

Check Your Valve Stems!

Two different instances of sudden tire deflation have occurred in our “small” club. Both of these were due to the failure or movement of the valve stem stabilizer on the inner rear wheel. This rubber stabilizer is there to keep the valve stem extension from moving around and contacting the wheel. If the valve stem comes in contact with the wheel while moving, it can eventually cause a hole to be worn in the metal extension. Luckily both of these occurrences were caught by the TPMS (Tire Pressure Monitoring System). That’s another tech bulletin, but a TPMS is highly recommended as you can run on a flat dual tire or one on the towed vehicle and never know it until something major happens.

The rubber stabilizer has been known to fall out of the hole in the wheel so a bead of silicone adhesive around the edge before installing it in the wheel is recommended. Make it part of your pre-flight routine to check those inner valve stems.



This one belonged to Ron Hawkins.



Holes worn in valve stems.

This one belonged to Jim Grinstead.

