

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2026:

On Tuesday 04 August 2026 the Whip Review Committee convened to consider potential breaches of Rule (F)45 following referrals from the racecourse Stewards and their own independent review of races run from 30 July 2026 – 02 August 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Epsom 30 July 2026:

Race 1 - The Spillers Future Champions Apprentice Handicap (Class 5)

Liam Wright, the rider of the winner, BOBACIOUS, was found to have used his whip in the incorrect place, approximately one furlong out. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows; Tuesday 18, Sunday 23, Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 August 2026.

Goodwood 31 July 2026:

Race 4 - The King George Qatar Stakes (Group 2) (Class 1)

Elione Chaves, the rider of LAMBORGHINI BF (IRE), placed sixth, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of six, down the shoulder in the forehand position with his hand off the reins and without giving his mount time to respond from half a furlong out. Taking into account that this was a Class 1 race, the penalty in respect of being above permitted level was doubled. He will be suspended for 22 days from Tuesday 18 August 2026 to Tuesday 08 September 2026, inclusive.

Thirsk 01 August 2026:

Race 5 - The William Hill Epic Boosts Handicap (Class 3)

Seamus Cronin, the rider of ANGEL HUNTER, placed second was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows; Tuesday 18, Sunday 23, Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 August 2026.

Lingfield Park 01 August 2026:

Race 6 - The Core Group Handicap (Class 6)

Sean Dylan Bowen, the rider of the winner, MUSICAL SOLDIER (IRE), was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from inside the final two furlongs. Allowing for the fact that Bowen has had over 200 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 2 days, Tuesday 18 and Sunday 23 August 2026.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair), Gregory Pearson, Sarah Ellison