



KELLY SKIPPER

RUNNING BACKS

FIRST-AND-10

KELLY SKIPPER is in his tenth season as the Bills running backs coach. Over his nine seasons as the running backs coach for Buffalo, Skipper has led the Bills unit to 130.9 rushing yards per game, which is the third highest average in the NFL.

COACHING SHOUTOUTS

2017-present: (Buffalo Bills)

- James Cook finished the 2025 season as the NFL's leading rusher with 1,621 rushing yards. His 1,621 rushing yards ranks third in team history for the most rushing yards in a single season and marking the most rushing yards by a Bill since 1975 (O.J. Simpson - 1,817).

- He surpassed 1,000 rushing yards for a third consecutive season. Becoming the third Bill in team history to rush for 1,000 yards in three consecutive seasons, joining Thurman Thomas (8 consecutive seasons) and O.J. Simpson (5).

- Cook was tied for the league lead in rushing TDs with 16 in 2024, tying O.J. Simpson (1975) for the most in a single season in team history en route to second Pro-Bowl appearance.

- In 2023, Skipper helped second year back James Cook to a breakout season in which he was selected to the Pro Bowl for the first time in his career. Cook (1,122 rushing, 445 receiving) finished the season as one of only two RBs in the NFL with 1,100+ rushing yards and 425+ receiving yards. Cook (1,567) is the first Bills RB with 1,500+ scrimmage yards in a season since LeSean McCoy had 1,586 in 2017. He recorded 5 straight 100+ scrimmage yard games the longest streak since 2016 and Cook finished the season ranked fourth in the NFL in rushing and sixth in scrimmage yards.

- Oversaw the development of RB Devin Singletary, who finished the 2021 season with touchdowns in six consecutive games (regular and postseason). Singletary posted a career-high 870 yards and 7 touchdowns in 2021.

- In 2019, Skipper coached Singletary to the highest yards per carry (5.13) of any running back with at least 150 carries for that season. Frank Gore led the team in carries while producing an NFL record with 15 seasons with at least 500 rushing yards. Skipper coached LeSean McCoy to his sixth Pro-Bowl in 2017 as he totaled 1,138 yards rushing, which was the fourth most in the NFL.

COACHING SHOUTOUTS

2015-16: (Jacksonville Jaguars)

- In 2015, tutored rookie T.J. Yeldon, who became the first Jaguars rookie to surpass 1,000 scrimmage yards since Maurice Jones-Drew (1,377) in 2006.

2007-14: (Oakland Raiders)

- In 2013, he oversaw a running backs group that ranked third in the NFL with 18 rushes of 20-plus yards. The Raiders became the first team since 1978 to have four different players rush for 100 yards in the same season. Fullback Marcel Reese was named to the Pro Bowl for the second straight year in 2013 and was also named to the 2013 Associated Press All-Pro second team. Served as running backs coach for the Raiders for six seasons, after two years as tight ends coach.

- In 2010, oversaw a running game that ranked second (155.9 yards per game) in the NFL and established a franchise record by averaging 4.9 yards per attempt. Darren McFadden became the first Raider since 2007 to eclipse the 1,000-yard mark (1,157 yards).

- While he was the tight ends coach he coached a rookie Zach Miller, who led the Raiders in receiving (778) in 2008.

1989-97: (Fresno State)

- Started as a graduate assistant at his alma mater before being elevated to full-time assistant in 1991. Coached future NFL players running backs Lorenzo Neal, Michael Pittman, Ron Rivers and Reggie Brown.

PLAYING SHOUTOUTS

- Skipper played running back at Fresno State and finished his career with 2,237 rushing yards and 28 touchdowns. He was a first-team All-Big West selection as a senior.

PERSONAL/OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Also spent two summers, one with Seattle and one with Washington, as an NFL minority fellowship coaching intern. He was inducted into the Churchill High School Hall (Eugene, OR) of Fame in 2008.

- Skipper's father, Jim, was a longtime NFL assistant who retired prior to the 2019 season, and his brother, Tim is the head coach at Cal Poly State University. Born in Brawley, Calif. Earned his degree in business.