

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2025:

On Tuesday 13 January 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 08 January 2026 – 11 January 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Chelmsford City 08 January 2026:

Race 2 - The Curry And Racing Next Thursday Classified Stakes (Class 6)

Marco Ghiani, the rider of POETIC JACK, placed second, was found to have used his whip above shoulder height on two occasions from turning into the home straight. He will be suspended for 7 days from Tuesday 27 to Saturday 31 January 2026, inclusive and Monday 02 and Tuesday 03 February 2026.

Exeter 09 January 2026:

Race 3 – The PricedUp Daily Racing Boosts Novices' Limited Handicap Chase (GBB Race) (Class 3)

Ned Fox, the rider of EL GRANJERO (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from approaching the second last fence. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 January 2026, inclusive.

Race 6 - The Racing Blogger Handicap Chase (GBB Race) (Class 4)

Lorcan Williams, the rider of the winner, BONZA BOY, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from approaching the last fence. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 January 2026, inclusive.

Newcastle 09 January 2026:

Race 3 - The Win £250,000 With BetMGM's Golden Goals Handicap (Class 6)

Taryn Langley, the rider of the winner, TRUST NO ONE, was found to have used her whip without giving her mount time to inside the final furlong. She will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 January 2026, inclusive.

Lingfield Park 10 January 2026:

Race 7 - The Create Your Bet Builders At Midnite Handicap (Class 3)

Rob Hornby, the rider of STAR CHORUS (IRE), placed third, was found to have used his whip in the incorrect place on the run to the line. Allowing for the fact that Hornby has had over 200 rides in Great Britain since a previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 2 days, Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 January 2026.

Chelmsford city 11 January 2026:

Race 7 - The Betfred Supports Jack Berry House Handicap (Rider Restricted Race) (Class 6)

Ben Robinson, the rider of MINERS GAMBLE (IRE), unplaced, was found to have used his whip without giving his mount time to respond from approximately one furlong out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 January 2026, inclusive.

Fontwell Park 11 January 2026:

Race 5 - The tigerbet.co.uk Best Odds Guaranteed Handicap Hurdle (Class 5)

The winner, MR GRIFFITHS, ridden by Jonjo O'Neill Jr, was found to have minor weals post-race. O'Neill will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 January 2026, inclusive.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair)

Steven Drowne

Georgina Cartwright

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

Newcastle 10 January 2026:

Race 1 - Midnite A Next Generation Betting App Amateur Jockeys' Handicap (Class 6)

Mr Jack Lander, the rider of HACKNEY DIAMONDS, placed fourth, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of 6 from inside the final one and a half furlongs. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows; Wednesday 28 January, Monday 02, Saturday 14 and Saturday 21 February 2026.