



Scottish
Court Service



Guidelines on the wearing of a Kirpan when attending at a High Court, Court of Session, Sheriff Court or Justice of the Peace Court

1. A Kirpan may be carried for religious reasons under Section 49(4) of the Criminal Law (consolidation)(Scotland) Act 1995.
2. Those working in the Scottish Court Service should be aware of the significance of the Kirpan and the reasons for these guidelines.
3. The local Gurdwara will inform initiated Sikhs of the Scottish Court Service guidelines on the wearing of a Kirpan when attending court; information cards and posters will be provided by the Scottish Court Service to the Gurdwaras.
4. Sikhs attending court should contact the Sheriff Clerk at least 24 hours prior to attending court to advise that they have been initiated into the Khalsa by receiving amrit and are therefore authorised to wear a Kirpan at all times. Where prior intimation is not possible court officials should be advised immediately on arrival at the court.
5. At court and in the vicinity of the court the Kirpan should always be sheathed and worn out of sight.

Lord Justice Clerk Rt Hon Lord Carloway

Mr Jit Singh, GGC (Scottish Sikhs of Scotland)

Mr Surjit Singh Chowdhary, GGC (Scottish Sikhs of Scotland)

Mr Gurcharan Singh, President Edinburgh Gurdwara Committee

Mr Wege Singh, Edinburgh Gurdwara