The first 2012 Spring Training exhibition will be held on Wednesday, February 29th in Clearwater, Florida, where the Philadelphia Phillies will host Florida State University, while the first Cactus League game will be in Phoenix, Arizona on Friday, March 2nd, when the Seattle Mariners will visit the Oakland Athletics in a preview of Japan Opening Series 2012, Major League Baseball announced today.

Five Grapefruit League games and four Cactus League games are scheduled for Saturday, March 3rd. The Boston Red Sox will debut JetBlue Park at Fenway South in Lee County, Florida on Sunday, March 4th, when the club hosts the Minnesota Twins. The first full slate of action in both Arizona and Florida, involving all 30 Major League Clubs, is Monday, March 5th.

The Mariners and the A's will complete their Cactus League schedules on Wednesday, March 21st. Major League Baseball will open its regular season in Tokyo for the fourth time when the A's and the Mariners participate in Japan Opening Series 2012, a two-game set scheduled for March 28th and 29th. Japan Opening Series 2012 will be dedicated to assisting in the rebuilding efforts across Japan.

Select exhibition games at Major League and Minor League ballparks will be played from Saturday, March 31st through Wednesday, April 4th. The Miami Marlins will host the inaugural regular season game at their new downtown ballpark on Wednesday, April 4th, when they will welcome the 2011 World Series Champion St. Louis Cardinals at 7:00 p.m. (ET) on ESPN. Six games are scheduled for Thursday, April 5th and 10 games are scheduled for Friday, April 6th, with the first full slate of regular season games on Saturday, April 7th.

SELECT READ MORE TO SEE THE COMPLETE 2012 SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE (Subject to change)

Click to see the schedule in PDF

Source: Major League Baseball

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