

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2026:

On Tuesday 27 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 22 January 2026 – 25 January 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Southwell 22 January 2026:

Race 6 - The Make The Move To Midnite Handicap (Class 5)

Mason Paetel, the rider of the winner, PRINCE QUATTRO (IRE), was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from inside the final three furlongs. Allowing for the fact that Paetel has had over 100 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. However, as Paetel had previously referred to the Judicial Panel for 'totting up' whip offences, the deferred suspension of 9 days that was imposed by the Panel for a further whip breach within the next 6 months was triggered. Therefore, Paetel will be suspended for 12 days from, Tuesday 10 to Saturday 21 February 2026, inclusive.

Cheltenham 24 January 2026:

Race 1 - The Timeform Novices' Handicap Chase (GBB Race) (Class 2)

Freddie Gingell, the rider of QUEBECOIS (FR), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the second last fence. He will be suspended for 4 days from, Tuesday 10 to Friday 13 February 2026, inclusive, one of these days will be spent receiving specialised coaching.

Race 5 - The Betfair Cotswold Chase (Grade 2) (GBB Race) (Class 1)

Charlie Deutsch, the rider of L'HOMME PRESSE (FR), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from jumping the second last fence. Allowing for the fact that Deutsch has had more than 150 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied, but 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 4 days from Tuesday 10 to Friday 13 February 2026, inclusive.

Newcastle 24 January 2026:

Race 5 - The Midnite: Built For 2026 Not 2006 Handicap (Class 4)

Ethan Tindall, the rider of the winner, ZIGGY'S CONDOR (IRE), was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two furlongs out. Taking into account that this was to be Tindall's fifth suspension within the previous 6 months for a breach of the whip rules, Tindall was referred to the Judicial Panel.

Rowan Scott, the rider of RAATEA, placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 10 to Friday 13 February 2026, inclusive.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair)

Steven Drowne

Adam Barker