

RETURNS, REMATCHES AND RIVALRIES ADDED TO EFC 136

Mkhwanazi Meets Returning Hadebe As Tshibala And Matukane
Renew Heavyweight Rivalry



Johannesburg, South Africa - 14 July 2026

EFC 136 continues to take shape with two more compelling contests confirmed for the August 6 fight card. In the bantamweight division, Godfrey "Feralspunky" Mkhwanazi puts his two-fight winning streak on the line against returning veteran Sithembiso Hadebe, while former rivals Jeremie "Warrior of God" Tshibala and Christopher "Savage" Matukane meet again in a heavyweight rematch years after their first encounter in a much lighter weight class.

TSHIBALA VS MATUKANE

The heavyweight division welcomes an intriguing rematch when Democratic Republic of Congo athlete Jeremie "Warrior of God" Tshibala faces South Africa's Christopher "Savage" Matukane once again, years after the pair first shared the EFC Hexagon.

Representing Durban's War Warriors under coach British Boloyoang, Tshibala earned a unanimous decision victory in their first meeting. Since then, both athletes have undergone dramatic physical transformations and now compete in the heavyweight division. Comfortable exchanging with his boxing while using his physicality in the clinch, Tshibala returns determined to prove that the outcome will remain the same despite the change in circumstances.

Standing opposite him is Johannesburg's Christopher Matukane of Valhalla MMA under coach Shane Carr. Having steadily added size and experience since their previous meeting, Matukane has repeatedly sought the opportunity to avenge that defeat. A durable competitor who thrives in close-range exchanges and never shies away from a firefight, he believes the heavyweight division presents the perfect opportunity to rewrite history.

Years after meeting in a very different division, two transformed athletes collide once again with unfinished business still waiting to be settled.

HADEBE VS MKHWANAZI

Godfrey "Feralspunky" Mkhwanazi enters EFC 136 riding the momentum of back-to-back victories as he welcomes experienced veteran Sithembiso Hadebe back to the organisation.

Representing Johannesburg's Godfather MMA under coach Ferdie Basson, Mkhwanazi has shown impressive growth with every performance. Known for his aggressive boxing, relentless pressure and grinding ground-and-pound, the 25-year-old has developed into one of the bantamweight division's fastest-rising competitors and now faces another important test against one of the division's most experienced athletes.

Standing across the Hexagon is Johannesburg's Sithembiso Hadebe. Returning to EFC after competing internationally, including bouts in the United Arab Emirates, Hadebe brings a wealth of experience along with a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu black belt, sharp boxing and technical takedowns. Back on familiar ground, the veteran will be eager to remind the division exactly what he is capable of.

Momentum meets experience as one of the division's rising contenders faces a respected veteran determined to make an immediate statement on his return.

The EFC 136 event is headlined by Sanchez vs Swanepoel for the interim lightweight championship and is presented by World Sports Betting live from the World Sports Betting EFC Arena in Johannesburg, South Africa on August 6.

Ticket and broadcast information at efcworldwide.com.

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