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Dear Sir

**Liam James DAY – Deceased**

Thank you for your letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 enclosing a copy of the Regulation 28 Report in relation to the above.

As you know, the RYA is the national body for all forms of recreational and competitive boating under sail or power. It represents dinghy and yacht racing, motor and sail cruising, RIBs and sportsboats, powerboat racing, windsurfing, inland cruising and personal watercraft.

We note with interest the matters of concern identified in the Regulation 28 Report. In particular, the Report notes that the deceased was:-

- “not wearing a lifejacket or buoyancy aid;
- “not wearing clothing that offered no [sic] warmth in the water”; and
- “not [sic] on his own”.

Although the RYA has no remit for mountaineering it seems to us that a lifejacket or buoyancy aid and the sort of clothing that offers warmth in water would present a significant hazard to the wearer while climbing, particularly “Deep Water Soloing”, and in fact increase the likelihood of the wearer falling.

Within the sports that the RYA represents, the value of wearing a lifejacket or buoyancy aid and appropriate clothing is reasonably widely recognised. Nevertheless, the RYA has recently refreshed the safety information pages on its website ([www.rya.org.uk/go/safety](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/safety)) and cold water shock appears prominently on the first page (under “look after yourself”). The RYA will be highlighting this safety information to its members through various electronic communications in the early part of this year, as well as in the RYA’s annual Safety Advisory Notice.

Yours faithfully,

Director of External Affairs