

Brooky swings into lead

SYDNEY. — Wellington's Lynnette Brooky overcame difficult windy conditions for a brilliant inward nine and a three-shot lead going into the final round of the Australian women's amateur golf championship here today.

Brooky, second at the start of yesterday's third round, fired a one-under-par 74 to lead Queenslanders Karen Webb and Loraine Lambert on the tough course at La Perouse.

Last year's New Zealand golfer of the year struggled at the start in difficult winds, dropping to four over midway through her round after two double bogeys and two bogeys.

But Brooky, 25, hit three birdies and an eagle on the dog-leg par-five 16th hole for a 54-hole total of even-par 225.

"I stuffed it up at the beginning but then knuckled down," said Brooky. "I wasn't trusting my swing, so I just told myself 'You have to trust it.'"

New South Wales golfer Skye Furneaux, 17, who led after two rounds, managed only an 82 to be seven shots off the pace.

Brooky said the windy conditions meant she had concentrated on keeping the ball low.

"Apart from the breeze, conditions were good. I was happy with my game towards the end and had much better control over my ground strokes," the Wellington golfer said.

"The last few holes were better. The 16th was a long dogleg hole, but it was fine if the wind was with us, which it was."

Western Australian Jane Leary shared fourth with Lisa Aldridge of Paraparaumu, two shots behind Webb and Lambert on 230. Aldridge, 20, second going into yesterday's round, hit a four-over 79. — AAP

Huge putt by Brooky clinches it

Lynnette Brooky of Wellington sank a spectacular 13m putt to secure the four-somes title at the national women's amateur golf championships at Tauranga yesterday.

Brooky and her playing partner, Susan Farron (Manawatu), already had the title wrapped up before the impressive finish, but the putt added some colour to a difficult day of steady drizzle when birdies were few and far between.

Brooky and Farron, members of the New Zealand team who won the Tasman Cup on Wednesday, finished with a seven-over-par total of 149 for the two rounds (74, 75).

They finished three strokes ahead of Canadians Aileen Robertson and Lorie Kane, and Australians Tracie Hale and Rachel Hetherington.

The Canadians were declared runners-up after a countback.

In fourth place, a stroke further back, were Australian juniors Karrie Webb and Jane Bell who had led after the morning round.

New Zealand junior representatives Joanne Croskery (Remuera) and Michelle Morton (Paraparaumu Beach) finished fifth.

Kiwi defies bad start

NEW Zealand's Lynnette Brooky triumphed over early strife to grab a three-shot lead in the Australian Women's Amateur Golf Championships at the NSW golf course yesterday.

Brooky dropped four shots at the second (double bogey), third (bogey) and fourth (bogey) holes before bouncing back with an eagle and three birdies.

That gave Brooky her second successive round of one-under par and moved her from a share of second to sole possession of first place on the leader board at even par.

With one round left to play in the 72-hole tournament she leads from the Queensland pair of Karen Webb and Loraine Lambert on three-over-par 228.

Two shots further back are Western Australia's Jane Leary, who carded a 79, and New Zealand's Lisa Aldridge who shot a disappointing 79.

Brooky finished her round in style by chipping in at the 18th for her third birdie of the day.

The 1992 New Zealand strokeplay champion put her early driving trouble down to over-keenness and said a session with coach Alex Mercer had solved the swing problems that bothered her late in the second round.

The 25-year-old Kiwi refused to panic instead concentrating on the advice Mercer had given her the previous evening.

"I just thought about what Alex said to stay behind the ball and just ripped into it," she said.

Brooky admitted being a little disconcerted by her lofty position on the leader board but said she was just going to take things as they come in today's final round.

"It's pretty scary but I'm just going to relax and enjoy it," she said.

Tamworth teenager Skye Furneaux could not maintain the form that gave her the surprise lead after two rounds.

The diminutive teenager dropped seven shots off the pace after shooting 82.

It was a bad day also for Lisa Aldridge, the 20-year-old New Zealander who recently won the women's left-handers championship by 25 shots at Christchurch.

Brooky shows determination

IT TOOK defending champion Lynnette Brooky of Wellington just two hours and 12 holes to confirm her determination to retain her matchplay title in the New Zealand women's golf championships at Tauranga today.

Brooky, who only qualified 16th, accounted for the 1976 champion Liz Douglas of Christchurch 7 and 6. In doing so the defending champion finished three under par at the completion of the match aided by birdies on three, six, seven and 10 offset by a three-putt bogey on eight.

There were no major morning surprises. Another early finisher was New Zealand representative Susan Farron of Manawatu who completed a 6 and 5 win over the Australian junior Lee Carrington.

The strong Australian contingent featured early with Ann-Marie Knight, runner-up in the Mellsop Cup stroke play on Sunday, winning six holes in a row to defeat Jan Oliver (Lochiel) 6 and 7.

In other completed matches Jane Shearwood (Australia) beat Barbara Fairlie (Australia) 4 and 3; Annette Stott (Muriwai) beat Ashburton junior Catherine Knight (Ashburton) 1-up.

Brooky eliminated

Wellington's Lynnette Brooky finished in the top 10 qualifiers at the United States amateur golf championships with two rounds of 73. However, she was eliminated in the first round of matchplay when she lost at the 18th hole.

Brooky wins golf trial

WELLINGTON'S Lyn Brooky put together two consistent rounds to win a national women's golf trial on Palmerston North's Hokowhitu course yesterday.

The first round was washed out on Saturday but the Manor Park player carded two 74s yesterday, two over par, to shade Manawatu's Susan Farron by two shots.

Auckland's Annette Stott was wayward and had to be satisfied with fifth, thanks to two 79s, and Lisa Aldridge (Wellington) with two 77s was tied for third with Kerryn Starr (Christchurch) who had 80 and 74.

Aldridge, Brooky one stroke off lead

SYDNEY. — LISA ALDRIDGE and Lynnette Brooky were tied for second, one stroke off the lead, after the second round of the Australian women's amateur strokeplay championship in Sydney yesterday.

Brooky shot a one-under 74 in windy conditions, two better than her New Zealand team mate's one-over 76, to trail Skye

Furneaux of the Australian Institute of Sport, who is on par 150 after a one-over 76 yesterday.

Susan Farron, the third member of last year's third-placed Espirito Santos team, is also in the top 10, three shots behind the Wellington pair.

Farron, from Manawatu, matched Brooky's 74 to improve

her first round score by six strokes.

New Zealand's other two golfers, Emma Keeling and Kerryn Starr, are further off the pace after Keeling shot an 80 and Starr 83.

Despite gaining ground on the leaders, Brooky was little more than satisfied with her play yesterday.

"I was very steady but I missed a lot of putts," the 25-year-old national strokeplay champion said.

Brooky said the key had been to keep the ball low and out of the wind. Soft greens were taking plenty of bite and enabling players to chip up, but her putting had not allowed her to take advantage. — NZPA