

PLAATJIES VS EMBOMBE SET FOR EFC 139

Flyweights collide in Johannesburg as both men look to build on recent submission victories



Johannesburg, South Africa - 19 August 2026

The first bout for EFC 139 has been confirmed, with South Africa's Salahuddin "Captain" Plaatjies set to collide with the Democratic Republic of Congo's Story Mpia Embombe in an exciting flyweight contest on 5 November 2026.

With both athletes coming into EFC 139 off important submission victories, this 125-pound matchup brings together two fighters determined to turn recent success into sustained momentum inside the EFC Hexagon.

Plaatjies enters the contest following a statement victory at EFC 135, where he submitted Mfanafuthi Ngobese via rear-naked choke in the second round. The result returned "Captain" to the win column and reminded the division of the dangerous submission threat he carries every time he steps into the Hexagon.

Long before turning professional, Plaatjies established himself as one of South Africa's standout amateur mixed martial artists. His decorated amateur career included gold at the 2018 IMMAF Africa Championships, bronze at the 2018 IMMAF World Championships and silver at the 2019 Africa Championships, while he also reached No. 3 in the IMMAF senior flyweight world rankings.

Now, after navigating the challenges of the professional ranks, the experienced South African enters EFC 139 looking to build on his latest victory and continue climbing the flyweight ranks.

Standing across from him will be Embombe, who arrives with momentum of his own.

The Congolese flyweight secured a major breakthrough at EFC 136, earning his first professional victory with a rear-naked choke submission over Siyanda “Bhubesi” Vilakazi. After enduring a difficult beginning to his professional career, Embombe showed resilience and development to get his hand raised and now has the opportunity to immediately build on that performance.

With his rangy frame and physical advantages for the division, Embombe presents a very different challenge for Plaatjies. Both men also enter the matchup having secured rear-naked choke victories in their most recent appearances, adding another interesting element to this flyweight contest.

For Plaatjies, EFC 139 represents an opportunity to prove that his latest victory was the beginning of a resurgence. For Embombe, it is the chance to show that his breakthrough at EFC 136 was only the start as he looks to establish himself in the EFC flyweight division.

Salahuddin Plaatjies vs Story Mpia Embombe is confirmed for EFC 139, with more bouts set to be announced in the build-up to fight night.

EFC 139 is presented by World Sports Betting and takes place on Thursday, 5 November at the WSB EFC Arena in Johannesburg, South Africa. Tickets and broadcast information are available at:

<https://efcworldwide.com>

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