



# DON SMOLENSKI

## PRESIDENT



Don Smolenski, now in his 20th season with the organization, was originally hired by the team in 1998 as chief financial officer. He was promoted to senior vice president/chief financial officer in 2001 and was named the team's chief operating officer in 2010. In 2012, he was named to his current role of team president.

As president, Smolenski directs the club's business and strategic efforts, including sales, marketing, communications, and operations. He has played a key role in significant projects from the construction of Lincoln Financial Field to the club's internationally recognized environmental and philanthropic programs. During his tenure as president, Smolenski has infused energy and creativity throughout the organization with his engaging leadership style. In 2015, he was named to the Most Admired CEOs list by the *Philadelphia Business Journal* and the Philadelphia Eagles were twice named to Philly.com's Top Workplaces list in 2016 and 2018.

During his time as the team's president, Smolenski and the Eagles saw their first Super Bowl victory in franchise history after defeating the New England Patriots, 41-33, in Super Bowl LII.

In his first year as president, Smolenski spearheaded a two-year, \$125 million Lincoln Financial Field revitalization project that added 1,600 seats, HD video boards, and graphics paying tribute to the team's history. Over the years, Lincoln Financial Field has hosted high-profile events including sold-out concerts, national and international soccer matches, the NCAA Lacrosse Championships, the Army-Navy Game, Monster Jam, Temple University football, and more.

Smolenski plays an important role in the team's environmental initiatives. Because of their Go Green program, the Eagles have emerged as a leader in environmental stewardship in the sports industry. Those efforts include conservation efforts, recycling programs, and use of renewable energy including wind and solar.

Smolenski serves as the treasurer of the team's public charity, Eagles Charitable Foundation, which provides children in the Philadelphia region with greater access to vision care and provides funds to support autism research and services. Just this past season, Smolenski helped launch the Eagles Autism Challenge, a one-day bike ride and family-friendly 5K run/walk dedicated to raising funds for innovative research and programs to help unlock the mystery of autism. In addition, Smolenski helped launch the Eagles Care initiative in 2013. The Eagles Care program forges annual, strategic partnerships with five local nonprofit organizations in order to deepen the impact of the team's community efforts. The Eagles also host an annual Huddle Up For Autism event at Lincoln Financial Field in partnership with the Center for Autism Research at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

In addition to his leadership roles within the Eagles organization, Smolenski is a member of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce Board, the FM Global Advisory Board, the Philadelphia Sports Congress, the Panasonic Advisory Board, and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) Foundation Board of Overseers. Smolenski is also the co-chair of the CHOP Corporate Council and is involved with Leadership Philadelphia, a nonprofit organization that promotes leadership and community

involvement. This past year, in partnership with the Philadelphia Sports Congress, Smolenski assisted in bringing the NFL Draft back to Philadelphia for the first time since 1961.

Before joining the Eagles, Smolenski served as chief financial officer for the International Hockey League, where he oversaw all league financial matters and played an integral role in the expansion of the league. Through the development of expansion models and the analysis of league performance models, Smolenski saw the league grow from 12 to 19 teams.

Smolenski began his career as a public accountant with Arthur Andersen.

An outdoor enthusiast, Smolenski enjoys an active lifestyle and has completed the Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Boston Marathons. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Amherst College and holds a Master of Science degree in accounting. Don and his wife, Karen, have two sons, Jake and Shane.

### BEHIND THE SCENES WITH SMOLENSKI



**Favorite Eagles moment:** "Standing on the field after the 2004 NFC Championship game watching 68,000 Eagles fans celebrate."

**Proudest accomplishment with the Eagles:**

"The countless acts of emotional connections between our staff and our fans that I witness every day."

**Favorite part of game day:** "Standing on the upper concourse looking out at all of the Eagles fans tailgating throughout the complex. Always humbling."

**Best thing about Eagles fans:** "Honesty, loyalty and passion."

**Favorite Philadelphia attraction:** Boathouse Row

**Favorite TV show:** *The Simpsons*

**Favorite movie:** *Star Wars*

**Bucket list:** Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro

**First job:** Newspaper delivery boy