

**Whip Review Committee**  
**Decisions 19 March 2024**

On Tuesday 19 March 2024 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 for races run from 14 March 2024 – 17 March 2024, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

**Southwell 14 March 2024**

**Race 6 – The Build Your Acca With BetUK Handicap Stakes (Class 6) (Div II)**

Sean Kirrane, the rider of the winner, OPTICALITY, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from two furlongs out. Allowing for the fact that Kirrane has had over 200 rides in Great Britain since a previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. Therefore, he will be suspended for 2 days; Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 April.

**Cheltenham 15 March 2024**

**Race 1 – The iE JCB Triumph Hurdle Race (Class 1) (Grade 1) (GBB Race)**

Mark Walsh, the rider of the winner, MARJBOROUGH (FR), was found to have used his whip in the incorrect place on two occasions after the last flight. He will be suspended for 7 days from Wednesday 3 to Tuesday 9 April inclusive.

**Race 5 – The St. James's Place Festival Challenge Cup Open Hunters' Steeple Chase (Class 2)**

Mr John Dawson, the rider of the winner, SINE NOMINE, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from after the second last fence. Taking into account the Race was a Class 2 contest for Amateur Riders, the penalty in respect of being above the permitted level was doubled, therefore he will be suspended for 14 days as follows: Tuesday 2, Thursday 4, Sunday 7, Thursday 11, Monday 15, Friday 19, Sunday 21, Monday 22, Wednesday 24, and Friday 26 April, and Friday 3, Tuesday 7, Wednesday 8, and Saturday 11 May and taking into account the value of the race was fined £275.

**Uttoxeter 16 March 2024**

**Race 4 – The bet365 Midlands Grand National Handicap Steeple Chase (Class 1) (Premier Handicap) (GBB Race)**

Brian Hayes, the rider of MR INCREDIBLE (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from after the second last fence. Taking into account that this was a Class 1 race the penalty in respect of the above permitted level was doubled, therefore he will be suspended for 8 days from Tuesday 2 to Tuesday 9 April inclusive.

**Newcastle 16 March 2024**

**Race 6 – The Guinness Two Part Pour Handicap Hurdle Race (Class 5)**

Ryan Mania, the rider of ROB ROY MACGREGOR (IRE), placed fifth, was found to have used his whip without time to respond on three occasions and once above the permitted level of seven from after the second flight. He will be suspended for 14 days from Tuesday 2 to Monday 15 April inclusive.

## **Southwell 16 March 2024**

### **Race 1 – The BetUK. Home of the Acca Apprentice Handicap Stakes (Class 5)**

Joe Leavy, the rider of DESTINADO, placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from one and a half furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 2 to Friday 5 April inclusive and will spend one day receiving specialised coaching.

#### **Panel:**

Sam Angell (Chair)  
Richard Fuller  
Shaun Parker