

Eric Whittington has an extensive background in Folkstyle and Freestyle wrestling with over 20 years as a high school referee in various states and as a competitor. His dedication and discipline to wrestling afforded him the opportunity to officiate 15 State Championships, 3 European Championships, 3 USA National Championships and 3 Reno Tournament of Champions tournaments, officiated by only the best officials from across the nation. The Reno TOC is dubbed as the “Toughest Tournament in the USA”, where wrestlers compete for a chance at High School All American status. Additionally, Eric was nominated to the Arizona Interscholastic Association Wrestling Officials Board of Directors and was regarded as a rules expert and professional trainer for all levels.

In 2016 Eric Whittington began his transition into MMA working and training with UMMAF. Eric began his journey in MMA by working as an event inspector, eventually rising to lead event inspector. Eric's dedication and knowledge lead him cage-side as a judge where he sharpened his knowledge of scoring criteria of MMA. Eric then became an MMA referee for UMMAF and his involvement and credentials allowed him to officiate the 2018 UMMAF National Amateur Championships, eventually leading to his selection to referee and judge the 2018 IMMAF-WMMAA Amateur World Championships in Bahrain. Eric has been trained by the Athletic Boxing Commission as a Referee/Judge/Inspector and is currently a licensed professional and amateur MMA Official in Arizona and Virginia. He has worked for several promotions to include UFC, World Fighting Championships, King of the Cage, and several others in various states and roles.

Eric moved to Brussels, Belgium in August 2021, where he expanded his experience by joining the Belgium Federation where he shares his knowledge and passion by training younger officials. His experience has allowed him to officiate multiple European promotions in Belgium, Netherlands and Germany to include Oktagon, Cage Warriors Lowlands, EMC, NFC, LFL, Beatdown, Bushido, Atomic and K1 Kick boxing. He most recently officiated the 2022 World Championships held in Belgrade Serbia.

Eric is also a decorated Air Force Veteran and retired after 21 years of honorable service. Upon retirement Eric spent 7 years as a law enforcement officer and was recognized as a personable and professional communicator with community relations skills. During this time Eric pursued and achieved a Master of Public Administration Degree and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Management Studies.