

MARLO HEADRICK

I am both honored and flattered to be selected to the WI Powerlifting Hall of Fame . . . not as an athlete or coach, but as one of the 'background players'.

I personally have never squatted, benched or pulled a deadlift – much of what has brought me this attention begins with Erika Headrick claiming an ISP Sub-Junior spot her first year and giving the family a trip overseas to watch her compete internationally – hello, Coach Joe Lewis and Taiwan!

Taiwan was definitely my first experience in seeing how competitive and yet inspiring the sport could be. One event that has stayed with me occurred during competition with one of the Japanese male lifters missing his first two squat attempts. The group of American spectators were aware and when he came up for his 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt we 'raised the roof' on noise with other nations kicking in too. The lifters' coach had to explain what all the noise was about as the stadium had been quiet up until then. Needless to say, he received the desired outcome: GOOD LIFT! That experience has been witnessed more than once over the years and is truly unique to this sport.

Beyond spectating, I have used my geeky-ness in doing behind the scenes things like building powerlifting websites and digitizing State Meet Program stuff. And there are those 'speculative' ideas for improving meet efficiencies that Coach Sepich maybe didn't understand but said 'Yes' to anyway. Things like networking the computers and using software to run the meet.

Becoming a state certified judge was just a natural transition as the camaraderie amongst the powerlifting factions was contagious and our daughters were entering non-high school years. More than a decade has come and gone since the word powerlifting entered my vocabulary – much has changed as one would expect; what remains the same is what draws me back each year – and likely others as well. Thanks for recognizing the time of service and dedication given, now . . . RACK IT!