



# #TechTipTuesday

## Brake Inspection, Maintenance, and Bleeding

When it comes to your driver's safety, there is nothing more important than your brake system. You should inspect the complete brake system each week for things such as fluid level, pad wear, pad gap, fluid leaks, loose fasteners, and etc. Anything that may look suspicious or unsafe in the brake system should be addressed and fixed before the kart is put back on the track. *Note: Brake bracket tightness should be checked regularly. Torque Specs are 175 in-lbs.*

### Bleeding Instructions:

1. Be sure all hydraulic connections are secure. Never use Teflon tape to seal the fittings in the castings. An appropriate Teflon paste like that used from the manufacturer is recommended. The high-pressure tubing should be inserted completely into the cap and ferrule. From finger tight, the fitting cap should be tightened two turns. This should leave a gap of about .050" between the cap and the hex part of the fitting body.
2. Remove the filler plug from the master cylinder top and fill reservoir with DOT-5 silicone brake fluid only! Stroke the master cylinder lever arm a full stroke and open the bleed screws on the caliper for about two seconds then close. Allow the master cylinder arm to return to the rest position and wait approximately ten seconds to allow for the fluid in the reservoir to transfer into the bore of the master cylinder. Repeat the process of stroking the master cylinder again, open and close the bleed screws the same as before wait again. Continue this procedure until a firmer pedal is realized (depending on the length of line used, this will probably be four to six times)
3. After the pedal has become reasonably firm, take shorter strokes of the master cylinder with the bleed screws open so as to allow only a short spurt of brake fluid to escape. For the finishing process the brake pedal should be held down firmly as possible before opening the bleed screws to purge as much air with the escape of fluid as possible.
4. Check all hydraulic connections for any possible fluid leaks.