

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2026:

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

Newmarket 09 October 2026:

Race 2 - The GODOLPHIN LIFETIME CARE OH SO SHARP STAKES (CLASS 1)

Saffie Osborne, the rider of the winner, LOLA DE VALENCE (IRE), was found to have used her whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two furlongs out. Allowing for the fact that Osborne has had more than 200 rides in Great Britain since her previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied, but taking into account that this was a Class 1 race, the penalty in respect of being above the permitted level was doubled. She will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 October 2026, inclusive.

Chepstow 09 October 2026:

Race 5 - The DRAGONBET PERSIAN WAR NOVICES' HURDLE RACE (CLASS 1)

Callum Pritchard, the rider of the winner, WEST HILL VERDE (FR), was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the second last hurdle. Taking into account that this was a Class 1 race, the penalty in respect of being above the permitted level was doubled. He will be suspended for 8 days from Tuesday 27 October to Tuesday 03 November 2026, inclusive.

Race 6 - The DRAGONBET DAILY DRAGONBOOSTS HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4)

Freddie Keighley, the rider of PRAIRIE DIAMOND (IRE), placed third, was found to have used his whip above shoulder height from after jumping the final hurdle. Taking into account that this was to be Keighley's fifth suspension within the previous 6 months for a breach of the whip rules, Keighley was referred to the Judicial Panel.

Chepstow 10 October 2026:

Race 6 - The DRAGONBET JOHN AYRES MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 4)

Aamilah Aswat, the rider of REALLYNTRUTHFULLY (IRE), placed fourth, was found to have used her whip five times above the permitted level of seven, from rounding the bend leaving the back straight on the final circuit. Taking into account that none of the uses were clearly and unequivocally for safety purposes, REALLYNTRUTHFULLY (IRE) was disqualified under Rule (L)47.11. Miss Aswat will be suspended for 20 days from Tuesday 27 October 2026 to Sunday 15 Sunday 2026, inclusive, one of these dates will be spent receiving specialised coaching.

Race 7 - The LSL RACING MARES' OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS 4)

Conor Brassil, the rider of MOLLY DES BRUYERES (FR), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from inside three furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 27 October to Friday 30 October 2026, inclusive.

Chepstow 11 October 2026:

Race 4 - The DRAGONBET BEST ODDS GUARANTEED HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 5)

Jack O'Neill, the rider of BRIGHT LEGEND (IRE), placed third, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from rounding the bend leaving the back straight on the final circuit. He will be suspended for 7 days from Tuesday 27 October 2026 to Monday 02 November 2026, inclusive.

Race 6 - The DRAGONBET BORN IN WALES SENIORS' HANDICAP HURDLE RACE (CLASS 3)

Lorcan Williams, the rider of HAAS BOY (FR), placed second, was found to have used his whip above shoulder height on two occasions from after jumping the final hurdle. He will be suspended for 7 days from Tuesday 27 October 2026 to Monday 02 November 2026, inclusive.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair)

Shaun Parker

Henry Pelly