

# A Make-or-Break Season for Robert Saleh?



By Jorden Hampton June 21, 2023



Photo provided by Getty Images

The New York Jets enter the 2023 season looking to make the playoffs for the first time since 2011. Gang Green has received a substantial amount of praise. Their biggest move was acquiring quarterback Aaron Rodgers.

To succeed Head Coach Robert Saleh must do a great job coaching. Saleh is a great defensive mind who knows how to build a strong defense. Some sports analysts believe the defense will help the Jets win the Super Bowl.

Is 2023 a make-or-break season for Robert Saleh? I believe so and will elaborate on my stance in this article.

## **Robert Saleh VS Todd Bowles**



Photo provided by the Associated Press

The Jets like hiring defensive coaches. Tampa Bay Buccaneers Head Coach Todd Bowles coached the Jets from 2015-2018. Bowles went 10-6 in his first season. After two seasons Bowles had a 15-17 coaching record. Saleh has coached for two seasons and currently has an 11-23 coaching record.

Bowles team finished 2016 with a 5-11 record. New York's defense ranked 11th during the 2016 season. New York allowed 25.6 points per game. Bowles didn't have any all-pro players. Bowles also didn't have an offensive or defensive rookie of the year. Bowles entered the 2017 season with Josh McCown at quarterback. In 2018, Bowles drafted Sam Darnold. Bowles was fired after the 2018 season.

Bowles never took the Jets to playoffs during his tenure.

Saleh's situation significantly differs from Bowles'. Saleh's 2022 team was special. Cornerback Sauce Gardner won Defensive Rookie of The Year. Wide Receiver Garrett Wilson won Offensive Rookie of The Year despite inconsistent quarterback play.

Saleh had the fourth-best defense in 2022. Saleh's defense allowed 311.1 yards per game and allowed 18.6 points per game. Gardner was named All-Pro. Linebacker C.J. Moseley and Defensive Tackle Quinnen Williams were also All-Pros.

Saleh's team is more talented than Bowles' team. Saleh has a future Hall of Fame quarterback on his roster. Bowles never had a quarterback close to Rodgers' caliber. Saleh should be fired if the Jets fail to reach the playoffs. The 2023 season is critical for Saleh's future with the Jets.

## **Hungry Jets Fans**

Jets fans are hungry for a successful season and a playoff appearance. It has been a decade since the Jets last made the playoffs. Saleh and the Jets can't afford to be passive. The time is now for the Jets to do something special.

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