

Whip Review Committee
Decisions 5 January 2024

On Friday 5 January 2024 the Whip Review Committee convened to consider potential breaches of Rule (F)45 following referrals from the racecourse Stewards for races run from 29 December – 3 January 2024, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Kelso 29 December 2024

Race 7 – The AJA Amateur Jockeys’ Handicap Steeple Chase (Class 4) (Challenger Staying Chase Series Qualifier)

Mr Callum Pritchard, the rider of JUST DON’T KNOW (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from three fences out. He will be suspended for 7 days as follows: Monday 22, Friday 26, and Monday 29 January, and Thursday 1, Saturday 3, Wednesday 7, and Friday 9 February.

Musselburgh 1 January 2024

Race 1 – The tote.co.uk Hair of the Dog Juvenile Hurdle Race (Class 4) (Go North Grey Bomber Series Qualifier) (GBB Race)

Mr Alex Harvey, the rider of CHURCHWARDEN (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip without giving his mount time to respond. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows: Monday 22, Friday 26, and Monday 29 January, and Thursday 1 February.

Race 6 – The tote.co.uk Dry January Starts Now Handicap Hurdle Race (Class 4) (Go North Brindisi Breeze Series Qualifier)

Danny McMenamin, the rider of CALL ME HARRY (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from after the third last flight. He will be suspended for 7 days from Friday 19 to Thursday 25 January inclusive.

Catterick Bridge 1 January 2024

Race 5 – The Download Raceday Ready Today Handicap Steeple Chase (Class 5) (Go North Red Rum Series Qualifier)

Callum Bewley, the rider of the winner, SKYHILL (IRE), was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven, from the second last fence, and also to have used it without giving his mount time to respond, and in the incorrect place from after the last fence. He will be suspended for 15 days from Friday 19 January to Friday 2 February inclusive.

Cheltenham 1 January 2024

Race 2 – The Close Brothers Novices’ Limited Handicap Steeple Chase (Class 3) (GBB Race)

The winner, LIBERTY HUNTER, ridden by Adam Wedge, was found to have minor weals post-race. Wedge will be suspended for 4 days as follows: Friday 19, and Sunday 21, to Tuesday 23 January.

Ayr 2 January 2024

Race 7 – The Win a Wedding at Western House Handicap Steeple Chase (Class 4) (Go North One Man Series Qualifier)

Ellis Collier, the rider of GANDHI MAKER (FR), placed third, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from the third last fence. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows: Friday 19, and Sunday 21, to Tuesday 23 January.

Kempton Park 3 January 2024

Race 2 – The Try our new Price Boost at Unibet Fillies' Novice Stakes (Class 5) (GBB Race)

Finley Marsh, the rider of the winner, LOVEALOT BEAR (IRE), was found to have used his whip three times above the permitted level of six from turning into the home straight. He will be suspended for 10 days as follows: Friday 19 to Saturday 27, and Monday 29 January.

Panel

Sam Angell (Chair)
Georgina Cartwright
Richard Westropp

Following riders' admissions of a breach of Rule (F)45, the following penalties were applied by the racecourse Stewards.

Cheltenham 1 January 2024

Race 5 – The Paddy Power Handicap Hurdle Race (Class 2) (GBB Race)

James Bowen, the rider of the winner, BUTCH, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from after the final flight. Allowing for the fact that Bowen has had over 150 rides in Great Britain since a previous whip breach mitigation on penalty in respect of the above permitted level was applied. Therefore, he will be suspended for 2 days; Monday 15, and Tuesday 16 January.

Kempton Park 3 January 2024

Race 6 – The Unibet Support Safe Gambling Handicap Stakes (Class 4) (London Middle Distance Qualifier)

Liam Keniry, the rider of GOD OF THUNDER (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately three furlongs out. Allowing for the fact that Keniry has had over 200 rides in Great Britain since a previous whip breach mitigation on penalty in respect of the above permitted level was applied. Therefore, he will be suspended for 2 days; Monday 8, and Thursday 18 January.