

Modification of the Oehler mechanism with Graessel solution

The Oehler mechanism in its usual design is a very unstable matter. The screw through the axle quickly wears out and the key play that occurs with the Oehler lid and 6th ring key can neither be satisfactorily eliminated by stretching the tube, nor is it possible to make a bush bearing here because of the thick axle. Consequently, damage can only be limited by various unsatisfactory actions - and if nothing else helps, "lining" the tubes with nickel silver bushings or exchanging the axle. Everything is quite complex, only to have to face the same problem again at some point. A stable key function is especially important here, as otherwise the side keys will not cover reliably.



A relatively stable development of this Oehler mechanism can be found on Graessel clarinets. Here, the connection of the high-E-mechanism is created by an "eight". The advantages are obvious: stable connection without screw, therefore a thinner axle can be used and the already existing flaps can easily be stored on bushes. So it is also possible to convert a conventionally built Oehler mechanism.

