

Brooky overcomes illness, playoff to secure spot

Janice Moodie, two others also earn berths during play Thursday at Williamsburg Country Club.

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WILLIAMSBURG — A stomach virus, a trip to the emergency room, little sleep and no food for 72 hours isn't the standard formula for success, but Lynnette Brooky made it work for her.

Brooky, a 36-year-old touring pro from New Zealand, overcame hunger, fatigue and more than two dozen other golfers to secure a spot in next month's

U.S. Women's Open during a 36-hole sectional qualifier Thursday at the Williamsburg Country Club.

"It was just determination," she said. "I flew my manager in from New Zealand and myself from London. I can't just throw in the towel and say no, I'm not playing. I don't want to play on the U.S. tour, but I always want to play in the U.S. Open."

Brooky earned one of four slots available from Thursday's

qualifier, even surviving two extra holes of a playoff 45 minutes after she finished her 36-hole day.

"I'm so weak and so hungry," she said before the playoff. "That last nine, I just wanted to finish. My neck hurts, my back hurts. I feel like I've already played the U.S. Open."

Janice Moodie, an LPGA Tour regular from Scotland, easily outdistanced the field with the day's low score, a 6-under par 70-68 — 138. Briana Vega, a 22-year-old amateur who

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Janice Moodie tees off on the 12th hole Thursday during the second round of qualifying for the Women's U.S. Open at Williamsburg Country Club.

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