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### JARED WARD TO SPEAK AT ENSIGN ATHLETICS' THIRD VIRTUAL FIRESIDE

PAYSON, Utah – Ensign Athletics is slated to host its third virtual fireside this weekend with Olympic marathoner Jared Ward, the organization announced Thursday.

The fireside will be streamed live on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m. MT via Zoom, [Facebook Live](#) and [YouTube Live](#). Ward will participate in a Q&A after his remarks. Ensign Athletics members may submit questions via the organization's Facebook and Instagram accounts or internal social media platform.

Also a BYU statistics professor, Ward placed third in the marathon in the 2016 Olympic Trials. He finished sixth overall later that year in Rio de Janeiro with a personal best time of 2:11:30. Ward has represented the United States in 11 cities across four countries since 2013.

"We are excited to have Jared Ward speak at our virtual fireside this Sunday," Ensign Athletics President/CEO Billy Nixon said. "He joined the Ensign family early on as an ambassador and is an inspiring example for youth. We look forward to hearing about his experiences with faith and sport."

Ensign Athletics is a nonprofit established this fall to support youth and young adults who love sports and seek to follow Christ, whatever their religion may be. In an era of competing priorities, the organization offers teens a global community of people with similar interests and beliefs.

As part of Ensign Athletics' mission to empower youth athletes to achieve academic, athletic and spiritual excellence, the virtual fireside series kicked off in late September. Previous speakers include BYU religion professor and motivational speaker [Hank Smith](#) and two-time Olympian [Noelle Pikus Pace](#).

The virtual speaker series is one of many ways Ensign Athletics is working to connect youth and young adults with world-class athlete ambassadors. More information about Ensign Athletics can be found at [ensignathletics.org](http://ensignathletics.org).

#### **About Ensign Athletics**

Ensign Athletics is a nonprofit organization aligned with the principles and values of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Its mission is to support youth and young adults who love sports, and who seek to model their lives after the Savior.

Ensign Athletics was founded to empower young athletes to achieve the highest levels of success in their academic, athletic and spiritual pursuits.

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