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# SHOWCASE

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sanduskyregister.com

# It's in the HOLE



## Kelleys Island Country Club on course with quarry golf



Register photos by Andrew List

**TOP:** The Kelleys Island Country Club's original rules from 2004, when the country club opened, were written on the back of a cardboard beer case.

**LEFT:** Paul Finnegan hands John Eaton a ball Aug. 24 as scores are tabulated down in the quarry orange hole at the Lyme Links Course.

**BELOW:** Kelleys Island Country Club groundsman Rick Grenda tees off Aug. 24 into the Lyme Links Course.

Story and photos by **ANDREW LIST**  
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### KELLEYS ISLAND

The first time I heard the name Kelleys Island Country Club, I had a mental image in my head. I imagined some of the upper-class elite sipping martinis and passing the time on the veranda while conversing about tennis or golf in the afternoon sun. This image was quickly changed after meeting the KICC's four original members and organizers, John Kilko, Paul Finnegan, Rick Grenda and Ed Spayd. The group introduced me to their golf game. Unlike typical versions of the Scottish sport this game is played from the same tee and shooting out into an abandoned limestone quarry while aiming at "skeeball" type targets various distances away. The idea is to have one's ball land inside the rings of the targets to receive the lowest score.



List

But what makes it a country club? Well, there's the tool shed aptly named the "club house" — in the sense of that is where the golf clubs are stored — and the outdoor pool on John Kilko's property. Members meet on a weekly basis in the summer to play a round (nine balls) while heckling one another and enjoying cold beverages. Although the group is light-hearted and laid back, they do take the game seriously.

Although there are many strange and unusual things that I have seen in the three months that I have worked at the Register I think that this assignment has to take the cake for the most off-the-wall. The only way that I felt that I could cover the event was to actually partake in the sport. Although I received two double-bogeys and brought my team into last place, it was the most entertaining game of golf I have ever played.



**ABOVE RIGHT:** The orange hole of the Lyme Links Course and associated targets down in the quarry.

**RIGHT:** Kelleys Island Country Club Chief Financial Officer Paul Finnegan tees off Aug. 24.



Sights and sounds of quarry golfing at Kelleys Island Country Club at [sanduskyregister.com](http://sanduskyregister.com)