

Brooky ready for Open

Just hours before teeing off in the biggest golf tournament of her career, Wellington's Lynette Brooky today remained positive but was feeling the nerves.

Brooky, who starts her bid for the British Open championship at the Woburn Golf and Country Club at Milton Keynes in England tomorrow morning (NZ time), has her sights set on scoring two sub-par rounds to ensure she makes the cut.

It will be a tall order, as the 135 starters are rated as the best field put together for the championship.

Besides having to contend with the world's top women players, Brooky will have to beat a course which is playing long and rough.

Today, after playing her final sev-

en holes of practice, Brooky was critical of some rough greens and fairways.

"The course is not in great condition, so everyone will have to be patient," said Brooky.

"It will mean playing with my head and staying consistent."

The course should suit Brooky's game in that tournament organisers have pushed a number of tees back to the men's championship positions.

Brooky plays her first round with the 1991 champion, Penny Grice-Whittaker, and she believes this will be a plus. Making up the group is Scotland's Julie Forbes.

They tee off at 12.45am (NZ time) and then for the second round at 8.00pm (NZ time) tomorrow. - By

JOHN FREER



Lynette Brooky - "patience needed".

Brooky on course for US tour entry

Hutt Valley golfer Lynette Brooky has passed the first stage of her bid for a card on the United States women's golf tour.

She finished 11th in the qualifying tournament in Florida, ending with a one-over score of 289, six short of the cut-off figure.

Her scores of 71 71 74 and 73 in scorching heat have ensured she will be back in Florida in mid-October for the second stage of her bid, when 60 players are expected to chase the 20 spots available.

In the meantime, Brooky is returning to Europe for two tournaments in England and one in Germany. She will return to New Zealand after the Florida event.

Brooky trails Swede by four

LONDON. - Lynette Brooky is four strokes off the pace after the first round of the English Open women's golf tournament at The Oxfordshire course today.

Wellington's Brooky fired a one-under-par 71 to be four behind Sweden's Helen Alfredsson, who stepped up her bid for first place on the European women's golf tour with a five-

under 67. New Zealand's Jan Arnold left herself a lot of ground to make up on the leaders after carding an opening-round four-over 76.

Alfredsson leads by one stroke from Spain's Laura Navarro with Australian Corinne Dibnah a shot further back.

In her last European tournament of the year - she undergoes back sur-

gery after next week's Solheim Cup match - Alfredsson carded three birdies and an eagle in her 67.

She finally shook off Navarro with an eagle at the 453m par-five 17th, where she hit a two-iron second through the green, then holed her chip from 10m. "I intend to give it a shot at finishing No 1. If it happens, it happens," said Alfredsson. - PA

Golf tournament

Mt Maunganui Golf Club will host the first women's professional golf tournament in New Zealand in 20 years, organising committee chairwoman Bonnie Leonard said yesterday. Some of the world's top players are expected to enter the February 12-15 tournament in 1998.

Brooky four away

Lynette Brooky was four shots behind leader Helen Alfredsson of Sweden after the first round of the English Open women's golf tournament at The Oxfordshire course yesterday. Brooky, of Wellington, fired a one-under-par 71.

Brooky makes Open cut

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"It shook my confidence a little. I just didn't pick up any sand," said Brooky. "I was on the leaderboard, then off it."

American Emilee Klein leads the tournament at Milton Keynes by five strokes after rounds of 68 and 66. There are 11 golfers between Klein and Brooky, who had rounds of 70 and 73.

Back to school. New Zealanders Lynette Brooky and Susan Farron will begin their attempts to join the European women's professional golf tour at the tour qualifying school in Spain next month. Brooky and Farron will line up against 115 other hopefuls at the Hyatt La Manga Club Resort from March 14-17. The field includes Australian Karrie Webb, the 1994 Australian strokeplay champion, and American Jill McGill, 1993 US women's amateur champion. Brooky, from Wellington, and Farron, of Manawatu, were members of the New Zealand women's amateur team that finished ninth at the world teams championship in France last year.

While Brooky made the cut, Auckland's Marnie Maguire and Palmerston North's Susan Farron missed. Maguire had rounds of 72 and 78, Farron 71 and 83.

Brooky's round today consisted of four birdies, one bogey, one double bogey and 12 pars.

"Now I will just be trying my best," she said, adding that her aim was to complete the tournament three under the card.

Off the pace. Wellington golfer Lynette Brooky today missed automatic re-entry into next year's British Open after finishing this year's tournament at the Woburn Golf and Country Club outside the top 25. Brooky ended with an even-par 73 for a four-round total of 294. Brooky hit 16 greens in regulation but three-putted three holes. The tournament was won by American Emilee Klein, who finished on 277.

Brooky third. Wellington golfer Lynette Brooky has finished third in the European women's tour qualifying school in Spain. She shot rounds of 74 73 79 and 73 to finish behind Stephanie Dallongeville of France and Wendy Dicks of Britain.



Brooky on track

New Zealand's Lynette Brooky is well on target to qualify for the European women's golf tour midway through the tour school at La Manga in Spain yesterday. Brooky shot a second round 73 to follow her first round 74 and was tied in fourth place, four shots behind leader Stephanie Dallongeville.