



Hello Fellow and Potential Grasscourters:

Once again, a new grass court season is approaching and it's time for you to renew or begin your SAGA membership to help us maintain the most unique tennis facility in the Pacific Northwest - the beautiful WimbleDon Grass Courts in Baker City, Oregon. I apologize for this arriving so late. My life has been in more than a bit of turmoil and I'm finally starting to get things under control.

I first want to reassure everyone that there will be a grass court season in 2016. The property has not been sold and the owner, Don McClure, is now living in Boise - close enough to work on the courts and direct their maintenance. As always, he has done an amazing job keeping the grass green and vibrant through another busy summer of play that resulted in excellent playing conditions for us in 2015 and we are looking forward to another exceptional season in 2016!

I want to give a huge thank you to everyone who played in 2015 and those who donated their time, money, and/or supplies to the grass courts. The 2015 tournaments were successful despite a slight decrease in participation from 2014. There were many new players, especially for the Doubles-on-the-Grass and Seniors tournaments, and we hope that they (you) will return to support the grass courts this year and spread the word about this amazing facility. It's always exciting to see new players at the courts enjoying the experience (and fun to watch them dealing with the bounces - don't worry, we're laughing with you, as we have all been there!).

We had our Annual Meeting during the Fall Classic and re-elected the SAGA board members. We hope to maintain our strong support for keeping these courts a vibrant center of tennis activity and economic benefit to Baker City. However, financially we are not looking so good. Membership has continued to decline, while costs have risen. We are hoping to find some new funding sources and any help that anyone can provide (suggestions for funding, help in obtaining that funding, or donating), will be greatly appreciated!

As I said, the property is still for sale and includes the tennis courts, house, garage with apartment, and the land from the back of the courts down to Grace St. All of the equipment for maintaining the courts is included and Don says that he will be happy to offer everything he knows to the new buyer for at least a year and more if needed. So, if you or anyone you know is interested, please call Don (541-786-0999). Let's help Don find a buyer who will keep them as tennis courts!

Don has assured me that we should plan to run as normal, so we are planning a full schedule of tournaments for this grass court season. Our dates for the 2016 SAGA events are:

1-3 July	Doubles-on-the-Grass
29-31 July	BakerDon
3-11 September	Senior Tournament: 50s & 80s - 3-5 SEP 70s - 6-8 SEP, 60s - 9-11 SEP
16-18 September	Fall Classic

Additionally, the courts are still available to rent. Please contact Tim Hoffnagle to reserve the courts for your event.

More than ever, we still need your help - your membership dues and donations (time, supplies, and/or money) are critical to keeping this grass court facility alive! Please renew or begin your membership right away and introduce us to your friends. Your SAGA membership

entitles you to reduced tournament fees, free play during non-tournament time, and the very comforting knowledge that you helped keep the grass courts open. We are keeping our dues at the \$75.00/single, \$125.00/family level for 2016. Please be assured that in the unlikely event that we cannot hold the 2016 season, all membership dues will be refunded in full. We very much encourage donations above the membership cost, as the costs to maintain court maintenance has increased and Don will be shuttling back and forth from Boise and will have even less time to work on the courts.

Lastly, godaddy.com has decided, in their infinite wisdom, to make us change from "version 6" to "version 7" and that meant rebuilding the web site (I'm going to look for a new web site provider). So, the website was not up and running for a short time but is running now. I would really love to have someone who is more knowledgeable about this than I (the bar is very low here!) to take over management of the web site. But for now, you can begin/renew your membership by making your checks out to SAGA and mail the form below to:

SAGA
 c/o Bill McGrath
 2361 E. Gloucester Lane
 Boise, ID 83706

On a personal note, as I said, my life has been in a bit of turmoil of late and I have applied for a job in Corvallis. I will stay on as SAGA president for this season but will be resigning at the end of the year. If you love the grass courts, please consider joining the SAGA board and help maintain this treasure.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Hoffnagle. Once again, thanks for your support and we look forward to see you this summer on the grass!

Sincerely,

SAGA Board

Tim Hoffnagle President timhoffnagle@yahoo.com 208-695-5636	Bruce Reed Vice-President reedsports@comcast.net	Bill McGrath Treasurer bmcgrath@boisetennis.com	Vivian Klein Secretary tnisbum@q.com
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Name _____ NTRP Rating (if known) _____

Family Member _____ NTRP Rating (if known) _____

Family Member _____ NTRP Rating (if known) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

email (saves SAGA money) _____ Phone _____

Membership Type (circle):	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Family</u>
After 31 March	\$75	\$125
Donation	\$ _____	Total _____