

Point to Point Penalty Guidelines - 2025/26 Season

The following recommendations have been approved by the Directors of the IHRB in relation to penalties to be imposed for certain breaches and should be adhered to in the interest of consistency. In the event that the Acting Stewards deviate from the recommended penalties, a report explaining the reason for the deviation should be sent by the IHRB Senior Stewards Secretary to the Office of the IHRB at the end of the day's racing.

The Disciplinary Record circulated to the Acting Stewards at Point to Point meetings contains an individual's breaches of Point to Point Regulations for the previous 12 months.

<i>Conduct (Regulation 22 (xv) & Rule 272)</i>	
Caution and or/fine and/or suspension up to 7 days depending on the severity of breach and relevant previous record.	
Serious breaches should be referred to the Referrals Committee.	

<i>Starting & Starter - (Regulations 30 & 31)</i>				
	1st Offence (days)	2nd Offence (days)	3rd Offence (days)	Subsequent Offences
Breach of Regulation 30/31	2	4	5	Refer to IHRB

<i>Running - (Regulation 32)</i>				
	1st Offence (days)	2nd Offence (days)	3rd Offence (days)	Subsequent Offences
Careless Riding:	1	3	5	7 days
Improper Riding:	3	5	7	Refer to IHRB
Dangerous Riding:	7	Refer to IHRB	Refer to IHRB	Refer to IHRB

<i>Failure To Weigh In - (Regulation 44 (iii))</i>				
	1st Offence	2nd Offence	3rd Offence	Subsequent Offences
Winner:	Suspend and/or €150 fine	Suspend and/or €300 fine	Suspend and/or €500 fine	Refer to IHRB
Second:	Suspend and/or €150 fine	Suspend and/or €300 fine	Suspend and/or €500 fine	Refer to IHRB
Third:	Suspend and/or €150 fine	Suspend and/or €300 fine	Suspend and/or €500 fine	Refer to IHRB
Fourth:	Suspend and/or €150 fine	Suspend and/or €300 fine	Suspend and/or €500 fine	Refer to IHRB
Horse to be disqualified in all cases.				
If there is any feeling that the failure of a winning rider to "weigh in" was deliberate the rider shall be suspended.				

<i>Improper/Unnecessary Use of the Whip - (Regulation 58)</i>	
<i>Regulation 58.3 (g) - Excessive Frequency</i>	
	Suspension (days)
(g) The hitting of a Horse with excessive frequency (9 strikes or more).	
1st Offence:	1
2nd Offence:	2
3rd Offence:	3
4th Offence:	5
5th Offence	7
Subsequent Offences:	Refer to IHRB
<i>All other Breaches of Regulation 58</i>	
(a) The hitting of a horse in front of the saddle in the forehand position unless exceptional circumstances prevail.	
(b) The unnecessary hitting of a horse after its chance of winning or being placed is clearly gone.	
(c) The unnecessary hitting of a horse that clearly has its race won or has obtained its maximum placing	
(d) The hitting of a horse after the Winning Post has been reached.	
(e) The hitting of a horse other than down the shoulder or on the hind quarters.	
(f) The hitting of a horse with excessive force.	
(h) The use of the whip with the arm being or appearing to be above shoulder height.	
(i) The use of the whip without allowing or appearing to allow at least three strides to respond.	
	Suspension (days per Breach)**
1st Offence:	1
2nd Offence:	2
3rd Offence:	3
4th Offence:	5
5th Offence	7
Subsequent Offences:	Refer to IHRB

**For the purposes of considering a riders record in relation to the use of the whip, each race is considered a singular offence. While a rider may have breached more than one part of Regulation 58 in a race, any subsequent breaches of this part of the Regulation, will be counted as their next offence.

Where a rider has breached the same Whip Regulation on 3 occasions, in addition to the above penalty guidelines, consideration should also be given to referring the rider to RACE for tuition on the correct use of the whip.