

# WEIGH-IN SETS STAGE FOR EFC 135 AS JACOBS DELIVERS POWERFUL “WE ARE ONE” MESSAGE



**JOHANNESBURG, South Africa – 1 July 2026**

All 24 athletes successfully made weight on Wednesday morning as EFC 135 moved one step closer to fight night, with a professional yet highly charged official weigh-in setting the stage for Thursday's event at the World Sports Betting EFC Arena.

While security partner Night Guard was positioned on stage throughout the proceedings, no intervention was required as every athlete conducted themselves professionally despite a series of intense face-offs that underlined the significance of the bouts ahead.

Headlining the event, EFC Bantamweight Champion Faez Jacobs and challenger Gift Walker once again came face to face after both successfully making championship weight. Jacobs promised a relentless performance, declaring, "I'm going to go forward, be relentless and I'm going to break him," while Walker remained composed, insisting he would not be standing across from the champion if he didn't believe he was ready to leave with the belt.

The final face-off ended with a respectful handshake before Jacobs delivered one of the defining moments of fight week. Wearing "WE ARE ONE" across his chest alongside the outline of the African continent, the champion used his final interview to deliver a message beyond the championship contest.

“We are all one. We are all God’s children. Let’s walk this earth side by side and uphold humanity to the highest standard. Nkosi Sikelel’ iAfrika.”

Earlier on the stage, unbeaten Zimbabwean Bryn Gwavava and South Africa’s Moses Mokhari reignited the rivalry that began at Monday’s Media Day, while women’s strawweights Jessica Mouneimne and Nicole van Wyk produced one of the day’s most visually striking face-offs, with Mouneimne competing in hijab opposite a relaxed but equally focused Van Wyk.

Following the official weigh-in, athletes spoke with media where Mouneimne reflected on another historic milestone in her fighting career.

“I’ve had many firsts in my fighting career. I’ve been the first South African woman to fight bare knuckle, the first Muslim woman in hijab to fight in professional boxing and tomorrow I will become the first South African hijabi to compete in professional mixed martial arts. Thank you to EFC for the opportunity.”

Representing Congo Brazzaville, Emmanuel Sita proudly carried his national flag onto the weigh-in stage before reaffirming his determination ahead of the biggest fight of his EFC career. Across from him, rising South African lightweight Khanyo Maqam remained calm and confident, insisting his focus remains solely on Thursday night’s challenge.

South Africa’s Jaden van der Merwe and Nigeria’s Josiah Obasi completed a composed but intense final face-off, while Durban’s Mlungisi Mbizane brought his trademark energy to the stage and unbeaten featherweight Yaseen Adams looked in exceptional condition ahead of another major test.

Adding to the occasion were EFC partners World Sports Betting and Knox Hydration, with Knox ambassadors Shelly and Gaia joining athletes on stage throughout the official weigh-in.

According to World Sports Betting, champion Faez Jacobs enters Thursday night’s main event as the favourite. Those backing Gift Walker to win by knockout or submission could more than triple their stake should the former EFC Flyweight Champion capture the bantamweight championship in dramatic fashion.

## **Official EFC 135 Fight Card**

### **Bantamweight Championship**

Faez Jacobs vs Gift Walker

### **Lightweight**

Emmanuel Sita vs Khanyo Maqam

### **Catchweight 194 pounds**

Jaden van der Merwe vs Josiah Obasi

### **Women’s Strawweight**

Jessica Mouneimne vs Nicole van Wyk

### **Bantamweight**

Eduardo Barros vs Mlungisi Mbizane

### **Featherweight**

Yaseen Adams vs Guide Moyo

### **Featherweight**

Ayanda Zwane vs Nerik Simoes

**Women's Featherweight**

Charmaine Venter vs Anisha Khadka

**Bantamweight**

Moses Mokhari vs Bryn Gwavava

**Middleweight**

Nicolaas Vermaak vs Clelio Diogo

**Flyweight**

Mfanafuthi Ngobese vs Salahuddin Plaatjies

**Middleweight**

Elisio Andre vs Trevor Mutsila

EFC 135: Jacobs vs Walker bantamweight championship, presented by World Sports Betting, takes place on Thursday, 2 July from the World Sports Betting EFC Arena in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The preliminary card broadcasts live from 15:00 on Discover Sport, with the main card live from 19:00 on SuperSport, SABC Sport, Discover Sport, DAZN and other international broadcast partners.

Tickets and broadcast information is available at [www.efcworldwide.com](http://www.efcworldwide.com).