

Helena M Ryan
Biography Summary

I am a proud, 45 year old Irish woman, married to Martin Collins for 9 years. I was late into the equine world, getting my first horse at 31. 'Cash' was an off the track thoroughbred, which I purchased straight off the track because I did not know any better. Immediately after getting Cash, I found the Western style of riding & set about learning to ride & retraining him to the Western way at the same time. A few years later, I bought my first Paint Horse, ADMS Tripple Loot, & I have not looked back. In 2019 I purchased another Paint Horse, a weanling stallion called Jinetes Del Cielo.

Qualifications & Positions Held:

- I am a CPA (Certified Public Accountant)
- The Financial Controller of PlantCert Ltd, a company I formed with Martin 13 years ago.
- Accredited mediator
- APHA show manger
- State Director for Ireland
- President of the UK Paint Horse Assoc.
- Chair of the International Advisory Committee
- Chair Zone 12 Organising Committee
- Currently serve on the Equestrian Experience Committee and the PAC Task Force.

APHA highlight to date: 2020 World E-Show Trail Champion, with my home trained ADMS Tripple Loot.

While I know that was not the same as the actual World Show, it was a huge achievement & something I am immensely proud of. I have no shows & no trainer in my own country & I had to travel to the UK for training & to compete for the past 10 years. So, I have a huge challenge just to get in the saddle, let alone win. That challenge has increased now because of the restrictions Brexit puts on movement of animals into the UK, therefore I must travel with my horse from Ireland, direct to France, to progress into the European showing circuit for 2022.

Needless to say, challenges do not stop me but actually push me to be more, do more and achieve more.

Other Interests: I am a musician. I have many All-Ireland medals in traditional Irish music playing the fiddle (violin), mandolin and drums, and played in a band for 2 years while in college, earning the price of my first car. I am a fan of 4x4's, specifically Land Rovers & off-roading, American muscle cars, cruiser motorbikes & have recently begun clay pigeon shooting which I am really enjoying. I love to challenge myself & to learn new things.

My Goals for APHA: I see the future of APHA as continuing to be at an innovative & forward-thinking breed society, which always refers back to its history and roots, so we do not forget where we came from. I feel that we need to keep our core values & push into the future. In my mind, part of APHA's growth potential is in the international market. We need to expand our programs worldwide & also gain new members to ensure the continued survival of the association. But to do that, we need more international representation on the Board of Directors & in our other committees. I want to assist APHA by working on the Nominating & Leadership Development Committee, to find those future leaders.

We have a fantastic pathfinder in Monika Hagen, but we cannot stop there. This is not about what

APHA can do for Europe, this is about what APHA & Europe can do for each other.
I want to help make it happen as a member of the Nominating & Leadership Development
Committee.

I would be very grateful if you would vote for me as one of your preferred candidates for the 2022
NLDC elections.

Thank you for reading & considering me.
Helena M. Ryan, CPA.

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*I am seeking election for the 2022 elections for the Nominating & Leadership
Development Committee.
I feel that my commercial back-round, effervescent personality & limitless enthusiasm
for the Paint Horse could positively contribute to the committees work.*

EMPLOYMENT

PlantCert Ltd

April 2009 - Present

Finance Director

PlantCert Ltd is a leading specialist & independent Plant & Machinery & Lifting Equipment Examination company in the Rep. of Ireland. PlantCert Ltd was founded by Martin Collins and I, in April 2009 to fill a growing need for competent & independent examinations to fullfill statutory reporting requirements for our clients.

Key Responsibilities: As with all small companies, roles can be wide ranging and I have to be adaptable. My duties within PlantCert Ltd range from invoicing & credit control, financial accountant, internal verifier, all admin duties, forward planning & customer relations.

Key Achievements

- PlantCert Ltd only has 2 employees but that has not held us back, and in 2019 we broke the €1.25 million turnover mark for the first time.
- We have developed PlantCert Ltd to be one of the leading providers in our industry.

American Paint Horse Association

2017 - Present

State Director

In 2017 I stepped in as the Alternate State Director for Ireland & got formally elected as the State Director for Ireland in 2019.

Committee Roles

- 2020 - present: **Chair of International Advisory Committee.** Becoming Chairperson of the International Committee was both exciting and terrifying. While I love being active and more specifically pro-active, I had never formally chaired a committee before and had no experience of the Roberts Rules of Order. However, I am enjoying the role immensely and have learned so much, which I would love to build on.
- 2018 - present: **International Advisory Committee**
- 2021: **Int'l Committee Communications Task Force**
- 2021: **Equestrian Experience Committee**
- 2021: **Equestrian Experience PAC Task Force**
- 2021: **Chair of Zone 12 Organising Committee**

Academic Qualifications:

Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Ireland (CPA)

Certified Mediator, Mediators Forum Ireland

Personal Achievements:

- 2020: World PAC E-Show Champion Trail
This title is extremely important to me as I only began riding horses at the age of 31 & 13 years later I was able to achieve this level of trail with my home trained Paint gelding ADMS Tripple Loot (Quigley).
- 2019: European Champion Weanling Stallion - Jinetes Del Cielo.
Ireland's 1st medal at the European Paint Horse Championships (Zone 12 Show)
- Various:
All-Ireland & Provincial titles: Traditional Irish music in violin, mandolin, drums.