

ZACH BUREK

Director of Business Development – Detroit Tigers Lakeland Operations

General Manager - Lakeland Flying Tigers

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Zach Burek is in his 24th season with the Detroit Tigers organization (Jan.'97 – Sept.'01 & Nov.'05 – current), currently serving as the organization's Director of Business Development for its Lakeland Operation and as General Manager for the Lakeland Flying Tigers, a position he has held since 2005. In his current role, he oversees Lakeland Flying Tigers business operations and manages all revenue sales, fulfillment and service related to Tigers Spring Training and Lakeland Flying Tigers. He oversees all corporate partnerships and tickets sales, oversees all Flying Tigers business and game-day operations as well as manages the fulfillment of the Major League Baseball Professional Development League agreement governing Minor League Baseball.

Zach has served on several Minor League Baseball committees including scheduling, marketing, Baseball Chapel, and the Florida State League (FSL) All-Star game. Lakeland has been awarded two FSL All-Star games during his tenure. Through the club's commitment to community, the Flying Tigers were awarded a prestigious "Golden Bobblehead" award in 2019 for Best Community Promotion or Event. Zach was awarded the Florida State League Executive of the Year Award in 2010.

From Sept. 2001 – Oct. 2005, Zach was the Corporate Sponsorship Manager for Polk County Tourism and Sports Marketing (PCTSM) where he was responsible for the organization's ongoing community development & partnership program. The program produced events including the Polk County All Sports Awards and creation of the Polk County Sports Hall of Fame, Celebrity Luncheon Series which honored the achievements of local athletes, and the Major League Charity Golf Scramble which was created in partnership with the Detroit Tigers, Cleveland Indians, and Kansas City Royals to raise money for youth sports programs in Polk County. Zach also worked to bring visibility and awareness for PCTSM and its event partners by co-hosting and co-producing Sports Central, a weekly radio sports talk show on 1430 WLKF and in 2005 he assisted with the creation of a weekly sports talk show on the Polk County Government Channel (PGTV). He also worked with event organizers and decision makers across the country to recruit events to Polk County.

Zach is a charter member of the TigerTown Rotary Club where he served as the club's inaugural Club President in 2019. He currently serves on several club committees including Salute to Veterans Breakfast, Twilight 5K and volunteers at many club service projects. He previously served as a board member for the Lakeland South Rotary Club, steering committee member for EMERGE Lakeland and currently serves on the Polk County All Sports Awards selection committee. He has been involved with the American

Heart Association, Police Athletic League, and the Lakeland YMCA. Zach is a graduate of Leadership Lakeland Class 27.

Zach earned his BS degree in Sports Management at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, New Hampshire. Prior to that, he graduated from LaSalle Institute in his native Troy, New York. During his high school days, Zach played basketball, baseball and football, where he was a National Football Foundation scholar athlete and team captain. He resides in Lakeland with his wife Carla and son Bradley and are members of Redemption Church in Lakeland.