

CHAPTER 10
COURT SITTINGS

Session of the court

10.1.— (1) Except in vacation, the court shall be in session throughout the year and, subject to paragraph (2), shall—

- (a) normally sit on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of each week;
- (b) normally sit between 1000 hours and 1600 hours, with an appropriate adjournment for lunch;
- (c) not sit—
 - (i) on a public holiday;
 - (ii) on such other days as the Lord President may, in exceptional circumstances, direct.

(2) The court may sit—

- (a) on a Monday where it is considered desirable to do so;
- (b) on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday where it is desirable to do so to determine a matter of urgency.

(3) For the purposes of these Rules, a “sitting day” is a day on which the court sits under paragraph (1)(a) or a vacation sitting day.

Vacation

10.2.— (1) During vacation, the court—

- (a) shall normally sit on a vacation sitting day;
- (b) may sit, on days other than vacation sitting days, where it is desirable to do so.

(2) The court shall not sit on—

- (a) a public holiday;
- (b) such other days as the Lord President may, in exceptional circumstances, direct.

(3) During vacation, one or more of the judges of the court shall act from time to time as a vacation judge sitting in court or in chambers.

(4) The vacation judge shall deal with the business of the vacation judge under rule 11.1(1) on such days and at such times as it is desirable to do so.

(5) A Division of the Inner House may sit during vacation, whether or not on a vacation sitting day, to determine urgent business which cannot competently be determined by the vacation judge.

Holiday dates, periods and vacation sitting days

10.3. In these Rules—

“public holiday” means any of the dates or parts of days in the following table—

Table

<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>
Friday 1st January 2021	Monday 3rd January 2022	Monday 2nd January 2023
Monday 4th January 2021	Tuesday 4th January 2022	Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Friday 2nd April 2021	Monday 11th April 2022	Friday 7th April 2023
Monday 5th April 2021	Friday 15th April 2022	Monday 10th April 2023
Monday 19th April 2021	Monday 18th April 2022	Monday 17th April 2023
Monday 3rd May 2021	Monday 2nd May 2022	Monday 1st May 2023
Monday 17th May 2021	Monday 16th May 2022	Monday 8th May 2023
Monday 20th September 2021	Monday 19th September 2022	Monday 15th May 2023
Monday 6th December 2021	Monday 5th December 2022	Monday 18th September 2023
The afternoon of Friday 24th December 2021	The afternoon of Friday 23rd December 2022	Monday 4th December 2023
Monday 27th December 2021	Monday 26th December 2022	The afternoon of Friday 22nd December 2023
Tuesday 28th December 2021	Tuesday 27th December 2022	Monday 25th December 2023
		Tuesday 26th December 2023;

“vacation is any of the periods in the following table beginning with the date in the first column and ending with the date in the corresponding second column –

Table

First column

Second column

Saturday 27th March 2021	Friday 9th April 2021
Saturday 18th December 2021	Wednesday 5th January 2022
Saturday 9th April 2022	Friday 22nd April 2022
Saturday 24th December 2022	Friday 6th January 2023
Saturday 1st April 2023	Friday 14th April 2023
Saturday 23rd December 2023	Friday 5th January 2024;

“vacation sitting day” means any of the dates in the following table-

Table

<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>
Wednesday 31st March 2021	Wednesday 13th April 2022	Wednesday 4th January 2023
Wednesday 7th April 2021	Wednesday 20th April 2022	Wednesday 5th April 2023
Wednesday 22nd December 2021	Wednesday 28th December 2022	Wednesday 12th April 2023
Wednesday 29th December 2021		Wednesday 27th December 2023.