



Bladerider – Carbon Foil Rethread

Last Update - December 19, 2008

Important Note: Warranty claims will NOT be accepted if your rear hydrofoil has fallen off while sailing because the bolt has pulled out the rudder!

If the 1/4" bolt feels loose or easy to tighten when fitting or tightening up the foil at any time, then it is extremely important that you do not sail but follow these instructions immediately.

If you cannot do the repairs yourself or do not feel confident, please send the rudder or centerboard to a Bladerider Repair Center (www.bladerider.com.au/xseries/repair_centers.html), as it should only take about 15 min in labour to do.

1. Firstly wash the thread out with clean water and let any excess water drain out. Drill the threaded hole deeper with a 4-5mm drill bit if you are having trouble getting the water out, but do not damage the inside thread. If the thread is stripped right back, you should also re-tap the thread with a 1/4" tap to ensure that the glue has a surface to bond to. Clean with acetone if available, blow dry or leave out in the sun to get rid of any excess moisture.
2. Ensure that a 1/4" x 1.5" bolt is fully covered with teflon spray, otherwise any mould release wax is ok as long as it is brush clean of any excess wax.



3. Cut up some carbon uni strands into small bits and mix in with some epoxy resin.





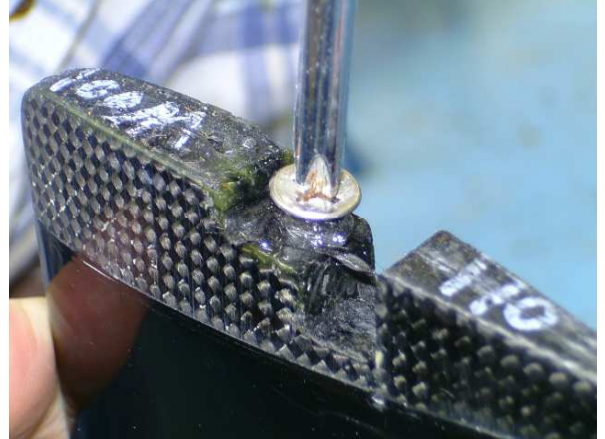
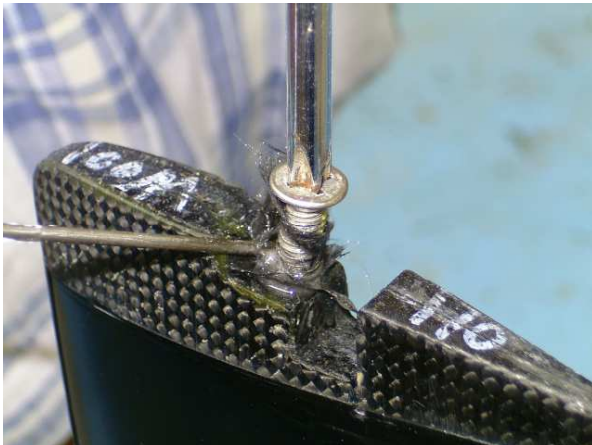
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4. Push the epoxy mix into the ¼" threaded hole as far as possible and wrap the head of the bolt with some of the mix as well.



5. Screw the bolt into the hole, but not all the way so that the head of the bolt is clear of any glue and carbon, otherwise it will be hard to unscrew when dry. Also make sure that no resin or fibres fall outside on the foil plug (apply tape around the edges if you tend to make a mess). Blow some heat to the bolt if you wish to help cure faster.



6. Wait until dry to remove the bolt (use a bit of heat if it is a bit tight) and then clean up any excess carbon on the outside of the foil with a knife and file. To prevent the bolt from coming loose again while sailing, please ensure that you use sikaflex or silicone to secure it tight to the thread (do not use Loctite as it can damage the thread when removing the bolt).

