

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2026:

On Tuesday 28 April 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 23 April 2026 – 26 April 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Beverly 23 April 2026:

Race 1 - The Book Attraction Restaurant Online Restricted Maiden Stakes (Bands B, C And D) (GBB Race) (Class 4)

P. J. McDonald, the rider of CAPE FEAR, placed second, was found to have used his whip in the incorrect place on the run to the line. Allowing for the fact that McDonald has had over 200 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended Tuesday 28 April and Tuesday 12 May 2026.

Perth 24 April 2026:

Race 8 - The Every Race Live On Racing TV Open National Hunt Flat Race (Category 1 Elimination) (GBB Race) (Class 4)

James Bowen, the rider of KSAR D'OUDAIRIES (FR), placed second, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of seven from three furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Tuesday 12 to Friday 15 May 2026, inclusive.

Fontwell Park 24 April 2026:

Race 2 - The KSR Lighting, The Ultimate Lighting Solutions Handicap Chase (GBB Race) (Class 4)

James Davies, the rider of CARRIGMOORNA ROWAN (IRE), 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 Davies 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 12 and Wednesday 13 May 2026.

Sandown Park 25 April 2026:

Race 4 - The bet365 Celebration Chase (Grade 1) (GBB Race) (Class 1)

Tom Cannon, the rider of the winner, EDWARDSTONE, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from jumping the third 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 as follows; Tuesday 12 to Sunday 17 May 2026, inclusive and Tuesday 19, Wednesday 20, Friday 22, Saturday 23, Sunday 24, Monday 25, Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 May 2026. He will also be fined £1,800.

Southwell 25 April 2026:

Race 2 - The Summer Social Events At Southwell Racecourse Handicap (Class 6)

Aiden Brookes, the rider of RING FENCED, placed third, 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 12 to Friday 15 May 2026, inclusive.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair)

Shaun Parker

Henry Pelly