



THAT CLOSE ... Lynnette Brooky gesticulates during her matchplay win yesterday while (inset) Susan Farron cannot believe her luck. Pictures: PHIL REID

Title for Brooky to enjoy

By JOHN FREER
Sports Editor

Lynnette Brooky is attempting to enjoy her golf at the moment and her win in the Wellington women's matchplay championship yesterday did this aim no harm.

In a sudden death playoff, Brooky won the title at the Heretaunga club after scoring back-to-back birdies on the 18th and 19th holes to beat fellow New Zealand representative Susan Farron of Manawatu.

The win at the 18th squared the match for Brooky after she had trailed Farron

from the 15th hole. "I had a good time out there. I was not trying to play too hard with the nationals coming up," said Brooky.

When Brooky got to the 14th hole, her caddy and Manor Park clubmate Gail Allport provided the incentive she needed to go on to win.

"We will win, maybe not right now, but we will win, Gail said to me. I knew she was right," said Brooky.

Earlier in the day Brooky won her way through to the final by beating Connie Broker of Te Marua 2 and 1, while Farron beat Hutt's Jill Coverdale 8 and 7.

Lambert pays for blunder in sand

By Lewine Mair

ON A day when the Ladies' Golf Union announced that the Weetabix British Women's Open has been accepted as a major championship by America's LPGA, and will carry a purse of £335,000 next year, there was a sorry tale attaching to the first round of their British Women's Strokeplay championship at Gullane.

For the second successive year, the Scottish champion was disqualified. Last year, the player in question was Janice Moodie, who signed the wrong score card. Yesterday, it was North Berwick's Catriona Lambert, who followed the wrong procedure after finding an unplayable lie in a bunker at the seventh.

Lambert, who had never had an unplayable lie in sand before, made the mistake of dropping behind the trap under penalty when she should have taken the drop within the hazard. Her playing companion, Tracy Eakin, had given an approving nod and the pair had thought no more about it until they reached the changing room.

When Lambert, amid the communal chit-chat, had brought up the matter of how she had ruined her 75 with a double bogey, another in the

room had detailed how she had once had a nine after being unplayable in bunker.

As the story unfurled, so Lambert, who had followed her Scottish success by winning the British Matchplay championship, realised that she had broken the rules. She duly informed the LGU.

"It was entirely my fault," said the Curtis Cup golfer, who was left doubly miserable in that she felt she had let down all those locals who had followed her round.

Katie Tebbet, who spent two years living next to the Gullane clubhouse when her father was the secretary, was another to attract attention as she returned a 71, three under par, which left her one shot behind the leader, Lynnette Brooky, of New Zealand.

Tebbet, who moved with the family to East Devon three years ago, said she owed most to local knowledge.

BRITISH WOMEN'S STROKEPLAY CH'SHIP (Gullane).— 1st rd: 70— L Brooky (New Zealand). 71— K Tebbet (East Devon). 72— M McKinlay (Blairmore & Strone). 73— V Thomas (Pennard). 74— J Morley (Sale). K Speak (Clitheroe). J Hall (Felixstowe Ferry). R Nugent (Brookmans Park). 75— V Melvin (Stirling Univ). M Brink (Sweden). M Sutton (Ryl Blackheath). T Hakin (Laytown & Bettystown). 76— L Nicholson (Haddington). L Tagitto (Belgium). N Buxton (Woodsome Hall).