



BMCRC THUNDERBIKE 500

BRAKE COMPLIANCE

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Effective: 2026 season onwards

Until further notice

**APPROVED BRAKING COMPONENTS.
THUNDERBIKE 500.**

BRAKE SYSTEM COMPLIANCE

Effective: 2026 season onwards, until further notice

To ensure the ongoing availability of safe, reliable braking components, BMCRC permits the following braking-system specifications. Original OEM master cylinders and calipers are becoming increasingly difficult to source in acceptable condition. These provisions maintain safety, performance parity and the class ethos while providing viable replacement options.

1. FRONT MASTER CYLINDERS

Permitted OEM units

Original Brembo (1996-2003)



Original Nissin (1994-1996)



Approved alternative - introduced for 2026

The OEM Honda Rebel front master cylinder, part number 45510-K87-A01, is permitted.

It features an 11mm piston, equivalent in performance to the original Nissin. Its clamping diameter is slightly different. When purchased through series sponsor SFParts, a suitable clamping spacer for 22mm handlebars is included. Spacers may also be sourced elsewhere.



OEM Honda Rebel front master cylinder - 45510-K87-A01

DISCS REAR BRAKE AND CALIPERS

2. FRONT BRAKE DISCS

Original OEM front discs are permitted. Aftermarket floating discs, including PFM, MTX and Moto Master, are permitted provided their diameter does not exceed the original 296mm.

3. REAR BRAKE

- OEM rear discs and lightweight aftermarket discs are permitted.
- The rear master cylinder must remain OEM original.
- For drum-brake models, the actuation rod may be replaced with a stainless steel or aluminium item.
- Thumb-operated rear brakes are not permitted.

4. BRAKE LINES AND COMPONENTS

- Braided brake lines are permitted.
- Brake piston shims and aftermarket pistons are permitted.
- Brake pad choice is open.

5. FRONT CALIPERS

Permitted OEM calipers

- Original Nissin front caliper: 27mm pistons, 1994-1996.
- Original Brembo front caliper: 1996-2003.

Original Nissin



Original Brembo



APPROVED CALIPERS AND RATIONALE

5. FRONT CALIPERS - CONTINUED

Approved alternatives - introduced for 2026

Any OEM Nissin twin-piston caliper is permitted, provided the piston diameter does not exceed 27mm, matching the specification of the original item. This includes calipers with similar or identical bodies to the original design but fitted with smaller pistons.

Although smaller pistons may result in a minor performance disadvantage, these widely available calipers are considered compliant.

Approved Nissin caliper: 45250-MGZ-J01

Available brand new, including pistons, bleed nipples, seals and hanger, from SFParts (Robert Carver). The source bulletin quotes approximately £100.00 as of 06/11/2025.



6. TECHNICAL JUSTIFICATION

The approved replacement front master cylinder and caliper support reliability and safety across the grid as original units become harder to source in safe, serviceable condition due to age and wear.

The approved Nissin components closely replicate the performance of the original equipment, ensuring no competitive advantage and preserving the core Thunderbike 500 ethos. The new caliper uses the same brake pads as the original Nissin design, maintaining consistency in pad options across competitors.

These measures provide access to affordable, reliable and readily available braking solutions without compromising safety or equality within the class.



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EFFECTIVE: 2026 SEASON ONWARDS

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

BRITISH MOTORCYCLE RACING CLUB