

The penalty framework focuses on early intervention and improving standards of use alongside enhanced deterrents.

a. Penalties for Misuse

Example of Misuse	THRESHOLD Use of the whip that could amount to a breach		PENALTY Minimum penalty (days)	
	Current rules	Proposed rules	Current rules	Proposed rules
Arm above shoulder height, evidenced by clear space between whip hand and top of helmet.	2	1	2	2
Without regard to stride, evidenced by actual or perceived impression of a double strike.	3	1	2	2
Excessive force, evidenced by either pulling the whip through from the opposite side of the body or rotation of the core to generate increased leverage	3	1	2	2
Without time to respond (allow 3 strides per stroke).	3	2	2	2
Showing no response.	3	2	5	5
Out of contention, evidenced by use of the whip when there is no realistic prospect of finishing in the first four places.	2	2	5	5
Clearly winning (or other placing).	2	2	2	2
Past the post.	2	2	2	2
Incorrect place, evidenced by use of the whip on any area of the horse other than the hindquarters or down the shoulder in the backhand position.	1	1	2	3
Use of the whip in the forehand.	n/a	1	n/a	7

b. Penalties for use above the permitted level (more than 7 times in a Flat race, or 8 times in a Jump race)

Strikes above permitted level	STANDARD RACES		MAJOR RACES	
	Current penalty (days)	Proposed penalty (days)	Current penalty (days)	Proposed penalty (days)
1	2	3	2	6
2	4	5	4	10
3	7	7	7 + FINANCIAL PENALTY	14 + FINANCIAL PENALTY
4	7	14	9 + FINANCIAL PENALTY	28 + HORSE DISQUALIFIED

c. Penalties for Improper Riding

Rule (F) 45 - Examples of Improper Riding which are not breaches of Rule (F) 45 that should be treated as breaches of Rule (D) 2. (This list is not exhaustive)	Penalty (current)	Penalty (proposed)
Jabbing the horse in the mouth, kicking or striking the horse in any way when not mounted, or any behaviour towards the horse whether mounted or not which the Stewards consider to be unacceptable.	1 - 5 days	3 - 28 days

Striking or attempting to strike other horses or riders with a whip		Penalty (current)	Penalty (proposed)
Rider accidentally strikes another horse or rider with the whip causing interference.	Accidental Interference	n/a	n/a
Rider unintentionally strikes another horse or rider causing some interference but should have moderated the use of the whip because of the close proximity of another horse or rider.	Careless Riding	2 - 4 days	2 - 4 days
Rider attempts to strike another horse or rider with the whip.	Improper Riding	4 - 7 days	7 - 10 days
Rider intentionally strikes another horse or rider with his whip.	Improper Riding	7 - 10 days	14 - 28 days

d. Referral Framework for Repeat Offences

Repeat Offenders	Lower penalty breach (2-4 days)	Higher penalty breach (7+days)
Current Rules	Refer to Judicial Panel on 5th offence in 6 months	Refer to Judicial Panel on 4th offence in 6 months
Proposed Alternative	Refer to Judicial Panel on 3rd offence in 6 months	Refer to Judicial Panel on 2nd offence in 6 months