

April 12, 2023

## **Obituary – Bernard Ford (GBR)**

It is with regret and sorrow that the ISU learned of the death of former Ice Dance Skater, Coach, and choreographer, Mr. Bernard 'Bernie' Ford who passed away on April 6, 2023.

Mr. Ford represented Great Britain at numerous Ice Dance Events with his partner Ms. Diane Towler. The Ice Dance couple debuted at the 1964 World Figure Skating Championships in Dortmund, West Germany, finishing 13<sup>th</sup> place. The next year, they were 4<sup>th</sup> at the 1965 World Figure Skating Championships and at the 1965 European Figure Skating Championships. For 4 consecutive years, from 1966 to 1969, Mr. Ford and Ms. Towler won gold at the World Figure Skating Championships, the European Figure Skating Championships, and the British Figure Skating Championships.

The couple's achievements earned them a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) award from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as well as a spot in the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 1993.

Following his career as a Skater, Mr. Ford pursued coaching and choreography in Canada.

He will be remembered fondly by the Skating family as an outstanding and passionate athlete, and a dedicated Coach and advisor.

The ISU pays tribute to Mr. Bernard Ford and will remember him with affection.

Jae Youl Kim  
President

Fredi Schmid  
Director General