



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 16, 2013

**Baden VX5EC-210 Red, White, and Blue Volleyball Announced as “Official Ball” of IHSA**

Baden Sports is pleased to announce that it will supply the **VX5EC-210 Red, White and Blue** volleyball to the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) for the post-season of the upcoming 2013-2014 school year.

“Volleyball is played a very high level in the State of Illinois and we are pleased to have the IHSA member schools using a colored ball next year. It will be exciting to see it in action!” said Baden’s CEO Michael Schindler.

To celebrate this change, and to introduce the new IHSA post-season championship color pattern, Baden will provide one no charge **VX5EC-210 Red, White and Blue** game ball to each IHSA volleyball program. This complimentary game volleyball will be arriving at schools in early May.

Said Stacey Lambert, Assistant Executive Director of the IHSA, “The IHSA is excited to use the Red, White, and Blue Baden Volleyball for the state series starting with the 2013-14 school year. The multi-colored ball has been long discussed by coaches and officials around the state, it seems now is the right time for the adoption of the multi-colored ball. The IHSA is thankful to Baden Sports for providing a sample ball to the high school volleyball programs around the state and we look forward to the additional element the multi-colored ball will add to the state series this coming fall.”

**About the IHSA:** A private/non-profit association of 780 accredited member schools, whose purpose is to encourage participation in interscholastic activities to enhance the educational experience. The IHSA offers statewide championships in fourteen boys’ and fourteen girls’ sports, and nine additional championships in music activities, debate, drama, speech, chess, journalism, bass fishing, and scholars bowl. Of particular importance are efforts to elevate standards of good sportsmanship and to encourage growth of good citizenship among students and spectators. For more information visit [www.ihsa.org](http://www.ihsa.org).

**About Baden:** Baden Sports, Inc., an independent, family-owned company based in Renton, WA, is a designer and producer of the highest quality athletic balls in sports. Baden also manufacturers the new Axe™ line of high performance baseball and softball bats. Baden’s product leadership has led many collegiate conferences, programs and coaches to choose Baden as their "Official Ball." Baden sells its products internationally with a distribution center in Renton, WA.

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