

AFCON 2027 QUALIFIER · GROUP H · MATCHDAY 2

TUNISIA **vs** BOTSWANA

Four things that will decide Monday's match

Monday 28 September 2026 · Away fixture in Tunisia

01 · THE LAST 15 MINUTES

Two points slipped away late in Tripoli

The Zebras led Libya 2–0 at half-time, then conceded after the 85th minute and again from a stoppage-time penalty.

02 · AWAY IN TUNISIA

Botswana have won in Tunisia before

A 1–0 win there in 2010. Tunisia won the other three home meetings, but drew at home to Uganda on Thursday.

03 · THE COUNTER

Uganda showed how to hurt Tunisia

Their equaliser in Radès came from a quick counter after winning the ball outside the box.

04 · PENALTIES

Keep it clean in the box

Libya's equaliser was a penalty, and 2 of Tunisia's 7 AFCON 2025 goals were penalties.

GROUP H AFTER MATCHDAY 1

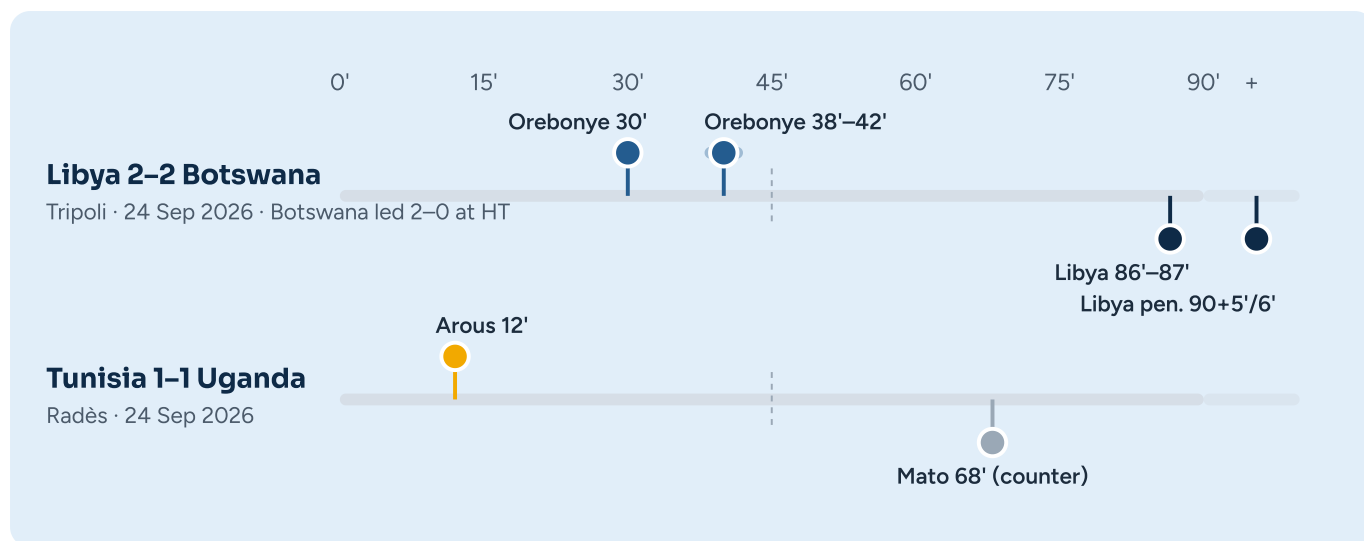
Everyone is level, so Monday's winner leads the group

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Botswana	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Libya	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Tunisia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Uganda	1	0	1	0	1	1	1

Table calculated from the two matchday-1 results. Uganda are already qualified for AFCON 2027 as co-hosts.

Both teams let a lead slip on Thursday

Botswana scored twice in the first half in Tripoli and held on until the final minutes. Tunisia scored early at home and were pegged back in the second half. Neither side has yet shown it can close out a game in this group.



BOTSWANA STARTING XI VS LIBYA (4-3-3)



Orebonye (amber) scored both goals.

What worked. Orebonye scored twice before half-time, with assists reported for Kgamanyane and Kopelang. The front three created enough to win away from home.

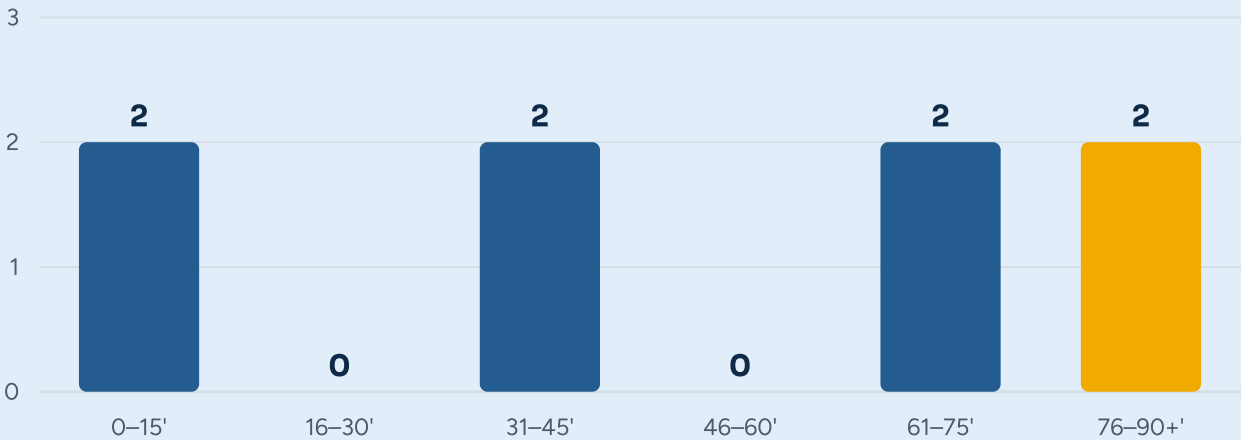
What went wrong. Libya's two goals came after the 85th minute, the second from a penalty in stoppage time. The lead was lost in the final ten minutes, not in open play over the whole half.

Discipline. Kopelang was booked in the 14th minute. Cheap early bookings for defenders are a risk against a side that attacks until the end.

Tunisia score at any point in a match

Across AFCON 2025 and Thursday's qualifier, Tunisia scored 8 goals in 5 matches. They were spread evenly: 4 in each half, including 2 in the last 15 minutes.

TUNISIA GOALS BY 15-MINUTE PERIOD (8 GOALS, 5 MATCHES)



TUNISIA'S LAST 5 COMPETITIVE MATCHES

DATE	MATCH	SCORE
23 Dec 2025	vs Uganda (AFCON)	3-1 W
27 Dec 2025	vs Nigeria (AFCON)	2-3 L
30 Dec 2025	vs Tanzania (AFCON)	1-1 D
3 Jan 2026	vs Mali (AFCON last 16)	1-1 D*
24 Sep 2026	vs Uganda (qualifier)	1-1 D

*Mali won 3-2 on penalties. One win in their last five.

How Uganda got back in. In the second half Uganda pressed higher and disrupted Tunisia's build-up. Their 68th-minute equaliser came from a quick counter after winning the ball outside the box, finished with a long-range strike.

Penalties matter. Tunisia scored 2 penalties at AFCON 2025 (Gharbi 43' vs Tanzania, Abdi 87' vs Nigeria).

Late goals. Talbi 74' and Abdi 87' vs Nigeria, and Chaouat 88' vs Mali. Tunisia keep pushing to the end.

HEAD TO HEAD

Tunisia are strong at home, but Botswana have won there

Tunisia have won 4 of the 8 meetings, Botswana 2, with 2 draws. In Tunisia, the hosts have won three of four meetings, scoring 9 goals, but Botswana won 1–0 there in 2010.

2004 L Tunisia 4–1 Botswana Away · WC qualifier	2005 L Botswana 1–3 Tunisia Home · WC qualifier	2010 W Tunisia 0–1 Botswana Away · AFCON qualifier	2010 W Botswana 1–0 Tunisia Home · AFCON qualifier	2014 L Tunisia 2–1 Botswana Away · AFCON qualifier	2014 D Botswana 0–0 Tunisia Home · AFCON qualifier	2022 D Botswana 0–0 Tunisia Home · AFCON qualifier	2023 L Tunisia 3–0 Botswana Away · AFCON qualifier
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Result from Botswana's point of view. Outlined in green: Botswana's win in Tunisia in 2010.

KEYS FOR THE ZEBRAS

Four decisions for Monday

- 1 Plan the last 15 minutes before kick-off**
Decide substitutions and the shape for protecting a lead in advance, and bring fresh legs on before the 75th minute rather than after.
- 2 Stay compact and patient away from home**
Tunisia have won three of four home meetings. Keep the game tight: a draw in Tunisia would be a good result, and Botswana have won there before.
- 3 Hit Tunisia in transition**
Press their build-up at chosen moments, then release quickly towards Orebonye and the wide forwards, as Uganda did on Thursday.
- 4 Defend the box without lunging**
No rash challenges late on. One penalty already cost two points in Tripoli.



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