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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Salt River Fields at Talking Stick is Nationally Recognized*

**Salt River Fields at Talking Stick  
Nominated as 'Sports Facility of the Year'  
by SportsBusiness Journal/Daily**

*Sole Arizona Contender in the Annual SportsBusiness Awards*

**Scottsdale, Ariz. (March 19, 2012)** – Salt River Fields at Talking Stick was nominated as 'Sports Facility of the Year' by **Sports Business Journal/Daily** today.

Salt River Fields is the only Arizona nominee of this prestigious annual sports business awards program.

"Our hard working staff, right now in the middle of a record-breaking Spring Training season, is absolutely thrilled with the nomination," said Dave Dunne, general manager, Salt River Fields. "We are winners already, given the daily opportunity we have to operate this beautiful facility and work with the tremendous sports organizations -- the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Colorado Rockies. On behalf of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, we are all delighted by this national recognition."

The facility, already known by many as the 'crown jewel' of MLB Spring Training venues, was nominated in a field with three other contenders: Amway Center, Livestrong Sporting Park and Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

SportsBusiness Journal/Daily announced its nominations today, a video of which is available online (<http://www.sportsbusinessdaily.com/Special-Content/News/2012/Sports-Business-Awards-nominees.aspx>).

Winners will be revealed May 23, during the 2012 Sports Business Awards ceremony in New York, at the Marriott Marquis at Time Square.

**- M O R E -**

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## **Salt River Fields Nominated as 'Sports Facility of the Year' / 2**

All told, 77 nominees in 15 categories were announced, covering the spectrum of sports business -- from 'Best in Sports Television' to 'Best Sports Team' to 'Sports Event of the Year'. SportsBusiness Journal/Daily publisher Richard Weiss and executive editor Abraham Madkour noted that roughly 50 percent of this year's nominees are first-time contenders.

An independent panel of judges is enlisted to make final deliberations on winners in each category.

Now in its second season, Salt River Fields at Talking Stick broke ground Nov. 16, 2009, with completion within 15 months, and in time for opening day of the 2011 Spring Training season, Feb. 26, 2011. The facility was designed by HKS and built by Mortenson Construction. At the time of its building, Salt River Fields represented the largest construction project in the Southwest region.

**About Salt River Fields at Talking Stick Resort.** Salt River Fields is a central landmark within the emerging Talking Stick Cultural and Entertainment Destination (TSCED). In its second season, the world-class venue has become the crown jewel of the MLB Spring Training season, and serves as Spring Training home to the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Colorado Rockies. Surrounded by some of the world's most beautiful mountain panoramas, the facility also serves as a popular year-round destination for major community events. Visit [www.SaltRiverFields.com](http://www.SaltRiverFields.com) for the latest information.

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