

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2026:

On Friday 10 April 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 06 April 2026 – 08 April 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Hereford 06 April 2026:

Race 4 - The Green Dragon Hotel Hereford Handicap Hurdle (Class 4)

Harriett Tucker, the rider of MALAGO ROSE (IRE), placed fourth, was found to have used her whip twice above the permitted level of seven from jumping the fourth last hurdle. She will be suspended for 7 days as follows; Friday 24 and Saturday 24 April 2026, Saturday 02, Monday 04, Tuesday 05, Wednesday 06 and Thursday 07 May 2026.

Plumpton 06 April 2026:

Race 4 - The Southern Cranes & Access Ltd Novices' Handicap Hurdle (GBB Race) (Class 3)

Paddy Hanlon, the rider of the winner, MALDINI MILANO (IRE), was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from turning into the home straight. Allowing for the fact that Hanlon has had over 75 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 3 days as follows; Friday 24 and Saturday 25 April 2026, and Saturday 02 May 2026.

Nottingham 08 April 2026:

Race 6 - The £9 Racedays At Nottingham Racecourse Handicap (Class 6)

Sam James, the rider of POWERFUL RESPONSE (IRE), placed third, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of six from inside the final two furlongs. He will be suspended for 7 days from Friday 24 to Thursday 30 April 2026, inclusive.

Fontwell Park 08 April 2026:

Race 5 - The Southern Contract Lifting Handicap Chase (Class 5)

Ben Godfrey, the rider of GORCOMBE MOONSHINE, placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from turning into the home straight. Allowing for the fact that Godfrey has had over 75 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 3 days as follows; Friday 24 and Saturday 25 April 2026, and Saturday 02 May 2026.

Catterick Bridge 08 April 2026:

Race 5 - The Every Race Live On Racing TV Handicap (Div I) (Class 6)

Barry McHugh, the rider of the winner, FREE PIC (IRE), was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of six approaching the final two furlongs. He will be suspended for 7 days from Friday 24 to Thursday 30 April 2026, inclusive.

Panel:

Sam Angel (Chair)

Michael Eyre

Adam Barker