

Rib City BBQ to serve Red Sox fans at JetBlue Park

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Barbecue chain founded in Fort Myers signs on for second year as an official vendor of JetBlue Park for 2013 Spring Training season

Red Sox fans will once again be able to enjoy award-winning barbecue at the team's spring training home in Fort Myers.

According to company President Craig Peden, for the second consecutive year Rib City has signed on as an official concession vendor at JetBlue Park at Fenway South for the 2013 Spring Training season. Rib City will serve as an official concession vendor during spring training under Aramark, the Red Sox food and beverage partner and concessionaire. Rib City will sell their award-winning baby back ribs, pulled pork sandwiches and sides along Fenway South Drive – a street festival reminiscent of Yawkey Way in Boston. The company will also supply a la carte items to the private suites and picnics.

"We are very excited to be bringing our quality barbecue products once again to all of the Red Sox Spring Training fans this season," said Peden. "JetBlue Park is an incredible facility and we can't wait to greet fans onsite during the second season at this new facility."

Rib City is a family-owned national barbecue chain. Founded in Fort Myers in 1989, there are currently 13 corporate restaurants in Florida and 16 franchise restaurants across the country including Washington, Utah, Colorado, Tennessee, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri and Virginia-.

Fenway South is the Red Sox's 106-acre Spring Training and Player Development Complex located off of Daniels Parkway in Fort Myers. Rib City has a corporate owned location just west of JetBlue Park at 13750 Fiddlesticks Blvd. There are currently 11 corporate locations in Southwest Florida.

The Rib City concession at the new park will begin serving on Thursday, Feb. 21 with the traditional, single-admission double-header against the Northeastern University Huskies and Boston College Eagles starting at 1:35 p.m.

The club's Grapefruit League calendar begins on Saturday, February 23, with a JetBlue matchup against the Tampa Bay Rays (1:35 p.m. first pitch). This will be the first of six spring matchups with the Rays, including a St. Patrick Day's tilt at JetBlue Park on Sunday, March 17 (1:35 p.m. first pitch).

The Red Sox will host the New York Yankees on Sunday, March 3 at 1:35 p.m., and will welcome Mayor's Cup rival Minnesota to JetBlue Park four times. The 2013 spring slate also features eight scheduled JetBlue night games, including a matchup with Team Puerto Rico on Tuesday, March 5 as the Puerto Rican team prepares for the third World Baseball Classic.

Rib City offers a menu of barbecued meats, specialized sauces and complementary side dishes such as made-from-scratch baked beans and coleslaw. Rib City achieves authentic backyard barbecue flavor by slowly cooking baby back ribs and chicken over selected hardwoods - including Red Oak - carefully balancing heat and cooking time to seal in the distinctive Rib City BBQ taste. Meats can be topped with one of four secret recipe sauces: brown sugar-based sweet sauce, vinegar-based tangy sauce, Carolina mustard sauce or hot sauce. Additional menu items include fried okra, three-cheese fries, fried shrimp, coconut cream and southern pecan pies and more.

Rib City's complete menu is available online at www.ribcity.com.

Rib City is listed with the Franchise Registry, a list of franchise systems whose franchisees have the benefits of a streamlined review process for U.S. Small Business Administration financings.