



Bladerider X8 – Wand Axle Replacement

Last Update - November 4, 2008

These instructions are for replacing or refitting the wand axle if you are finding the wand is 'tapping' or hitting the side of the hull when sailing at low speeds or you are bending cable sliders as the push rod gets pulled forward too far out of the push rod tube.

Firstly you will need to print off the PDF diagram available in the support section called "Wand Axle Positioning" (www.bladerider.com.au/support/wand_positioning.pdf) to ensure that you position your wand axle in the correct spot.

If you cannot do the repairs yourself take the boat to a repair shop, it should only take about 90 min in labor + drying time.

1. Remove the axle.
2. Clean away all traces of the sikaflex used to seal the axle to the hull.
3. Mask up the boat really well, I normally mask over the wholes then use a very sharp new blade to open them up again, so that only the area to be repaired is exposed.
4. Make a brew of epoxy resin mixed with some strands of carbon cloth, cut to about 3mm long into a toothpaste consistency, Push it in well to fill the existing holes, adding just the right amount so that when you then put some masking tape over the holes to hold the epoxy in place it all finishes flush with the hull. This saves a lot of sanding and cleaning up later and preserves the appearance of the boat.
5. Allow overnight to dry, remove the tape and make good the surface.
6. Put some more tape on both sides and using a biro mark out the correct position of the axle on starboard side of the hull.
7. Its best to have two people for this bit. Drill a hole right through the hull, at 90 deg both ways off the hull surface, using a 5.0mm drill, (make sure that someone is eyeing up the drill for you to make sure the hole is at right angles to the hull), this is why your wand is not moving back parallel to the hull. See attached below...





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8. Now drill out a 7mm hole to take the threaded section of the axle. Screw the axle into position.
9. On the other side make a counter sunk hole just deep enough to seat the head of the M5 flux with the side of the hull and remember this hole is not at 90 deg to the hull on that side of the boat, so take out a little more on the aft side of the hole.
10. Once you have tried the axle and screw place some sikaflex (NOT SILICONE) in the holes, fit the wand axle , clean up any excess sealant,(don't use thinners our acetone on the paint, just a clean rag).



11. Assemble the wand mechanism and hit the water .