# North vs South Its Origin...

Our great community of Calahoo is growing! And with growth comes change. Change can be exciting, but also at times a bit scary. For myself, I usually lean to the scary end of the spectrum. My fear is of people forgetting. This is exactly what compelled me to dig a little and find out the true origins of North vs South. Asking a few questions led me to a telephone conversation with Carol Schmermund...

In 1990, her husband Mike, the Patrick boys, Bruce & Travis and a few others decided that when they were finished pipelining for the Christmas break, they would gather the guys from the old men's league, play some hockey, and have some Christmas cheer. It caught on. Young and old alike wanted to play. It was decided that those North of the tracks would play those South of the tracks. And so began a tradition, on the last Friday before Christmas, North vs South.

Cliff Fowler volunteered to ref, while Al Christian kept score. What started out as a fun get together for the guys led to packed stands of cheering fans, 50/50 ticket sales and some great food & Christmas cheer amongst people who hadn't seen each other in years! In 1999, jerseys and a trophy were introduced. To date, each team has won the trophy at least 10 times.

In 1999, North vs South became even more special to myself & my family when Shelley Gadoury suggested that it be held in memory of my brother Jeff McGeough.



Jeff and his buddies would come home for Christmas and were always a part of this community tradition. It was, and still is, a very touching gesture. It speaks volumes for the support we received from

our little community in tough times. Our family is grateful to be living in such a wonderful place.

Shelley later added the kids shoot out, and by doing so, it became a true family event. Even for those who don't play hockey, it is an opportunity to visit with old friends and new faces. A great way to kick off the Christmas holidays! North vs South has taken its place as another great event that continues to show off the true spirit of our great community!

As someone who has lived in Calahoo her whole life, it's important to me to remind people about the traditions, so that they stay alive and help our kids make memories of their own. It was great to connect with Carol. It was even greater to hear her full circle moment, how her days of watching Mike and her boys play at our rink are back again only now it's to watch her grandkids play the game. Thank you Mike for spearheading this, Shelley for carrying the torch and getting more of the community involved, and thanks to everyone here today. It's this wonderful spirit that allows North vs South to continue on so that we can pass the tradition from generation to generation.

Jenine Perrott

# **Schedule of Events**

### Doors open @ 5:00pm Cash Bar \$5/drink Concession open 5:00pm until midnight

Raffle Table, 50/50 Draw & Toonie Toss

# Midget game @ 5:30pm

Minor Hockey Shootout 8:00pm Old Timers game 9:00pm Young Guns game 10:15pm

#### Music and socializing to follow

All proceeds to CR Knights Minor Hockey



Jeff McGeough Memorial