

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **VIKINGS SIGN HEAD COACH MIKE ZIMMER TO CONTRACT EXTENSION**

**Eagan, Minn. (July 24, 2020)** – The Minnesota Vikings announce they have signed Head Coach Mike Zimmer to a three-year contract extension, keeping him under contract with the team through the 2023 season.

“We are excited to have Coach Zimmer continue to lead the Minnesota Vikings this season and beyond. We strongly believe in his leadership and the team culture he’s fostered. We look forward to him furthering the team’s success of the previous six seasons and leading us to our ultimate goal of bringing a Super Bowl Championship to Minnesota,” Vikings Owner/President Mark Wilf said.

Zimmer, who enters his seventh season at the helm of the Vikings in 2020, has led the franchise to a 57-38-1 record since being hired on Jan. 15, 2014. The 57 victories in that span are the seventh-most regular-season wins among all NFL teams in that span. The 42-year coaching veteran has also led Minnesota to a pair of NFC North titles (2015 and 2017) and three playoff appearances (2015, 2017 and 2019).

Zimmer’s .599 regular-season win percentage ranks seventh among current NFL head coaches\* and trails only Bud Grant (.621) and Dennis Green (.610) for best in Vikings history. Including postseason, Grant (281) and Green (171) are the only coaches in club history to have coached more games than Zimmer’s 101.

“Coach Zimmer brings an intensity and consistency to the field that our players and fans alike appreciate. He holds his players and staff to a high standard and will continue to guide the Vikings to long-term success,” Owner/Chairman Zygi Wilf said.

After inheriting a defense in 2014 that ranked 31st in 2013, Zimmer has guided Minnesota to top-10 rankings in the NFL in points allowed in five (2015-19) of his six seasons. The team’s defense and has ranked top 10 in yards allowed in three (2016-18) of those six seasons. The 2017 Vikings defense topped the league in both scoring defense (15.8) and yards allowed (275.9), and Zimmer led the team to a 13-3 record, the second-most wins in a regular season in franchise history.

Under Zimmer, Minnesota has compiled four winning seasons (2015 and 2017-19). That number is tied with Jerry Burns for third in Vikings history among head coaches, trailing only Bud Grant (12 winning seasons) and Dennis Green (eight winning seasons).

*\*The minimum for coaches to qualify is 50 games as an NFL head coach*

### **Minnesota Vikings team and defensive rankings since 2014:**

- 1st in defensive 3rd-down percentage (35.2)
- 2nd in points allowed per game (19.3)
- 3rd in yards allowed per game (321.8)
- 3rd passing yards allowed per game (214.7)
- 3rd in total defensive sacks (260)
- 5th in turnover differential (+31)
- 7th in total wins (57)
- Tied for 10th in interceptions (83)
- 12th in rushing yards allowed per game (107.1)

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