

Confident Brooky sets early target on European circuit

LYNNETTE BROOKY has set herself the daunting target of winning one of her first five tournaments on the European women's golf tour this northern summer.

Brooky leaves Wellington on April 27 to kick off her third European campaign at the Estoril Open in Portugal on May 9 in the right frame of mind for success to come quickly.

With new sponsors, Air New Zealand and Lyle and Scott, on board and a swing that coaches Alex Mercer and Dennis Sullivan feel is better than ever, Brooky can't wait to start treading the fairways again.

Since returning from Europe in November Brooky has had to be content with a diet of proams, fun games and the odd tournament.

Earlier this week she played in an event she treasures almost as much as any European event. It was the Brooky Family Tourna-

By RUSSELL GRAY

ment on the Pauatahanui course.

That she didn't win came as no surprise to Brooky because, as the previous year's winner, she had to do the organising.

"I hated that part of it but, as usual, it was great fun and my brother Martin won," Brooky said.

"We had about 40 in the field. The little nieces and nephews play six holes, the non-golfers nine holes and the rest of us do 18. It is the sort of fun day that has helped me prepare for Europe again."

Brooky finished 43rd on the order of merit on her first European foray in 1995 after turning professional just before Christmas in 1994. Last year she improved to 34th and is now determined to rise further.

"I have to keep progressing. As long as I continue to improve I'm happy but I have set my

sights on winning early this year," she said.

"You have to have targets and one of mine is to win one of my first five tournaments.

"I'm hitting the ball better now than ever and feel it is just a matter of getting the putts to drop.

"Alex and John agree I've never hit the ball better. They've told me I just have to learn to be patient on the course."

Brooky was encouraged by her showing in a United States LPGA event in Australia in February in which she made the cut despite being rusty with no tournament play since November.

"The top 72 American and Japanese women were in the field and making the cut while not having played much was a boost," she said.

"I'm raring to go. Nothing beats playing golf for a living and I have a good feeling about this year."

NZ Open golf stars to play in Charity Classic

By RUSSELL GRAY

ANYONE unable to get to Paraparaumu for the New Zealand Open golf championship in December will have a chance to see the tournament stars a day later at Manor Park.

New Zealand's touring professionals, led by Michael Campbell, Greg Turner and Stephen Scahill, will be joined by other top golfers for the Michael Campbell and Friends Charity Classic in aid of Ronald McDonald House.

The tournament was initiated by Campbell who hopes to raise \$50,000 for Wellington's Ronald McDonald House.

Australians Rodger Davis and Peter O'Malley, the 1995 New Zealand Open champion, will be in the field along with fledgling New Zealand professionals such as Marcus Wheelhouse and Mark Brown and

leading woman professional Lynnette Brooky.

Following the pro-am an evening auction will be held at which memorabilia from different sports will be up for grabs.

Campbell is bringing items donated by players such as Nick Faldo, Greg Norman, Nick Price and Colin Montgomerie with a Faldo driver sure to be in particular demand.

The day will begin at 9am with a clinic conducted by coach Mal Tongue, Campbell, Turner and Scahill followed by a shotgun start to the tournament at 11.30.

Members of the public will be admitted to the course free of charge.