

Whip Review Committee Decisions 2026:

On Tuesday 31 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 26 March 2026 – 29 March 2026, inclusive. A summary of their findings is outlined below.

Chepstow 26 March 2026:

Race 2 - The Glidevale Protect Handicap Chase (Class 5)

Ben Jones, the rider of BRIDGET MARY (IRE), placed second, was found to have used his whip twice above the permitted level of seven from jumping the fourth last fence. He will be suspended for 7 days from Tuesday 14 to Monday 20 April 2026, inclusive.

Southwell 26 March 2026:

Race 6 - The Read Meg Nicholls' Blog At betmgm.co.uk Handicap (Class 4)

David Probert, the rider of the winner, RILEY ROCKS, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two furlongs out. Allowing for the fact that Probert 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 Thursday 09 to Saturday 11 April 2026, inclusive.

Wetherby 27 March 2026:

Race 6 - The Malton Marquees Handicap Hurdle (Class 5)

Mr Paddy Barlow, the rider of FARMER JIMMY, placed fourth, was found to have used his whip with his arm above shoulder height from turning into the home straight. Allowing for the fact that Barlow has had over 75 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 3 days as follows; Tuesday 14, Friday 17 and Sunday 19 April 2026.

Doncaster 28 March 2026:

Race 6 - The William Hill Best Odds Guaranteed Maiden Stakes (GBB/GBBPlus Race) (Class 3)

Sam James, the rider of the winner, HIGH STORM, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approximately two furlongs out. Allowing for the fact that James has had over 200 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 2 days, Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 April 2026.

Southwell 28 March 2026:

Race 7 - The Make The Move To Midnite Handicap (Div II) (Class 6)

David Probert, the rider of the winner, JACK ANDREA, was found to have used his whip once above the permitted level of six from approaching two furlongs out. He will be suspended for 4 days from Sunday 12 to Wednesday 15 April 2026, inclusive.

Doncaster 29 March 2026:

Race 5 - The William Hill NRMB On The Grand National Handicap (GBBPlus Race) (Class 3)

Billy Loughnane, the rider of the winner, HARVEY (FR), was found to have used his whip in the incorrect place on the run to the line. Allowing for the fact that Loughnane has had over 200 rides in Great Britain since his previous whip breach, mitigation on penalty was applied. He will be suspended for 2 days, Friday 01 and Monday 04 May 2026.

Panel:

Sam Angell (Chair)

Michael Eyre

Phillip Spottiswood