

■ Tech Tip: Why Track Speeds Differ on Chinese Mini Skid Steers

Delivered by Polar Products NY / Upstate Dig & Drive – Call Us: (585) 455-7756

1 ■ ■ Mechanical Checks

- ■ Check track tension – both tracks should have equal slack (~1–1.5" sag).
- Inspect rollers & idlers – spin by hand and check for binding.
- Clear debris – mud, rocks, or bent guards add drag.

2 ■ ■ Control Linkage / Valve Neutral

- Verify lever linkage adjustment – ensure both spools move equally.
- Adjust linkage rods or stops so both levers center properly.
- ■ Test neutral bias – run tracks on stands at half throttle.

3 ■ ■ Swap Test (Isolate the Problem)

- Swap hydraulic motors left ↔ right.
- ■ If slow side follows motor → weak/worn motor.
- ■ If slow side stays → pump or valve issue.

4 ■ ■ Pump Section Test

- ■ Tandem gear pump has two sections, one per track.
- Test each section at a hydraulic shop.
- Weak section = replace tandem pump (e.g., HGP-3A-F11/11L).

5 ■ ■ Valve Block Spools

- ■ Check spool movement – sticking or uneven wear reduces flow.
- ■ Check relief valve settings – one side may crack earlier.
- Hydraulic shop can pressure-test the block.

6 ■ ■ Upgrade Options

- ■ Replace stock tandem pumps with Casappa, Shimadzu, or Eaton for tighter tolerances.
- ■ Upgrade track motors to higher-quality orbital motors.

■ Tech Tip Summary

- Check track tension first – simplest adjustment
- Verify levers and linkage are centered
- Swap motors side to side to isolate pump vs. motor quickly

Polar Products NY / Upstate Dig & Drive – Keeping Your Machines Running Strong