

Tracking of Roller Skis

When V2 skis are assembled, the shaft of the ski and the wheels are clamped in a jig to make sure that when the wheel bolts / nuts are tightened the wheels are perfectly aligned with the shafts. However, this does not mean that the skis will not pull, left or right, for the user.

Why? The four main reasons for skis not going in a straight line are:

1-Bindings not perfectly mounted. It's the front of the binding that's important, i.e. the three screws, not the plastic unit that engages the groove, or grooves, in the boot.

2-Anatomic imbalance. Very few of us are anatomically perfect. Just slight changes in our body structure can cause the skis to not go down the track in a straight line. We know skiers with tracking problems that could only be solved with orthotics. After a hip operation one skier had to realign the front wheels on all three pair of his roller skis. Prior to the hip operation he was out of alignment and had to compensate by adjusting the front wheel, so it was no longer perfectly aligned with the shaft of the ski. Because of these anatomic differences it is very difficult for another person to adjust the skis for someone else. The user must adjust his own skis.

3-Wheel profile. Tires are worn unevenly, so the profile of the tire causes the skis to pull in one direction.

4-Wheels misaligned in relationship to the shaft. If the user is not anatomically imbalanced, the ski has not been damaged, the tires have a uniform profile and the bindings are correctly mounted tracking problems are due to the wheels being misaligned. For this reason, most V2 models have one of the front bolt holes in the wheel fork enlarged so the wheel can be slightly moved, right or left, in relationship to the shaft. However, until now, it was difficult to adjust the ski because as you tighten the bolt the wheel might move.

Solution! The latest versions of the Aero XL models now have a micro tracking adjustment lever on the side of the fork that has the enlarged bolt hole. When the wheel is perfectly aligned with the shaft the alignment lever is in a vertical position. Moving the lever towards the front of the fork will move the wheel to the left and moving the lever backwards will move the wheel to the right. Since you have a visual indicator, where you can put a pencil mark, it's very easy to correct tracking problems.

