

# EXPLOSIVE PRESS CONFERENCE LIGHTS UP EFC 122 FIGHT WEEK

8th April 2025



**Johannesburg, South Africa** - Six main card athletes faced-off at the World Sports Betting Arena for the first time ahead of the Wednesday weigh-in and Thursday fight night. With Bantamweight Champion Faez Jacobs engaging in a war of words with his challenger, Sibusiso Sovendle, and the Heavyweight title-holder Anthony Morel squaring-up to his main-event adversary, Elvis Moyo, the tension in the arena was palpable, with various heated exchanges portending a fight week of high-drama and thunderous action.

For his first title defence, Anthony 'Big' Morel is wasting no time, hitting the stage straight from the airport and calmly laying out his plan in front of the media. "I'm the third Frenchman to hold an EFC belt, and there aren't many fighters from Réunion Island, so I feel the pressure. But my only desire is getting into that Hexagon. My opponent is a powerful puncher but he doesn't have a complete game, he's just a striker" claimed the champion to which the 'Bulawayo Bomber' had an immediate reply - "He can bring his own arsenal, I'll bring mine. I'm a specialist and he knows it's inevitable that I'm going to hit him hard! What he does after that doesn't bother me." With World Sports Betting putting Moyo on a massive 6.00 outside line, a successful punter resonating with the Zimbabwean's confidence could take R600 for every R100 wagered, whilst the incumbent and favourite Morel is the most fancied winner on the entire card at 1.14\*

Another huge favourite at WSB and in the co-main event slot, is the mercurial champion Faez 'Troublemaker' Jacobs who talked of the disrespect he felt throughout the event build-up from the underdog challenger, Sibusiso Sovendle - "We used to get along well and then he suddenly switched it up so I'm going to teach him the lesson he needs to learn and pat him on the shoulder and send him on his way." Amongst several fiery back-and-forth retorts, Sovendle replied - "It's my time, my prime. I respect him but this is the fighting game. I never disrespected him, it's just business. I look up to him but he's in the way of my dreams and this is the new generation."

With the number one contendership in the women's strawweight division on the line between Uganda's Rebecca 'Warrior' Amongi and South Africa's Ceiligh 'Smiley Savage' Niedermayr, it was the Kampalan who screamed into the face of her foe on stage to which Niedermayr made not a flinch. But it was immediately evident that the Kampalan is fired-up - "I'm ready for her, our fight last year was cancelled so I hope she's ready because I'm going to knock her out in the first round." But the Durbanite immediately fired back - "It really excites me to hear she's coming prepared. I'm looking for violence. I'm looking for blood. I hope that she AND the paramedics are ready."

EFC Matchmaker Graeme Carmell was taken aback by the intensity of the press conference - "I didn't know these guys had so much beef, Faez always brings the intensity but Siburo understands now what he needs to do to beat the champ. As for Morel and Moyo, we need heavyweights and big men smashing the hell out of each other - that headliner is insane while the women have been preparing so hard for their fight, that's why it's for the divisional contendership"

With Mzwandile Hlongwa taking on Siyakudumisa Nomvemve and Vince Bembe facing Asiashu Tshitamba to round-off the main card following eight powerful prelims, 26 of the continent's best fighters are primed to deliver fireworks in the Hex this Thursday, so keep updated with all fight week content available on the social media links below:

You can watch the EFC 122 Countdown Show here:

The EFC 122 Press Conference and Face-Offs are available on the EFC YouTube Channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/@EFCworldwideMMA>