

ROYCE WHITE

ATHLETE • AUTHOR • ADVOCATE



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2X ALL-NBL CANADA FIRST TEAM

NBL CANADA MVP

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JORDAN BRAND CLASSIC ALL-AMERICAN

MINNESOTA MR. BASKETBALL



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THE LAST RENAISSANCE

Royce White is an humanitarian, author, creator, entrepreneur, and professional athlete. He is currently the founder and CEO of Vitruvian, Inc.—a science, technology, and engineering company.

White was born in Minneapolis, MN, and was an All-American basketball player both in high school and college before being drafted 16th overall in the 2012 NBA Draft. Prior to being drafted, he spoke openly about being diagnosed with generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) as a teenager.

After he was drafted, White publicly voiced concerns about the NBA having no concrete mental health policy. He advocated for mental health reform in the league, across other sports, and in society at large. Since then, he has not been on an NBA roster, despite comparisons to other NBA legends such as Charles Barkley and LeBron James. Despite his absence from the NBA, it is clear that his advocacy has caused movement in the way the league handles mental health. In 2017, NBA spokesperson Kathy Behrens said White's outspokenness about mental health issues represented a step in the right direction. "I give Royce a lot of credit for being open about his situation," Behrens said.

In May 2018, the National Basketball Players Association hired its first director of mental health and awareness. White is now regarded as one of the pioneers of the modern mental health movement.

AUTHOR

Long Past Overdue

As a former NBA player and outspoken advocate for mental health, White puts down his thoughts and inspirations about mental health for the first time in long form in *Long Past Overdue*. This work is not confined to his own experience, though that is touched on; it also spans the broader field of mental health itself and puts it in the context of the human experience and society at large.

From the book: "Mental health is THE social issue of our time. It is the crux of who we are. It is the continuum we use to measure the way we think, feel and interact...Our willingness or unwillingness to acknowledge that continuum does not and will never exclude us from it.

MMA x NBA

White's second book, *MMA x NBA* is an account of his transition from basketball to Mixed Martial Arts. The core of the work, however, is a treatise on sport, detailing its competitive fundamentals, institutional structures, its relation to society, and its future possibilities.

