, we don't want you to take this hit here or there.

Sure, he's competitive and he's going to want to go out and do everything he can do, but he also has to understand regardless of with the shoulder or without, that he's got to be smart of when he takes hits and when he doesn't take hits, and we got to be smart ourselves as to how we call that as

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well.

**Q. Is CJ trending...**

NICK SIRIANNI: He's going a good job. Again, see how today's practice goes and how everything goes throughout today's practice, but he's done a nice job and we're hopeful.

Again, I won't say that he is yet. See what goes down at practice today. But we're hopeful there. We'll see what happens. He's had a good week of practice as well.

**Q. Given Miles is still on the injury report, earlier in the week his emotions involved with being close with Damar, how has Miles looked in practice?**

NICK SIRIANNI: I think Miles has had a good week of practice, mental preparation, and also a good week of practice. I know you can talk to Miles about it. I don't want to speak for him, especially in something like this, but I can't imagine what he had to go through mentally this week. I know they're really close.

So we just tried to be there for Miles. I could see the guys put their arm around him and, we're just thrilled obviously and thankful that Damar is getting better first and foremost. But you tend to think about your guys also in that scenario.

So I think Miles had a great week of preparation, and sometimes when you come in this building or you go out to the field, there is an escape from some of the things that you might be having to go through. I think the thing that you find out in these moments is just how precious everything is, how precious life is.

Also, when you talk and when you start to talk to different guys and you're sharing stories, like whoa, there are other people going through stuff as well. That just creates a bond to be close and you have empathy for people going through hard things because you know that you have been through hard things, your teammate has been through hard things, whatever it is.

So, yeah, I saw guys putting their arm around Miles and checking in on him, coaches, players. I think that in a tough time like that that's obviously a big thing for a team to be able to have, and have 70 people here, just your teammates and all the rest of the building that care about you and care about you as a person and just want what's best for you.

**Q. If someone told you before the first game that you would be in this spot going into the week 18 playing for the top seed, what would have said?**

NICK SIRIANNI: What do you think I would've said?

**Q. One game at a time.**

NICK SIRIANNI: (Laughter.) I would've definitely said, hey, I'm thinking about one game at a time. But I'll make sure I humor your question here. Yeah, of course you would say, heck, yeah, where do I sign up, right?

That's where we are, right, and so our job is to go out there and execute. Our job is to go out there and coach our butts off to give ourselves a chance to win this week. Then we'll take that one play at a time. But we would say, where do we sign up and got into like, okay, but let's go play the Lions here and worry about today's practice first.

**Q. This is the first time you've had a losing streak this year. How do you think the guys have responded to challenge, the adversity?**

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, I've noticed at practice this week that's it's business as usual, right? It's the dog mentality. I'm not thinking about -- I've drug myself through the mud for each and every one of us of what happened and held themselves accountable to what happened in that football game, and then I move on and I fix those things in attempts to get better, and now I'm just worry about one day at a time.

So to me, like I felt like we had a really crisp practice yesterday. We had a great walk-through the day before. What I felt like it's been, hey, here we are. We're here. We're here. We're here. We're here. We're not worried about there.

We fixed what happened here. Because dog mentality is not like, hey, here. You forget about this. And this is the past, this is the future. (Smiling).

You forget about this -- you don't forget about this, you make yourself better from this, right? But once you get here, right, you build that confidence back up of where you are and what you've done so far and be better from a that but be totally focused on this day.

That's what I felt like. Listen, what I keep telling you and the guys keep saying it, like that's green, that's green, that's green, that's green or hey, that's blue, that's blue, that's blue, that's blue, that's blue, that's blue so eventually you're like, yeah, that is blue.

That's what we talk about at all times. Doesn't matter if you're coming off a two-game win streak, a two-game losing streak, 8-0, 2-5, whatever. That's the mindset of the

team. That's the mindset of the culture. That's the mindset that we want everybody to have.

I think we have great leaders on our football team and that's to me the best teams think that way.

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