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# 6 silver linings to the latest Deflategate ruling

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**The latest ruling in the Deflategate saga is, without a doubt, bad news overall for Patriots star quarterback Tom Brady.**

By **Matt Rocheleau**

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The [latest ruling in the Deflategate saga](#) is, without a doubt, bad news overall for Patriots star

quarterback Tom Brady, his teammates, and New England fans.

Experts say it's now all but certain that Brady will wind up having to serve his four-game suspension.

While local sports fans are known for having a doom-and-gloom outlook, here are some reasons to stay positive (at least a smidgen) in the wake of the latest ruling:

- The latest development in the case hasn't affected the Patriots' overall chances for success next year — at least not according to oddsmakers in Vegas. [ESPN reported](#) Wednesday that New England remains the odds-on favorite to win the Super Bowl. Yes, the Super Bowl. Again. As a bonus, two teams suspected of ratting out the Pats — the [Colts and the Ravens](#) — are much lower on the odds rankings.



- If the suspension is ultimately upheld, it may be cheaper to attend one of the games Brady would be absent for. Experts believe [tickets on the resale market, particularly for home games, will cost somewhat less](#) than usual if Brady can't play. Three of the first four games this year would be at Gillette Stadium, and during a time of year when it's unlikely to be frigid or snowing. Don't expect a discount on beer or food, though.

- At least there was something for fans to talk about Wednesday, the [slowest sports day of the year](#). It's not a happy subject, and much of the Deflategate discussion is a repeat of what's been said for months, but, hey, it's something to help pass the time.

- The Patriots will get a tiny bit of extra salary cap space to work with. As [the Globe's Ben Volin reported Wednesday](#), the team will get a salary cap credit equivalent to the pay that will be withheld from Brady during his suspension. Alas, the amount — just \$235,294 — is unlikely to be of any real help to New England. That's less than the [minimum salary for rookies \(\\$450,000\)](#). But who knows what the Hoodie has up his sleeve?

- ["Free Brady" T-shirts](#), and other Deflategate/anti-Goodell related apparel, remain relevant. No need to update your

wardrobe for now.

- Local football fans continue to get wicked smart as they learn, albeit accidentally, about the intricacies of the legal system, after months of studying the Ideal Gas Law.



Hey, and at least we finally get to see the backup QB start a game. ... OK, never mind. This stinks. Free Brady.

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