

Brooky's prayers answered on first day

RAIN in Vancouver yesterday delighted the locals suffering watering restrictions and also Lynette Brooky of the New Zealand women's amateur golf team.

Kiwis well placed for strong bid

New Zealand will improve on yesterday's second round of the Queen Sirikit Cup tournament in West Java, says team captain Cherry Kingham.

New Zealand ended the day in second place on 148, eight strokes behind leader South Korea. Australia and the Philippines are one shot further back on 149.

Kingham said Susan Farron, Lynette Brooky and Gina Scott coped well with the heat yesterday.



Lynn Brooky - coped well

Farron shot 73 and Brooky 75 on the par 72 Bumi Serpong Damai Golf Club course, with 21-year-old Scott the non-counting team member on 81.

With two more rounds before the championship is decided, Kingham said she was satisfied with her team's start.

"The course is demanding off the tee and the greens are pretty hard. But the main thing is that it's so hot," Kingham said.

"The girls would be drinking four litres of water during the five to six hours they're on the course. It's really draining out there, and we're finding it difficult because there's nothing for them to eat while they're playing."

Kingham said Farron played well for her 73, and with luck in her putting would have broken par. Brooky also played solidly, and Scott worked hard for her 81.

"They're going to score better than this," Kingham said.

The Queen Sirikit Cup finishes on Friday.

- NZPA

Brooky had hoped for rain since those are the only conditions the Kiwis have experienced for the last few months, and that knowledge showed as they handled the wet better than most in the first round of the world championships at Marine Drive.

The Wellingtonian, playing in the championship for the first time, steered New Zealand into a tie for third place, four shots behind Great Britain and Ireland.

Her 74, which tied her for third in the individual standings, and a 75 from Lisa Aldridge represented solid golf on a day when the steady rain was combined with a dawdling pace of play which saw rounds taking an average five and a half hours.

The third New Zealander, Susan Farron, was unruffled early in her round when a difficult lie in the bunker on the par three fourth exploded into an eight.

Farron found it difficult to get back her rhythm but she soldiered on for an 83.

Great Britain and Ireland are on 145, followed by Australia (148) with New Zealand and France tied on 149. Defending champions United States had a poor day to be on 152.

For a while New Zealand stood clearly on top of the board with both Brooky and Aldridge two under.

Aldridge birdied the second from two metres and the seventh from four metres, a long four where she would quite happily have accepted a par.

Her putting stroke, which saved her from three bogeys on the front nine, deserted her on the way in and she had only one birdie, at the short 14th, and six bogeys, four of them in succession from the 15th.

"It could have been a good round," Aldridge said. "The putts just didn't drop like they did on



LYNETTE BROOKY

was shaking so much from nervousness. "I thought that if I was going to sink putts when I was shaking, I might as well keep shaking."

Brooky turned even with par, double bogeyed the 12th when she drove out of bounds and birdied the 16th when she chipped in. Like Aldridge, she bogeyed the 18th, a long par four playing into the wind for most of the day.

"I felt nervous all the way," she said. "At the 16th I drank a gallon of water I was so dehydrated through nerves."

Brooky played conservative golf, taking things carefully on this tight tree-lined course. "I'm so happy," she said of her score. "We will all have our turn."

To the Canadian press, she said: "I still believe we are the team to beat." The Canadians, anxious to make a good impression at home, struck further trouble when Gayle Bothwick, withdrew because of a migraine and was replaced by Mary-Ann LaPointe, who a day before had been dropped from the team after Lori Kane had won her court case to be included in the playing three.