

**Whip Review Committee**  
**Decisions 27 December 2023**

On Wednesday 27 December 2023 the Whip Review Committee convened to consider potential breaches of Rule (F)45 following referrals from the racecourse Stewards for races run from 21 December – 23 December 2023, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

**Chelmsford City 21 December 2023**

**Race 8 – The Support The Injured Jockeys Fund Handicap Stakes (Class 6) (Div II)**

Marco Ghiani, the rider of the dead-heat winner, SIR RODNEYREDBLOOD, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from two furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Wednesday 10 to Saturday 13 January inclusive.

**Uttoxeter 22 December 2023**

**Race 2 – The Richard Winterton Auctioneers Maiden Hurdle Race (Class 4) (GBB Race)**

Mr Geoff Barfoot-Saunt, the rider of JOHNTHEPOSTMAN (IRE), unplaced, was found to have used his whip without giving his mount time to respond. He will be suspended for 4 days as follows: Sunday 14, Thursday 18, Monday 22, and Friday 26 January.

**Southwell 22 December 2023**

**Race 5 – The Stay Golden with BetMGM Safer Gambling Handicap Stakes (Class 6)**

Dougie Costello, the rider of LANDLORDTOTHESTARS (IRE), placed third, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two furlongs out. Allowing for the fact that Costello has had over 100 rides in Great Britain since a previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. Therefore, he will be suspended for 3 days from Wednesday 10 to Friday 12 January inclusive.

**Newcastle 23 December 2023**

**Race 5 – The bet365 Handicap Hurdle Race (Class 4)**

Alan Doyle, the rider of ROWDY RUSTLER (IRE), placed fourth, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from after the third last flight. He will be suspended for 4 days from Wednesday 10 to Saturday 13 January inclusive.

**Race 7 – The bet365 “Junior” National Hunt Flat Race (Class 5) (Category 1 Elimination) (GBB Race)**

Tom Midgley, the rider of AIRE SPRAY (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from the position of the second last flight. He will be suspended for 7 days from Wednesday 10 to Tuesday 16 January inclusive.

**Ascot 23 December 2023**

**Race 4 – The Howden Long Walk Hurdle Race (Class 1) (Grade 1) (GBB Race)**

Tom Bellamy, the rider of PAISLEY PARK (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from approaching the final flight. Allowing for the fact that Bellamy has had over 150 rides in Great Britain since a 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 Wednesday 10 to Saturday 13 January inclusive.

Race 6 – The Belfair Exchange Trophy (A Handicap Hurdle Race) (Class 1) (Premier Handicap) (GBB Race)

Jonjo O'Neill Jr, the rider of IMPOSE TOI (FR), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from approaching the final hurdle. Allowing for the fact that O'Neill Jr has had over 75 rides in Great Britain since a 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 6 days from Wednesday 10 to Monday 15 January inclusive.

Panel

Sam Angell (Chair)  
Georgina Cartwright  
Shaun Parker