

KZN lightning strike leaves soccer fan dead [South Africa]

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Jeff Wicks, News24

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Durban - A teenage boy, 16, was killed and 15 other people were injured in a mass lightning strike while they huddled around a TV in KwaMaphumulo in KwaZulu-Natal to watch Bafana

Bafana take on Angola on Tuesday night.

KZN EMS spokesperson Robert McKenzie said paramedics were called to the emergency during a storm in the rural district of the province.

A rondavel with a thatch roof had been struck by lightning, with the group of men inside understood to be watching a soccer match.

“Paramedics arrived at the incident near the Qavavu Primary in Maphumulo and they found that a large group of people had been struck by lightning,” he said.

“Sixteen men were struck by lightning and sadly one man passed away. Five were in a serious condition and 10 of the patients were treated for minor injuries.”

McKenzie said that the wounded were transported to area hospitals for further medical care.