

PITTSBURGH HEADED TO IRELAND

The National Football League will play its first-ever regular season game in Dublin, Ireland in 2025, the league announced on Friday, and the Pittsburgh Steelers will play as the designated team in the historic game.

The 2025 NFL Dublin game will take place at Croke Park - the largest sporting arena in Ireland and headquarters of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) - in partnership with the Government of Ireland and Dublin City Council (Dublin City).

Steelers' President Art Rooney II and his family have a rich history and deep connection with

the Island of Ireland, having family from Newry, County Down. The late Steelers Chairman Daniel M. Rooney, Art Rooney's father, served as U.S. Ambassador to Ireland from 2009-2012 and was a co-founder of the Ireland Funds charity.

The Steelers are also one of only two NFL teams to have played a game in Ireland to date, a preseason matchup in 1997 against the Chicago Bears at Croke Park as part of the American Bowl series.

FREE AGENCY DECISIONS LOOMING



The Pittsburgh Steelers have some big decisions to make when it comes to deciding whether or not to resign some of their top players.

1. Najee Harris (RB)

Najee Harris has been the Steelers bell cow for the past 4 seasons. However, having declined his 5th year option this past offseason, questions have risen as to whether or not they are going to end up offering him another contract this upcoming offseason. If they decide to resign him, they have themselves a star running back for a few more years. If not, they still have a capable running back in Jaylen Warren.

2. Justin Fields (QB)

Justin Fields was traded from the Chicago Bears to the Pittsburgh Steelers this past offseason. Many within the organization had hoped that he would be the answer at quarterback. However, they handed the job to Rusell Wilson, leaving Fields to sit on the sideline. There is hope that the organization will resign Justin Fields this offseason, giving him the chance to show the team that he can be the franchise quarterback.

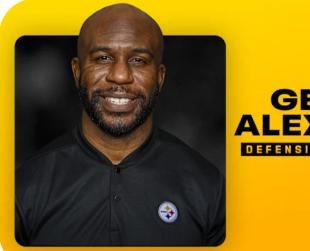
3. Dan Moore Jr (LT)

Dan Moore Jr was drafted by the team 4 years ago. He had a rough start to his career in Pitssburgh, not living up to expectations. However, this past season he made significant strides and showed that he was more than capable of being a starting offensive tackle in the NFL. The Steelers will have a decision to make when it comes to resigning him or letting him walk in free agency.

COACHING STAFF ADDITIONS

The Steelers named Gerald Alexander the team's defensive backs coach.

Alexander is no stranger to the Steelers coaching staff, having spent two seasons (2022-23) as the assistant defensive backs coach with the team, before leaving to become the safeties coach for the Las Vegas Raiders in 2024.









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In two years in Pittsburgh he worked with a secondary that recorded 36 interceptions, which was tied for second in the league. In 2023, the defense held opponents to a 84.7 passer rating, which was 10th best in the NFL.

Prior to his first stint with the Steelers. Alexander was the defensive backs coach for the Miami Dolphins for two seasons (2020-21). Under his leadership, the defensive backs tied for first in the NFL in interceptions with 18 in 2020, while cornerback Xavien Howard had 10 interceptions and was selected first team Associated Press All-Pro for the first time.

The Steelers also named Scott Mc-Curley the team's inside linebackers coach.

McCurley, who is a Western Pennsylvania native, spent the last five seasons (2020-24) as the linebackers

coach for the Dallas Cowboys and a total of 18 years in the NFL, 15 in a coaching role.

Last season, McCurley oversaw the Cowboys linebackers who recorded 22 of the team's 52 sacks, while Micah Parsons recorded a team-high 12 sacks for the season, becoming the first player since Reggie White in 1982 to record at least 12 sacks in their first four seasons.

ROOKIE RECAP: ZACH FRAZIER

Frazier was drafted by the Steelers in the second-round of the 2024 NFL Draft, the 51st overall pick.

For someone who played at West Virginia University, and grew up in Fairmont, West Virginia, just over 90 minutes from Pittsburgh, it was the perfect scenario.

And it wasn't just the perfect scenario for Frazier.

It was for the Steelers offense as well.

Frazier quickly became a staple on the Steelers offensive line, taking over as the starting center Week 1 after Nate Herbig suffered a season-ending injury at the end of training camp.

"My mentality was always that I wanted to prepare to be the starter," said Frazier. "That was always my goal. To earn that spot. It was unfortunate that Nate got hurt because he had helped me out a ton and really helped get me through it.

"But my mentality is I always want to play, and I never want to just sit on the bench for a season. I want to be out there helping the team however I can. I feel like that's what I've done even in high school and college. I never wanted to redshirt. I wanted to play.



"So, when the opportunity came, I was ready for that. I was already ready with that mentally."

Frazier started all 15 games he appeared in during the 2024 season, missing two games with an ankle injury. He also started the Steelers Wild Card game.