

THE POWER FACES ZIMBABWE'S PORCUPINE

Ayanda Zwane welcomes decorated Zimbabwean prospect Lewis Mataya to the EFC Hexagon at EFC 137



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South Africa's Ayanda "The Power" Zwane will look to continue his climb through the EFC featherweight division when he meets highly regarded Zimbabwean newcomer Lewis "Porcupine" Mataya at EFC 137 on Thursday, 10 September.

For Zwane, the bout presents another opportunity to strengthen his position among the division's leading contenders. Training out of Apex MMA South in Johannesburg under Wilhelm Strauss, the former boxer has developed into one of the promotion's most entertaining featherweights, combining sharp counter striking with steadily improving wrestling and excellent fight IQ.

Victories over Emerson Pedro, Elvis Ngwalangwala, Emmanuel Sita, Steven Goncalves, Roberto Miyaba and Sizwe Mnikathi have demonstrated Zwane's ability to compete with established opposition, while his relentless work ethic and determination to provide a better future for his family continue to drive his pursuit of EFC championship gold.

Standing opposite him is one of Zimbabwe's most accomplished amateur mixed martial artists.

Lewis "Porcupine" Mataya arrives with an outstanding amateur résumé that includes a Zimbabwean national taekwondo championship and the 2022 IMMAF Africa Lightweight Championship. Having

overcome the loss of both parents at a young age, Mataya was raised by his older sister and has channelled those experiences into a career built on discipline, resilience and ambition.

With a foundation in taekwondo complemented by Muay Thai, wrestling and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Mataya brings a well-rounded skill set to his EFC debut. His long-term ambition extends beyond championship success, with plans to use his career to establish an orphanage in Zimbabwe and create opportunities for disadvantaged children.

The matchup brings together two athletes at important stages of their careers. Zwane is determined to move another step closer to title contention, while Mataya has the opportunity to announce himself on Africa's biggest MMA stage against one of the division's established names.

This bout features on the EFC 137 fight card, headlined by Faez Jacobs and Chadrack Yemba competing for the interim EFC featherweight championship. EFC 137 takes place on Thursday, 10 September at the World Sports Betting EFC Arena in Johannesburg.

Broadcast and ticket information are available at efcworldwide.com.

About EFC® - The Extreme Fighting Championship®

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