

April 20, 2020

Obituary

Joan Dewhirst Slater (GBR)

It is with regret and sorrow that the ISU learned of the death of former Ice Dancer, Mrs. Joan Slater who passed away on April 14th, 2020 at the age of 88.

Joan began skating at age 11 and started her Ice Dance career with partner and future husband, John Slater at age 14. They were two-time British Ice Dance Champions and two-time silver world medallists at the 1952 and 1953 ISU World Figure Skating Championships in Paris and Davos respectively.

Joan and John turned professional and married in 1954. They then entered and won six times the Open Professional Championships, in 1955-1957 and 1959-1961.

Following the birth of her first son in 1958, Joan started an impressive coaching career which began in Liverpool, followed by various cities across Great Britain. She coached many British Ice Dance champions and was awarded a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 2007.

In 2016, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from British Ice Skating, the National Governing Body for the sport of Ice Skating in Great Britain and ISU Member.

The ISU pays tribute to Joan Slater and will remember her with affection.