- Hall-of-Fame QB's Tom Brady and Philip Rivers are among the big names available in NFL free agency
- On Tuesday morning, Brady announced on Instagram he will be continuing his career outside the New England Patriots organization
- That, and other questions about NFL free agency are answered in the story below NFL free agency officially gets underway on March 18th. But March 16th is the date that teams can legally tamper with free agents. And already, there's some big talk there.

Tom Brady is apparently about to <u>buck the New England Patriots</u>. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers are favored to land him.

For the longest time, the betting lines were suggesting that Brady's next team wouldn't be new at all, but Tuesday morning's <u>Instagram announcement</u> all but assured his time in Foxborough is over.

That's where Brady's played since New England drafted him with the 199th overall selection in the 2000 NFL Draft. It's the team he led to a record six Super Bowls.

Odds on Tom Brady's Team for Game 1 of 2020 NFL Regular Season Team Odds at BetOnline Tampa Bay Buccaneers -150 New England Patriots +110 Los Angeles Chargers +600 San Francisco 49ers +1000 Las Vegas Raiders +1200 Indianapolis Colts +1800 Chicago Bears +5000 Indianapolis Colts +5000 Miami Dolphins +5000

Odds taken Mar. 16

Now, though, it would appear that when it comes to the long-term relationship between Brady and the Pats, all bets are off.

There's been a seismic shift in the odds on this front. As recently as Feb. 28, odds were -150 that Brady would stay with the Patriots.

The tampering window has opened and <u>#Patriots</u> QB Tom Brady's agent can hear from teams. My understanding: The <u>#Chargers</u> and <u>#Bucs</u> will inquire, and of course New England wants him back. That is Brady's market as of right now.

— Ian Rapoport (@RapSheet) March 16, 2020

This is the first time in his 21-year NFL career that Brady, 43, has been offered the freedom to negotiate with teams beyond New England, and he will now be taking advantage of the ability to pick where he will play until retirement.

Bucs Making Big Pitch

There are published reports that Tampa Bay is already coming at Brady with a significant offer. The Buccaneers were the NFL's #1 passing offense (302.8 yards per game) and the league's #3 overall offense (397.9 YPG) in 2019. That would certainly be appealing to a QB.

Brady's preferred choice was reported to be the NFC champion San Francisco 49ers. Brady was born in San Mateo, less than 20 miles from San Francisco.

I am told the Tampa Bay Bucs have made the intentions to Tom Brady loud and clear.

— Michael Giardi (@MikeGiardi) March 16, 2020

The 49ers, though, have informed Brady that they plan on staying with Jimmy Garoppolo under center. Garoppolo launched his NFL career as Brady's understudy in New England. The Chargers are also expected to make a play for Brady.

For those who find it hard to consider Brady in another team's uniform, remember that Johnny Unitas ended up a Charger and Joe Montana a Kansas City Chief. Brett Favre left the Green Bay Packers and landed with the (OMG) New York Jets, and later (can you believe it?) the Minnesota Vikings, Green Bay's hated rival.

Pick: Tampa Bay Buccaneers (-150)

Super Bowl 55 Odds Tracker Read More Philip Rivers

The difference with Rivers is that the Chargers have already bid adieu to him. It's a certainty that he'll be landing with a new team. At the present time, the <u>favorite</u> to be that team looks like the Colts

Odds on Philip Rivers' Team for Game 1 of 2020 NFL Regular Season Team Odds at BetOnline Indianapolis Colts -250 Tampa Bay Buccaneers +600 Las Vegas Raiders +600 Washington Redskins +800 Cleveland Browns +1200 Miami Dolphins +1200 Carolina Panthers +1600 Jacksonville Jaguars +1600 Chicago Bears +2000 New England Patriots +2500 Dallas Cowboys +3300

Indy's been the chalk in this race from the outset. The odds of Rivers and the Colts pairing up are steadily improving. He was +140 to Indy's next QB on Feb. 28. Today, the Colts are heavy -250 odds-on favorites.

As the legal tampering period kicks off at noon, would fully expect the Colts to pursue former Chargers' QB Philip Rivers, though Indianapolis also will look at other QB options.

— Adam Schefter (@AdamSchefter) March 16, 2020

Indy has made it clear that the team is looking at several options at QB. None will prove a better fit than Rivers.

Pick: Indianapolis Colts (-250).

The post <u>2020 NFL Free Agency Odds – See Where All the Biggest Names Are Favored to Sign</u> appeared first on <u>Sports Betting Dime</u>.

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