



Hutt Golf Club manager Paddy Wells and Lynnette Brooky's manager Gail Allport are delighted the city is to host a European Ladies Tour event next year.

Brooky's dream realised: Hutt will host pro event

by Nicholas Boyack

The Hutt Golf Club will next year host the most prestigious sporting event to be held in the Hutt Valley for many years.

The European Ladies Tour has agreed to sanction New Zealand's first women's professional golf tournament since the mid 1970s.

The tournament, which will offer prizemoney of \$650,000, is the dream of Lynnette Brooky, who is based at Hutt and plays the European tour.

The biggest comparable events to be held in the Hutt in the last 30 years

were the softball World Series in 1976 and Kerry Packers' World Series Cricket in the late '70s.

The March 2001 event will attract 140 players and Brooky's manager Gail Allport is confident of a top class field, including former world number one Laura Davis.

Brooky has been working on the event for some years. When the *Hutt News* reported on her efforts late last year, some in the golfing fraternity scoffed, saying it would never happen.

But Brooky's faith has been proved and Gail Allport says she's delighted.

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Tour event confirmed

"It is very exciting. It's great for Wellington, it is great for the Hutt Valley."

So says Lynnette Brooky's manager Gail Allport



of news a women's European Tour event will be held at Hutt Golf Club

(see story, pg 1).

"For so long we have had people saying 'we want women's golf, we don't see enough of it on the telly'. Now they will be able to come and see top players."

The event will be managed by Australian company Tuohy Associates, who have run a number of professional events in Australia. Wellington businessman Frank Burgess will be the promoter.

Hutt Golf Club manager Paddy Wells says it will cause little disruption for members.

A European tour official came out to check the course and Mr Wells says he was impressed. The club employs six green keeping staff and he is confident that course superintendent John Spraggs will do a good job.

Ms Allport says that women's golf is very interesting to watch. They do not hit the ball as far as men and it is easier to watch the flight of their shots.

Brooky left last week for her sixth European campaign and will continue with her efforts to attract players.



Lynnette Brooky:
a dream realised.