

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2025:

On Tuesday 11 March 2025 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 03 March 2025 – 09 March 2025, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Newcastle 03 March 2025:

Race 3 - The Michael Knox Memorial Equine Products Novices' Limited Handicap Hurdle (Div II) (Class 5)

Jonathan England, the rider of PASSENGERONTHESHIP (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip three times above the permitted level of seven from rounding the home bend. He will be suspended for 10 days from Tuesday 25 March to Thursday 03 April 2025, inclusive.

Ben Smith, the rider of WINDSOR WIFE (IRE), placed fourth, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from jumping the third last hurdle. He will be suspended for 7 days from Tuesday 25 to Monday 31 March 2025, inclusive.

Ayr 07 March 2025:

Race 1 - The weatherbysshop.co.uk EBF Mares National Hunt Novices Hurdle (EBF Mares NH Novices Hurdle Qual) (GBB) (Class 4)

Derek Fox, the rider of the winner HAY MEADOW (IRE), was found to have used his whip in the incorrect place after jumping the last hurdle. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 25 to Friday 28 March 2025, inclusive.

Race 3 - The Weatherbys Scientific Handicap Hurdle (Go North Sea Pigeon Series Qualifier) (Class 5)

Conner McCann, the rider of MIX DE GRIS (FR), placed fourth, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the third last hurdle. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 25 to Friday 28 March 2025, inclusive.

Race 4 - The Albert Bartlett Triple Crown Series Handicap Hurdle (Qualifier) (Class 4)

Ben Smith, the rider of FOLLOW CHARLIE (IRE), placed third, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the third last hurdle. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows: Tuesday 1, Wednesday 2, Sunday 6 and Monday 7 April and one of these days will be spent receiving specialised coaching.

Exeter 07 March 2025:

Race 7 - The ExeTrak Ltd Ground Protection Mats Novices' Handicap Hurdle (Class 5)

Lorcan Williams, the rider of NATIVE MOON (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from turning into the home straight. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 25 to Friday 28 March 2025, inclusive.

Newcastle 07 March 2025:

Race 6 - The BetMGM: It's Showtime Classified Stakes (Class 6)

Jack Doughty, the rider of the winner DANEHILL STAR (IRE), 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 from Tuesday 25 to Friday 28 March 2025, inclusive.

Sandown Park 08 March:

Race 5 - The Best Odds On The Betfair Exchange Handicap Chase (Challenger Staying Chase Series Qual') (GBB Race) (Class 3)

Niall Houlihan, the rider of GOSHEN (FR), placed third, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from rounding the home turn. He will be suspended for 7 days from Tuesday 25 to Monday 31 March 2025, inclusive.

Carlisle 09 March 2025:

Race 3 - The Thank You Dan Wardlow Novices' Handicap Chase (GBB Race) (Class 4)

Ben Bromley, the rider of BLEU D'ENFER (FR), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from approaching the second last. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 25 to Friday 28 March 2025, inclusive.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair)

Steve Drowne

Adam Barker