

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2025:

On Tuesday 20 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 15 January 2026 – 18 January 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Market Rasen 16 January 2026:

Race 1 - The Ladies Day Price Freeze On Tickets Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Hurdle (Class 5)

Ben Smith, the rider of the winner, THE RESDEV TYKE, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the second last hurdle. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 03 to Friday 06 February 2026, inclusive.

Race 3 - The Easter Sunday Classic Vehicle Rally Handicap Hurdle (Class 4).

Shane Quinlan, the rider of FACE D'MUSIC (IRE), placed fourth, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from down the back straight. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 03 to Friday 06 February 2026, inclusive.

Haydock Park 17 January 2026:

Race 4 - The Sky Bet Peter Marsh Handicap Chase (Premier Handicap) (GBB Race) (Class 1)

Callum Pritchard, the rider of the winner, IMPERIAL SAINT (FR), was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from jumping 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. He will be suspended for 14 days from Tuesday 03 to Monday 16 February 2026, inclusive. He will also be fined £1050.

Southwell 17 January 2026:

Race 1 - The Read Meg Nicholls' Blog At betmgm.co.uk Handicap (Class 5)

Phoebe Edwards, the rider of ERNIE'S VALENTINE, placed second, was found to have used her whip twice above the permitted level of six from approximately two and a half furlongs out. She will be suspended for 7 days as follows; Tuesday 03 to Saturday 07, inclusive and Monday 09 and Tuesday 10 February 2026.

Race 3 - The BetMGM Supports Safer Gambling Classified Stakes (Div II) (Class 6)

Keiran O'Neill, the rider of EMBARKED (IRE), unplaced, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two and a half furlongs out. Allowing for the fact that O'Neill has had over 100 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 3 days from Wednesday 04 to Friday 06 February 2026, inclusive.

Race 6 - The Midnite A Next Generation Betting App Handicap (Class 4)

Callum Shepherd, the rider of the winner STAR CHORUS (IRE), was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately one and a half furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 03 to Friday 06 February 2026, inclusive.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair)

Michael Eyre

Henry Pelly