

Panthers Introduce Rivera As New Coach

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CBS Sports is reporting that the Carolina Panthers will introduce Ron Rivera as their new head coach at a press conference at Bank of America Stadium at 5 pm EST Tuesday afternoon.

Rivera, who had a nine-year playing career with the Chicago Bears, has been a defensive assist since 1997 with the Bears, Philadelphia Eagles and the San Diego Chargers. He was also a defensive coordinator with the Bears (2005) and the Chargers (2008).

Rivera becomes the fourth head coach in team history, and he replaces John Fox, who did not have his contract renewed at the end of the season. Fox won 78 games in nine years, won a National Football Conference championship in 2003 and he led the Panthers to Super Bowl XXXVIII.

The Panthers have also released their opponents for the upcoming 2011 season. The Panthers will play 10 games against teams that finished the year with a .500 or better record, including seven games against teams that made the playoffs during the 2010 campaign.

In addition to home and away games against NFC South foes Atlanta, New Orleans and Tampa Bay, the Panthers will play all four teams from both the NFC North and AFC South. Carolina's remaining two 2011 intraconference opponents are based on the 2010 standings. The Panthers will play at Arizona and host Washington since all three teams finished fourth in their respective divisions.

Dates and times will not be announced by the NFL until the spring. Following that, an on-sale date for single-game tickets to Panthers home games for the 2011 season will be determined.

2011 OPPONENTS

