



Her life

Her sport and her career

Why she is important





Personal information

Born 26 April 1918

Lage Vuursche, Netherlands

Died 25 January 2004 (aged 85)

Hoofddorp, Netherlands

Height 1.75 m (5 ft 9 in)

Weight 63 kg (139 lb)

Sport

Sport Athletics

Club Sagitta, Amsterdam; ADA, Amsterdam

Medal record

[Collapse]

Representing Netherlands

Olympic Games

1948 London 100 m

G 1948 London 200 m

G 1948 London 80 m hurdles

G 1948 London 4x100 m relay

European Championships

G 1946 Oslo 80 m hurdles

G 1946 Oslo 4 x 100 m relay

G 1950 Brussels 100 m

G 1950 Brussels 200 m

G 1950 Brussels 80 m hurdles

s 1950 Brussels 4x100 m relay

B 1938 Vienna 100 m

B 1938 Vienna 200 m





During the WWII, she became engaged and, on August 29th 1940, she married Jan Blankers, who was a coach of the Dutch women's track team.

In 1941 she gave birth to her first child Jan Junior and then, a few weeks later, she went back to trail.



She gave birth to Fanny Junior and then she went back to trail.

When she became famous all over the world she received many advertising offers but she refused many of them.

When her husband died she returned to Hoofddorp.

She spent the last years of her life in a psychiatric clinic because she suffered of Alzheimer's disease.

She died at 85 in 2004.



HER SPORT, HER CAREER AND HER GOALS

Fanny Blankers-Koen is known for her goals in athletics. Her career started when she was 17 and few months later she set the national record of Netherlands in the 800m speed.



The sport

Athletics is a sport which has some individual and some team categories. In athletics are include different types of disciplines like speeds, high jumps and long jumps, high obstacles, throws like the javelin one, the decathlon and the Eptathlon.



In 1936 Fanny participated to the **Olympic Games in Berlin and there she** placed 6th in the high jumps and 5th in the 4x100 speed, while in 1938 in the **European competitions she placed 3rd** in the 100m and 200m speeds. The next **Olympics Games in Oslo in 1940 were** cancelled because of the War, but she never stopped training and in 1942, after giving birth to her first son, she set the world records in the high and long jumps. In 1946 she took part to the Europena Competition in Oslo and she won two gold medals: one in the 80m obstacles speed and the other one in the 4x100.



In 1948 she became a member of the national Netherland team for the Olympics games in London. There, after giving birth to her second son, she became an Olympic legend because of her wins and since then her name became "The flying mommy".In these games she won in all her categories: 100m, 200m 800m and 4x100 conquering four gold medals.

At the end of her career in 1955 she had conquered 59 national titles and she had set up a lot of world records.

	Record
100 m	11"5 (1943)
200 m	23"9 (1952)
80 hours	11"0 (1948)
High	1.71 m (1943)



The Flying Housewife

She became a pioneering figure who has paved the way for many female athletes and helped change the perception of women in sport. By demonstrating skills and determination she challenged the stereotypes of her time, which considered women less able to compete at high levels in sport.







Her last moment of glory was in 1999. At a gala organized by the IAAF in Munich, she was declared "Female Athlete Of The Century"

After leaving the competition, Fanny Blankers-Koen led the Dutch national athletic team from 1958 EM to 1968 Olympics.

In 1981 the Fanny Blankers-Koen Games were established, an international athletic event that still takes place every year in Hengelo.

