

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2026:

On Tuesday 24 March 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 19 March 2026 – 22 March 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Musselburgh 20 March 2026:

Race 3 - The Racing Post+ Subscription Go North Sea Pigeon Hurdle Series Final (A Handicap Hurdle) (GBB Race) (Class 2)

Callum Bewley, the rider of VAMPIRE SLAYER, placed second, was found to have used his whip three times above the permitted level of seven from jumping the fifth last hurdle. He will be suspended for 10 days from Tuesday 07 to Thursday 16 April 2026, inclusive.

Newbury 20 March 2026:

Race 7 - The Highclere Horse Feeds Oataalin Open Hunters' Chase (Class 5)

Mr Sean O'Conner, the rider of the winner, JEFFERY'S CROSS (IRE), was found to have used his whip in the incorrect place on the run to the line. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows; Tuesday 07, Monday 13, Tuesday 14 and Friday 17 April 2026.

Newcastle 21 March 2026:

Race 8 - The Midnite A Next Generation Betting App Apprentice Handicap (Class 6)

Conor Whiteley, the rider of the winner, PIT BOSS, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six approaching the final furlong. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 07 to Friday 10 April 2026, inclusive.

Carlisle 22 March 2026:

Race 3 - The Mark Nield Wealth Management Handicap Hurdle (Class 5)

Joshua Thompson, the rider of the winner, NATIONAL QUESTION (IRE), was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from jumping the second last hurdle. He will be suspended for 7 days from Tuesday 07 to Monday 13 April 2026, inclusive.

Race 5 - The Mark Nield Wealth Management Go North Red Rum Series Final Handicap Chase (GBB Race)(Class 2)

Jamie Hamilton, the rider of the winner, CHASINGOUTTHEBLUES (IRE), was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the third last fence. Allowing for the fact that Hamilton has had over 150 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 2 days, Tuesday 07 and Wednesday 08 April 2026.

Exeter 22 March 2026:

Race 2 - The Guildhall Shopping Exeter 50th Anniversary Handicap Chase (GBB Race) (Class 3)

Brendan Powell, the rider of the winner, RIVERS CORNER, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the third last fence. Allowing for the fact that Powell 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 as follows; Tuesday 07, Wednesday 08 and Sunday 12 April 2026.

Race 6 - The Greendale Farm Shop Point-To-Point Bumper Maiden National Hunt Flat Race (Amateurs) (Cat 3) (GBB) (Class 5)

Mr Sam Burton, the rider of DADAVIC (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip five times above the permitted level of seven, from turning into the home straight. Taking into account that none of the uses were clearly and unequivocally for safety purposes, DADAVIC (IRE) was disqualified under Rule (L)47.11. Mr Burton will be suspended for 20 days as follows: 07, 09, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24 April 2026, 01, 06, 09, 13, 15, 19, 24, 25, 27, 29 May 2026, and 06 June 2026, one of these dates will be spent receiving specialised coaching.

Panel:

Shaun Parker

Steven Drowne

Henry Pelly