



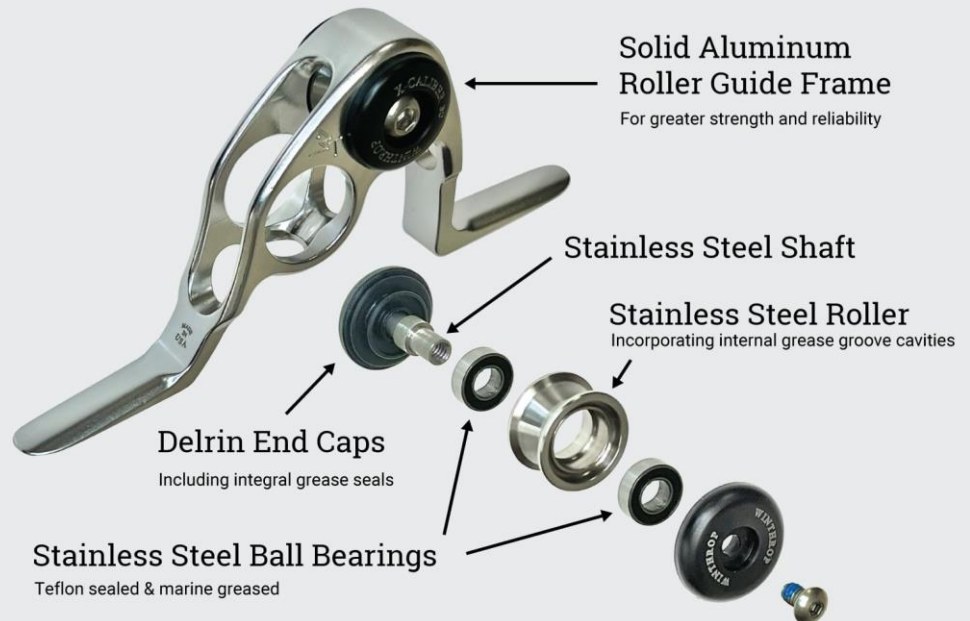
Ball Bearing Roller Guides

We all know what can happen to any material in a salt-water environment, corrosion and mineral deposits will plague all equipment. The metals and materials used in all WT Roller Guides are among the highest quality available for fighting this harsh and corrosive environment. Our stainless steel rollers and ball bearings are sealed and shielded from the elements, but water intrusion may occur over time and servicing will inevitably be required at some stage during their life. Especially monitor the rollers of stripper guides (1st guide) and the tip-top (last guide) as these do most of the rolling.

The process below applies to any Winthrop ball bearing assembly, including tops and guides.

1. Using two hex wrenches in the appropriate sizes, back-off the screws from the roller cartridge. Only one screw will be fully removed.
2. Carefully remove the Delrin End Cap and remove the roller assembly from the frame.
3. Break down the roller assembly by inserting a thin blade in the small gap between the roller and End Cap. Apply pressure in the direction shown below to avoid damage to the Delrin End Cap and pry off the cap. Now the shaft should be exposed.
4. With a drill chuck (or small pliers if necessary), grab the shaft. Remove the remaining screw that is intact with the other end cap. (Be careful not to burr the shaft if using pliers, this will not let the bearing fit back on the shaft properly). The second cap can now be removed from the shaft.
5. Wipe clean all the old grease from all components. Do not use any degreasers or solvents.
6. Inspect the bearings and ensure that they roll smoothly and properly.
7. Re-assemble the shaft and ball bearings into the roller. Evenly press the ball bearings until fully seated into the roller cavity.
8. Using a waterproof marine ball bearing grease, apply a small amount to the bearings on each side of the assembly. Note that too much grease will not allow the rollers to function properly.
9. Re-assemble the End Caps and roller into the frame. Squeeze the end caps together to ensure the cartridge components are aligned and fully seated in place.
10. Re-insert the screws and use two hex keys to secure the end caps to the roller assembly. Hand tighten until the caps can no longer spin and the roller spins freely.

Breaking down the roller assembly



Do not apply spray lubricants to the rollers, even for a quick fix! This can jam the bearings in some cases and may cause damage! Only lubricate with marine grease as explained above.